

GOLDEN TRIANGLE



Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.
Serving Western Pennsylvania & West Virginia Pan Handle
Since 1948, Incorporated 1955



VOLUME 43, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 1993

NOTICE

The Golden Triangle has officially Changed the printing schedule of the "GT". Starting with the January Issue the "GT" will become a combined issue of Jan and Feb. The new deadlines for the 1994 issues are on page 2. The "GT" will then continue with the normal monthly printing schedule until the Nov/Dec issue, as always NO material will be taken after deadline and all trips MUST be submitted through the proper Activity chair. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me @ (412) 833-9732
...Wm Eberle - editor.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

AYH Holiday Party Thursday December 16, 1993

Once again the Pittsburgh Council AYH Annual Holiday Party will be held at the home of Barbara Hanusa, 6966 Edgerton Avenue in Point Breeze. This year it will be held on Thursday December 16, 1993. As in previous years all members are encouraged to bring baked goods, drinks, or some other snack food to the party. We will be meeting at headquarters starting at approx. 7:00 PM to do newsletter production (addressing the Jan/Feb issue and ready them for mailing). After Triangle production is complete we will form a group of Christmas "Carolers" to walk over to Barbara's home departing HQ at approx. 8:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to lead the caroling, transport food from headquarters to Barbara's home, and carpool people back to headquarters at the end of the party. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please call Jon Maiman at 441-2306.

OHIOPILE WORK PARTY

Thanks to Nick Broskovich, Barbara Recker, Perry Recker, Neil Strong, Dorothy Burns, Ann Chapman, Don Smith, Chris Kline, Joe Hoechner, Aileen Harper, Jim Harvey and Helen Coyne who helped to paint the common room at Ohiopile on October 17th. It was a big job to tackle and they did a wonderful job. Thanks again!

AYH "CITY STAY" AND "GO AS YOU PLEASE" PACKAGES OFFER NEW TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Travel where you like, when you like, with inexpensive international packages from Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels. These unique packages allow you the freedom of independent travel, but with the assurance of a first-night accommodation confirmation and guaranteed low prices.

Weekend packages are available through the "City Stay" program starting as low as \$47 for the following cities: Amsterdam, London, Los Angeles, Luxembourg, New York, Paris, Reykjavik and Vienna.

Hostel packages for seven or more days, starting as low as \$75, are available through the "Go As You Please" program for these countries: Australia, England & Wales, Iceland, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, Israel, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, North America (USA and Canada), Norway and Sweden.

Several of the packages include some meals, transportation, and admissions to museums. A three-night/four day "City Stay" for Paris includes hostel accommodations, a three-day subway/buss pass good throughout Paris and suburbs, a three-day museum pass good for free entrance to more than 60 museums in and around Paris, and a cruise on the Seine - all for just \$185!

The "Go As You Please Israel" package includes seven days accommodations in hostels, breakfast and dinner all seven days, and a seven-day open Ended bus pass - for only \$290! "Go As You Please - Britain and Ireland" is designed for the individual who wants to travel throughout the British Isles. Seven overnight vouchers, which will be honored at more than 400 hostels in England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Northern Ireland, are available for just \$98.

For details on any "City Stay" or "Go As You Please" packages, please contact: Hostelling International, American Youth Hostels, 733 15th Street; #840, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 783-6161.

AYH CANOEING GUIDE A GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT!

Pittsburgh, PA. . . The Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostel's popular Canoeing Guide to Western Pennsylvania and Northern West Virginia is now available for your holiday gift giving. The 8th edition has 480 pages (compared to 300 in the last edition) with many new trips and updated information on old trips. The Guide reflects the canoeing experiences collected over the past 10 years by skilled AYH leaders. AYH's canoeing program has been active for over 40 years, and is one of the most active canoeing programs in the Western Pennsylvania area.

Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia offer an abundance of boating opportunities for all skill levels—from flowing rivers to high-class whitewater. The AYH Guide describes locations and covers all types of canoe and kayak trips possible in these areas. Laid end to end, the 270 trips on the rivers and streams in the book would extend over 3,000 miles!

The 8th edition is a handy 6"x9" glossy paperback priced at only \$13.95. Please add \$1.50 postage for the first copy (\$0.50 each additional) and 6% sales tax if applicable. Please inquire for dealer wholesale rates. See the back page of this Golden Triangle for an order form.

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.....And MORE!!!

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JAN/FEB Deadlines

All Copy
December 2

Binding and Mailing
December 16



The Golden Triangle is published monthly by the Pittsburgh Council of Hostelling International, American Youth Hostels. Contents are at the discretion of the editor.

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Oops...

[If you find an error, please notify the editor. See the address for the Golden Triangle below.]

Letters...

[Letters to the editor are welcome. Letters will be edited to conserve space when necessary. Letters are published at the discretion of the editor.]

Mail regarding this Newsletter should be addressed to:
AYH
The Golden Triangle
5604 Solway ST.
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
Office: (412) 422-2282

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL ACTIVITY CHAIRS

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Chris Kline 441-7335
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Wm Eberle 833-9732

The following positions are currently open and we are in need of responsible people to fill them. If you are interested please call Jon Maiman at 441-2306.

Caving, Volleyball coordinator,
Ast. Store Keeper, HQ Volunteers,
X-C Ski co-chair

NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for
future issues of the
GOLDEN TRIANGLE

MARCH
All copy, February 3
Binding/Mailing, Feb 24

APRIL
All copy, March 3
Binding/Mailing, Mar 24

If your work is on computer,
Please contact Bill Eberle
@ 833-9732

or
Larry Laude @ 665-9554

Moving?

If you move, or have any subscription problems, please notify us right away. Returned mail costs 52 cents for each piece, so we can save money if you let us know about any changes in your address. You can also phone in changes to the office at (412) 422-2282.

About AYH

American Youth Hostels is a non-profit organization which promotes international understanding, educational and recreational travel, good citizenship and an appreciation of America. AYH does this by bringing travelers of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities together in hostels and by providing low-cost travel programs. AYH is the US affiliate of Hostelling International (HI), (Formerly named International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF)), which coordinates more than 5,400 hostels worldwide-the largest network of accommodations in the world.

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703 Washington Road
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Village on Route 19
Mt. Lebanon

343-6885

Bill Green Shopping
Center
Across from Pool City
Pleasant Hills

653-6022

TREK USA
American Bicycle Technology

December Slide Shows

Dec 2nd Hiking England's Yorkshire Dales
by Chuck Martin
Dec 9th Hiking Across Northern England:
17 days and 190 miles;
by Larry Holt
Dec 16th Newsletter Prep Night and Annual Xmas Party;
See Cover story, and don't forget a food or drink
gift for the Pot-Luck Table.
Dec 23rd **SEASON'S GREETINGS! CLOSED**
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To Schedule a show or have a show idea call
TOM RODGERS 621-6310

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

Ohioyle AYH Hostel
Ohioyle State Park
PO Box 99
Ohioyle, PA 15470
(412) 329-4476

Living Waters AYH Hostel
RD #1 (1 mile west on Route 30)
Schellsburg, PA 15559
(814) 733-4212

Charleroi Youth Hostel (SA)
Rego's Hotel and Restaurant
601 McKean Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
(412) 483-6200



YOSEMITE AND OTHER POINTS WEST

By Glenn Oster

(This is the second in a series of articles Glenn has written covering a sixteen day van tour which he and seven other Pittsburgh Council AYHers took to the far west in June. In this installment he describes the backpacking portion of the trip including the beauty of the ever cascading Tuolumne River.)

At 8600 feet, we finally began the memorable backpacking part of our trip. The sky was cloudless, and in the clear atmosphere you could see the snow covered mountains all around us. One of the trippers who had never been in the west was overwhelmed by its size and grandeur and literally threw up her arms and shouted. She couldn't believe what she was actually experiencing. The meadow was still very wet from the newly melted snow (had been twenty - one feet deep in the general area of our hike). As a consequence, all the usually shallow tributaries of the Tuolumne River, which I rock hopped across on a previous visit, had become obstacles to overcome. This came as no surprise because the rangers had forewarned me, and I explained it to the trippers in a pre - trip meeting at my home. The high streams just added to the challenge. At first, the trail gives you a break for two miles and then begins to give out clues of what is coming. The first taste came when we crossed the river on a foot

bridge - only the footbridge was now fifteen feet too short because of the swollen river. Most of us didn't bother to remove our boots and they got soaked, not because of waterproofing failure, but because they were filled with water. The stage was set for much more of same.

From there the trail took us down, down, down. The stream, though nearly at flood stage, was absolutely clear and thundering in enormous waterfalls. I was ecstatic. The river was a good two hundred feet wide in the meadow when we started our hike, but it narrowed somewhat as it made its way through the canyon. At one sharp turn between huge rocks, it was only twenty feet wide; I can't begin to guess how deep it became as a result. In its occasional flat areas before the next plunge, the water was a rich, deep green color. You wished you could capture the scene, with its sights, sounds and smells and reconstruct it when you returned home.

The first major waterfall was named, as you might suspect, Tuolumne Falls. I had seen it in 1991, but couldn't resist taking more picture - too many more. I'm a compulsive photographer of waterfalls, admittedly, but in that respect virtually everyone else in our group was as well. They were all scrambling out over the rocks seeking the best picture taking vantage points. All were cautious, though, about getting too close; there would be no tomorrow for anyone who fell in. Impressive as it was, that falls was a smaller version of what was yet to come. White Cascade came next, and

my recollection from my mini-visit in 1991 was that it was even more striking than Tuolumne Falls, but to see it to fullest advantage you had to go into the Glen Aulin High Sierra Camp. No way this day! The trail into it was knee - deep in ice water, and we knew that there was still better whitewater to come. Prophetically, come it did. An unnamed cascade was upon us quickly and shortly thereafter, California Falls and Le Conte Falls - prettier and more forceful the farther we hiked. Le Conte in late afternoon sunlight was displaying a colorful rainbow, almost too much beauty to absorb in one visit. We were now deeper in the canyon than I had been before, and I reveled in the visual jewelry the canyon continued to pull from its treasure chest.

The last really big waterfall was the granddaddy, Waterwheel Falls. Its name has captivated me for years. I've wanted to see it but never had the time to reach it - no access other than by trail, too lengthy to day hike. The time had come, and there I was standing alongside it enchanted. It was no disappointment! The water drops furiously for hundreds of feet and partway down strikes large parallel protruding rocks which cause it to splash upward and roostertail as it hurdles - incredible - and in bright sunlight to boot. I'm experiencing this euphoria when - horror of horrors - my camera malfunctioned. As I write this, I'm not sure whether I bagged that trophy. Surely hope so. I want to share that scene with anyone who will look at my slides; I want to relive it on screen again and again.

A platitude, perhaps, but realizing a longtime dream is one of life's greatest pleasures.

Next came a good night's rest in a great campsite that Lynn was the first to spot. We had to climb down from the trail a few hundred feet, but it was worth the effort - flat surface, huge trees, a bed of pine straw to soften the floor and an obviously ample water source, but tipping the scales the other way was a fresh deposit of bear scat. When we saw that positive evidence of most recent bear presence, we were especially glad that we had rented bear resistant food canisters. The rangers warn that the bears are so intelligent in that canyon that you almost can't outsmart them. That is, you can't be sure you've suspended your food in a tree safely no matter how good a job you do. The canisters are the ticket, but you pay a price in weight, i.e., 3.5 pounds in addition to the price you pay in legal tender - \$3 per night rental. As it turned out, Kirk did see a large bear and two good sized cubs not fifteen feet from his tent. By that time the money we had paid to rent the canisters stood out as our most reassuring investment. It now looked like a small price to pay for food safety; there surely were no stores where you could replenish what Yogi stole from your picnic basket.

While commenting on wildlife, we encountered five rattlesnakes and numerous non - poisonous snakes. As usual, however, they

see OSTER, page 7

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For People Who Live Their Dreams...

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have extra hours to donate to the Council? Current volunteer opportunities in Pittsburgh Council are listed below. Contact the person listed or leave your name and telephone number at the office (412-422-2282).

- *Mon Valley Century August 1994
CALL (Chuck and Lynn Ejzak, 466-6196)
- *SABRE October (Bill Eberle, 833-9732)
- *Typing articles for the newsletter into a computer (Bill Eberle, 833-9732)
- *Hostel development and fund-raising (Marianne Kasica, 665-9554)
- *Ohiopyle hostel support and work parties (Linda Smithyman, 531-1868)
- *Travel and Hostel Editor for the newsletter (Larry Laude, 665-9554)
- *Answering questions at the council office (Joe Hoechner, 422-2282)
- *Leading Pittsburgh Council trips (Jon Maiman, 441-2306)
- *Scouting trails for the next Hiking Guide (Glenn Oster, 364-2864)
- *Slide shows at the Thursday Open House (office, 422-2282)
- *Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail (Jim Ritchie, 828-0210)

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AYH Membership Agencies

Pittsburgh Council AYH has established almost 20 agency locations in Western PA and Northern WV where you can renew your membership or buy new memberships on the spot.

We are also looking to establish sales outlets in areas of our jurisdiction that don't have nearby agencies such as Wheeling WV, California PA, Altoona, Johnstown, Warren and perhaps Somerset.

Pittsburgh Area

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
6300 Fifth Ave, Pgh, PA 15232
412-362-8181
(Thursday evenings only)

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL (office)
Room 204 Wightman School
5604 Solway St Room 204
Pittsburgh PA 15217
412-422-2282
(Mon, Wed, Fri 9am - 3pm Tue 1-6)

FORUM TRAVEL
4608 Winthrop St, Pgh PA 15213
412-681-4099

ATLAS TRAVEL SERVICE
Kaufmann's
400 Fifth Ave, Pgh PA 15219
412-261-0248

SEWICKLEY TRAVEL
519 Broad St, Sewickley PA 15143
412-741-9565

GATEWAY TRAVEL
6507 Wilkins Ave Suite 105
Pittsburgh PA 15217
412-661-2600

PLEASE CALL 412-422-2282 FOR OUR
3 STATE COLLEGE PA
LOCATIONS

Pennsylvania

LENZ TRAVEL SERVICES
140 South Main Street
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
412-794-4833

McMULLEN TRAVEL & TOURS
224 S Broad ST
Grove City, PA 16127
412-458-6170

AAA WORLD TRAVEL
1169 Wayne Avenue
PO box 1018
Indiana PA 15701
412-349-4193

OHIOPLYE AYH-HOSTEL
Ferncliff Road
PO Box 99
Ohiopyle, PA 15470
412-329-4476

REGO'S HOTEL (hostel)
601 McKean Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
412-483-6200

EDINBORO TRAVEL SERVICE
122 Erie Street
Edinboro, PA 16412
814-734-1639

LIVING WATERS AYH-HOSTEL
RD #1 (1 mile west on route 30)
Schellsburg, PA 15559
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Travel Service Inc
204 West 6TH Street
Erie PA 16507
(814-453-4994)

West Virginia

WVU OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTER
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Morgantown, WV 26506
304-293-2203

MORGANTOWN TRAVEL SVC.
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Morgantown, WV 26505
304-292-8471

RAIL INFORMATION

RAIL PASSES LET YOU SAVE MONEY AND SEE ALL THAT EUROPE HAS TO OFFER

All Eurailpasses allow unlimited travel in the following 17 countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Eurailpasses are not valid in the U.K. or most of Eastern Europe. On your first day, simply validate the pass at the train station, hop on the train and go! No need to wait in long lines to purchase a ticket each time you want to travel.

Eurailpasses can be purchased only outside of Europe. All 1993 prices listed are valid for purchase through December 31, 1993. 1994 prices are valid for purchase from January 1, 1994 to December 31, 1994. Travel must begin within six months of purchase.

EURAIL YOUTHPASS

If you are under 26 years of age, you can take advantage of the Eurail Youthpass, which offers all the convenience of the regular Eurailpass at a discounted price. The Youthpass is valid for travel in second class (how most Europeans travel). In addition to the traditional one or two-month passes, a 15-day youth pass will be available starting January 1.

	1993	1994
15 day	\$398	
1 month	\$508	\$578
2 months	\$698	\$768

EURAIL YOUTH FLEXIPASS

The Youth Flexipass gives you a choice of travel days within a two-month period. As with the Youthpass, travel is in second class and you must be under 26 years of age. If you plan to stay put in certain places for a few days, this could be the perfect option for you.

	1993	1994
Any 5 days in 2 months	\$220	\$255
Any 10 days in 2 months	\$348	\$398
Any 15 days in 2 months	\$474	\$540

EURAILPASS

You can choose from among five Eurailpasses with validities ranging from 15 days to three months. Travel in first-class comfort for the duration of your pass. There are no age restrictions on these passes.

	1993	1994
15 days	\$460	\$498
21 days	\$598	\$648
1 month	\$728	\$798
2 months	\$998	\$1,098
3 months	\$1,260	\$1,398

EURAIL SAVERPASS

If you will be traveling with a friend, consider the Eurail Saverpass. The Saverpass is simply a Eurailpass at a discounted rate for two or more passengers traveling together. The pass gives you 15 consecutive days of first-class unlimited travel between October 1 and March 31. If you want to travel between April 1 and September 30, you will need at least three people in your group.

	1993	1994
15-day	\$390/person	\$430/person
21-day	N/A	\$550/person
1 month	N/A	\$678/person

EURAIL FLEXIPASS

Like the Youth Flexipass, you choose which days you travel within a specific period. The difference is that there are no age restrictions, and travel is in first class. Determine which Flexipass best suits your travel plans, and enjoy the same benefits as the Eurailpass.

	1993	1994
Any 5 days in 2 months	\$298	\$348
Any 10 days in 2 months	\$496	\$560
Any 15 days in 2 months	\$676	\$740

PURCHASING YOUR PASS

You can mail your completed order form to Pittsburgh AYH office. The AYH Travel office issues the passes on the spot. They will accept certified check money orders or cash.

Children from 4 up to and including 11 years of age travel at 50 percent of the adult fare. (No child reduction on Youthpasses.) Infants under 4 travel free.

HOW EURAILPASSES WORK

Eurailpasses must be validated within six months of issue. Just present the pass and your passport at the ticket window in the train station prior to boarding the first train.

Flexipass holders must write the date of each day of travel on the pass before boarding the first train of the day.

With every rail pass you will receive a free Eurail Traveler's Guide explaining its use, and a Eurail timetable and map.

BEAT THE PRICE HIKE

Buy your railpass before January 1, 1994 and pay 1993 prices. Just remember that you must begin using your pass within six months from the date you purchase it!

Pittsburgh AYH is accepting pledges and donations for the Firehouse Hostel.

Although the building, Located at 344 Boulevard of the Allies, is not ours yet, we hope that the sale will be approved by City Council.

Our Fundraising efforts are including foundations and will include corporations as well. If any member is involved or knows of someone involved with these groups we would appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to let us know. Having a contact person really helps to get some attention. We need to raise a ton of money for this building and we need all the help that we can get lots.

Thanks for your interest and help.

Clip out the coupon below and make your pledge today.

Yes, I would like to make a pledge of support for a Hostel in Pittsburgh in the amount of:

- ☐ \$2500
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☐ \$500
☐ \$250
☐ \$100
☐ \$50
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Yes, I can also volunteer my time for:

- ☐ Fundraising
☐ Architecture or Design
☐ Construction
☐ Public Relations
☐ Clerical help
☐ other: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Mail your Pledge to:
AYH
Pittsburgh Hostel Fund
 5604 Solway St.; Pittsburgh, PA 15217
 412-422-2282

CULTURE CLUB

In an effort to expand our horizons and reduce the amounts in our pocketbooks by gathering together to frolic in nature and absorb cultural/classic experiences, we are avidly scheduling a regular monthly date to attend to such matters. This evening will include a short nature experience, dinner, and a play or special movie. Anyone may participate in one or more aspects of our culture club activities.

Our next effort will take place on Sunday, December 12th. We will meet at 3:00 pm for an architectural tour of Downtown Pittsburgh. Dinner will be at a nearby restaurant and we may go to hear several free music recitals at Duquesne University at 7:00 pm or find some other interesting cultural thing to do. Call ahead for details!

The cost for the activities is strictly up to the choice made by the participants (what you pay for dinner is up to you). Everyone is welcome to join in. Please call Tom Rodgers at 621-6310 or Linda Smithyman at 531-1868 for additional details.

We have made this a regular event on the second Sunday of the month. If anyone is interested in coordinating the activities for one of the dates please let us know. All suggestions are welcome.

LAKE LABERGE

'Twas eve of the night before we'd start
The venture so long planned,
And the mirrored Laberge could
not take charge
Of a single grain of sand.

Mesmerized, we watched her,
She glistened hills and trees,
And little then how we did know,
She'd have us on our knees.

Then morning came and off we shot
As brisk as mountain breeze,
And then the swells grew gradually,
In ones, and twos, and threes.

Then lapped our shells and bounced
us well
And onto us they'd breach.
They reached two feet, then three,
then four,
And Cliff and Joe were beached.

Swamped totally, they hailed us,
We made our blades cut quick.
The four of us bailed anxiously,
And found the vessel fit.

The waves again attacked us all,
As from the beach we sped.
"Perhaps a portage here would do",
'Twas Joe who had such dread.

We all escaped, though Cliff and
Joe
Their mishap did repeat,
And none of us, no, not a one,
Had one dry thread on feet.

'Twas Lake Laberge 'took us in
charge,
Paddle though we may.
With muscles taut, we fought and
fought,
And miled our shortest days.

Now all that is a memory,
One vivid to be sure,
And Lake Laberge will take her
charge,
For that there is no cure.

But how we'll all remember,
With wind and wave unquelled,
How hard we fought, with all our
lot,
The swell upon the swell.

And how we'll all remember,
The victory, though not whole,
The day we reached the sandy
beach
Beyond Laberge's shoals.

August 28, 1981
Lake Laberge
Yukon Territory
Canada
Barry Govenor
-Past Pgh Council President.

BOOKSTORES WANTED!

Pittsburgh AYH is always looking for new outlets for our small collection of outdoor guidebooks.

If you live in areas such as Warren, St. Mary's, Altoona, Erie, Kane, Indiana, Bradford, Brockway, Punxsutawney, PA or maybe Wheeling or Morgantown, W.V. you can help us find new stores.

If your town has a local bookstore that has a section with "Outdoors" please let us know. Don't forget local outfitters also that sell guidebooks.

Send in your "lead" to: AYH Publications, 5604 Solway Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

The office staff will then send out the appropriate sales information to the shop. Don't forget to include the complete address including zip code. Thanks.

ALAMO ANNOUNCES DISCOUNTS FOR HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

Alamo Rent-A-Car has joined with HI-AYH to provide a new member benefit. This program entitles members (even those under 25) to a percentage off discounts off regular rental rates. It also waives additional driver fees. To take advantage of this offer, call Alamo at 1-800-354-2322 at least 24 hours in advance. Request rate code BY and give ID number 19998.

MID-WEEK RAMBLES

December 1 Wed Dick/Ruth Fischer 687-4520
Ramble in the Homewood Cemetery.

December 8 Wed Marilyn Ham 687-4520
Search for Christmas lights.

December 15 Wed Cliff Ham 687-4520
Return visit to Carnegie Mellon University and that area. See the almost complete niches; look at Christmas decorations.

December 22 Christmas break. **NO RAMBLE.**
Happy Holidays.

December 29 New Years break. **NO RAMBLE.**
Happy Holidays.

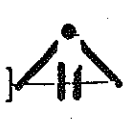
Look at the cover story for the annual AYH caroling party; all are welcome.

Notes for all Rambles: Meet in the upper parking lot near Headquarters at Fifth and Shady Avenues by 10 am.

* Trips are subject to change because of weather, conflicts of schedule, and choice of group. We will plan a walk in all kinds of weather; be prepared.

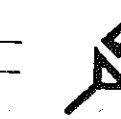
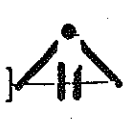
* Please share expenses of transportation when trips exceed ten miles. One dollar per passenger is suggested.

* Call the leader for further information about a trip or to inform the leader that you plan to attend. Call Cliff or Marilyn Ham, at 687-4520, for information. Do not call after 10 pm.



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HOSTELS IN SKI AREAS OFFER ECONOMICAL LODGING SKI THE U.S. WITHOUT PAYING RESORT PRICES

Ski season is nearly upon us, and what better way to spend a winter vacation than schussing down the slopes? Unfortunately, the cost of a ski trip can be hard on the budget traveler's budget. The answer? Hostels, of course.

AYH has nearly 50 hostels, from Alaska to Vermont, located near major downhill and cross-country ski areas.

Visitors to Taos, N.M. can take advantage of the Abominable Snow Mansion. * Colorado resorts with hostels nearby include Aspen, Breckenridge, Winter Park and Telluride. Many of the hostels offer amenities such as ski storage, hot tubs, saunas, and fireplaces. * The Kellogg International Hostel in Idaho is near the new Silver Mountain resort, which boasts the world's longest gondola (3.1 miles). Housed in a historic 80-year old building, the hostel also features free "you fix" pancake breakfasts. * At the Hilton Creek International Hostel in California's Sierra Nevada Mountains, hostellers can take advantage of the "Introduction to Ski Touring Program." The hostel has cross-country ski equipment for rent. * Other ski areas such as Jackson Hole in Wyoming, Telemark in Wisconsin, and Killington in Vermont have hostels at or near the ski area.

For more information on ski area hostels, consult your Hostelling North America guide.

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■ It's worth the drive to the Ambridge Bike Shop ■

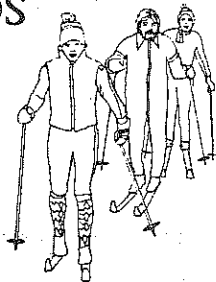
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING (NORDIC SKIING)**Think snow!**

All x-c ski trips operate on a no snow no go basis. Call the trip leader for trip details. The AYH does rent skis, boots & poles for listed trips. Any questions or for up to the date x-c ski info contact Steve Tubbs at 279-4866.

Dec 4	Sat	Brian McBane	443-8972	All levels.
Dec 5	Sun	Joe Hoechner	242-0781	All levels
Dec 11	Sat	Steve Tubbs	279-4866	All levels.
Dec 12	Sun	Helen Coyne	776-0678	Intermediate
Dec 18	Sat	Norm Snyder	351-4068	Intermediate
Dec 19	Sun	Ray Burdett	531-7459	Beginner
Dec 25	Sat	S. Claus	1-800-NOR-POLE	ALL
Dec 26	Sun	Mark Mistrik	647-7609(I'm on call)	
		Diane Bialecki	--Hartwood Acres a 1/2 Day trip.	
Jan 1	Sat	HAPPY NEW YEAR, Go on Linda's Hike.		
Jan 2	Sun	Pat Rossi	335-5067	All levels.

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKI WEEKENDS
WILDERNESS LODGE**

January 28-30 1994
February 4-6 1994
February 18-20 1994



If you like your lodging intimate and rustic, and your ski trails tracked and groomed, these weekends in the Erie snow belt near the New York border are for you. Nansi Janes' Wilderness Lodge has been a perennial favorite of AYH cross-country skiers who enjoy the miles of groomed trails. Peek'n Peak is also nearby (within skiing distance) for the enjoyment of the down-hill skiers. After skiing, come warm up by the fire with a glass of your favorite beverage.

The cost of the weekend includes Friday and Saturday night lodging and a delicious candlelight family-style dinner Saturday evening. A vegetarian meal is available upon request. Breakfasts and lunches are available at the lodge at an additional but reasonable cost. The rooms are mostly hostel style accommodations with 3 to 6 people in a room, but there are three double rooms available as well for the first two weekends only. Space is strictly limited to 36 persons for the first two weekends and 30 persons for the third weekend. We will reserve entire rooms for you and your friends if you wish. The cost of the weekend does not include transportation, but we will try to assist with car pooling.

The cost: \$50 per person for the weekend for AYH members (\$60 for non-members). Three private rooms with a double bed are available for \$120 for the weekend for AYH members (\$140 for non-members). Trail use is \$5 per day. Please be prepared to purchase trail tickets at the lodge.

How to reserve: Call Helen Coyne at the AYH office at 412-422-2282 to make reservations for the weekend you want, then send a check made payable to Pittsburgh AYH for the full amount. Please reserve early. These trips fill up fast! We will also keep a waiting list in case there are any cancellations.

Please note: There will be no refunds after 21 days before each trip unless we get a replacement for you. In any case, however, we will keep a \$10 processing fee.

Name: _____
AYH Pass # _____
Address: _____
City: _____ ST _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

I would like to reserve the weekend of the _____

If my primary choice is full please reserve the _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____

☐ I am driving and can take _____ passengers.

☐ I need help find a ride.

☐ I will drive and meet the group at Wilderness Lodge

HIKING/BACKPACKING

Dec 5 Sun Steve Nydes 661-9357

Laurel Highlands Exploratory Hike. Starts at the Route 31 Laurel Highlands Trail parking area; we will explore some of the side trails off the LHT including an attempt to reach the old Pennsylvania Turnpike Laurel Hill Tunnel. Meets at 8:00 am at HQ. Call for info/reservations.

Dec 10-12 Fri-Sun Glenn Oster 364-2864

Car camp and day hike in scenic Shenandoah National Park in Virginia - lots of great views now that the leaves have fallen. Intermediate. Call for info/reservations.

Hikes continued on page 7

SEA-KAYAKING

Notice it got cold? Ever wonder how *anyone* can have fun outside all day (or all weekend), or why in really horrible weather some people are having a great time while somebody else (possibly with twice the clothing) is suffering? adapting to weather changes and the seasons is something essential with almost any activity you choose - whether it's backpacking, cycling, skiing, sea-kayaking, or what-not, and successfully coping with Mother Nature is (Hmmm...usually) a lot of fun. Learning how to dress for conditions and what materials to wear is as important in becoming competent in a sport as learning the physical and technical aspects, and a whole lot easier. Come find out how; we'll talk about it over dinner at the next Sea-Kayaker's (and everybody else) dinner on December 17th. Novices, complete couch potatoes, and even folks with no interest in sea-kayaking whatsoever are welcome - as long as you like to eat. And you can find out how well you dressed if you join us for our annual Christmas Walking Tour of Downtown Pittsburgh afterwards. Happy Holidays!

Dec 17 Fri Mark Mistrik 647-7609

Annual Sea-kayaker's (and everybody else) Christmas dinner at Station Square. We'll have dinner at one of the restaurants there, then walk into town to see the Christmas lights, windows, and holiday decorum. Evening concludes back at Station Square with chocolate fondues at the Cheese Cellar, for those not worried about the Surgeon General's 30-percent-or-less-calories-from-fat rule. Come for the dinner, two or three mile walk, or both. 6:00 pm at HQ or 6:45 pm at Station Square.

Jan 21 94 Fri Vicki Gotaski 344-4929

Annual Sea-kayaker's (and everybody else) dinner for January tonight. Vicki was napping when I called her for the newsletter submission and hadn't figured out which restaurant we're going to yet. Call to find out and to reserve, please. 6:00 pm in Shadyside or 6:30 pm at the restaurant (wherever that is).

Feb 12-13 Sat-Sun Mark Mistrik 647-7609

"ICE CASTLE EXTRAVAGANZA" Winter Weekend at Chautauqua Lake. See an ice castle constructed from blocks of ice cut from the lake, tour the unique town of Chautauqua, fill out the weekend with cross-country skiing in New York's Snowbelt, sightseeing thru Amish country, a possible winery tour, and a hike along Lake Erie's frozen shoreline before returning home. We'll decide upon overnight accommodations (NO CAMPING ON THIS ONE!) and trip particulars at the December Sea-kayaking's dinner (everyone welcome). Reservations "hoped for" before Jan 7th, 1994.

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Helen Coyne 412-776-0678

Hikes, from 6

Dec 11 Sat Jim Ritchie 828-0210
Baker Trail, Maintenance & Inspection: I can take as many as 3 companions (to make one carload) on a combination trail maintenance and inspection trip on the Baker Trail. This will be on the section between Godfrey, PA on the Allegheny River and the Crooked Creek Shelter. We'll carry a few tools, clear some trail, paint blazes if possible, and visit a couple of landowners along the way. We'll ride in the car when the trail follows roads and walk when it goes off-road. Meets at the Riverview High School parking lot next to the Hulton Bridge in Oakmont at 9:00 am. Call for info/reservations.

Dec 19 Sun Glenn Oster 364-2864
Hike the rugged, but enjoyable, Quebec Run Wild Area. Intermediate. Call for info/reservations.

Dec 29 Wed Veronique Schreurs 733-1741
Laurel Highlands Trail. Laurel Summit to Route 30. This is an 8-mile easy to intermediate hike from the Laurel Summit Picnic Area to the Route 30 parking area. See Sruce Run, Beams Rocks, and Boulder Gardens in the middle of a network of hiking, cross-country ski, ATB and snowmobile trails. Meets at Dick's Diner in Murfreesville at 9:00am. Call for info/reservations

Jan 1 Sat Linda Smithyman 531-1868
5th Annual New Year's Day Hike in Frick Park. Possibly 4 miles. Meet at HQ at 10:00 am. Anyone who wants to can accompany me to brunch afterwards at a nearby restaurant. We walk regardless of rain, snow, sleet or hail and have been lucky with the weather the last 4 years.

Jan 2 Sun Jim Ritchie 828-0210
Deer lakes County Park. This is a half day hike exploring Deer Lakes County Park near Russellton. We will follow any trails we find. Meets at 8:00 am at the Riverview High School parking lot next to the Hulton Bridge in Oakmont at 8:00am. Expect to be back to your car by 12:00 noon. Call for info/reservations.

OSTER, from 3

all tried to avoid us; we appear rather large and dangerous to a snake hugging the ground.

The trail followed the river throughout all the next day's hike, but the terrain was much gentler. However, at times the water level of the river was so high that the trail was covered, and we walked knee deep in ice water for 200 feet at times, causing legs to ache, become numb and ache again once the trail became dry. On the other hand, the emerald green water when flowing calmly was ample reward. Our campsite that night between the river and several large, house size rocks is one I'll long remember.

By that time, we were only a mile or so from the point where we would cross the river again on a footbridge and begin our climb out of the canyon. To go any further downstream would have required all manner of technical climbing gear - the canyon walls are steep on both sides, and a trail would have had to be blasted out of the rock walls. We had watched the river plummet from 8600 feet elevation to 4400 feet, a 4200 feet drop in two days. I'll never experience anything in my lifetime to match it.

The climb out of the canyon was a new dimension for this trip. We had been descending for the most part to this juncture. Now we had to tackle a 3100 feet ascent, much of the time in direct sunlight. However, we took it easy with lots of rest stops, and by late afternoon made it to the top at Harden Lake. The group hit the sack early that night in unison as if there had been a curfew. Now, why in the world should they have been

"we encountered five rattlesnakes"

tired? Earlier in the evening, as I left the group to bathe, I heard a constant tick, tick, tick sound that baffled me. Never before had I heard anything like it. I followed the sound as it got louder and found a 2.5 inch hole in a tree with a very small bird peering out at me and chattering without let up. The bird was obviously disinterested in me for the tick, tick, tick continued without variation in tick tick speed or loudness, and it certainly did not emerge from its hole to exchange greetings.

As if to make amends for the previous day's difficulty, the next day's hike was a breeze, except for the first mile or so. There, tree

BICYCLING (Road & Mountain)

All Sundays B Bill Eberle 833-9732
Montour trail Fat-tire ride. Mountain Bikes a MUST. If not sure if your bike is right Give me a call. We will park at Cecil Park (Meet 10 am @ Park), and take a Ride on the Montour Trail, the Arrowhead trail, as well as some actual single track!! We will be stopping at the Old-time Hendersonville shops plus other Snack spots along my route. Aprox. 27 miles. Int Pace. **Please call to confirm. Ride will go if there is sufficient interest each week. Please call by each Friday for trip Status.**

Ride Class: A - Adv. 60+ miles at a faster pace. (tend to be between ages 18 and 70). B - Intermediate, 30-60 miles, at a more aggressive pace. C - Easy, 15-30+ miles at an easy pace. D - Beginner. Short, easy rides for the family. AYH Members are given priority over nonmembers, hurry limited space. **Bicycle Helmets (ANSI or Snell approved) are required on all rides. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Participants are responsible for their own equipment.

**CLASSIFIED**

All trips and products listed here are private and are **not sponsored or endorsed** by American Youth Hostels. Non-commercial ads are free for members. Contact the Editor for more info on Ads for Members and Non-members.

For Sale: Sailboat, "Bandit" 17' and trailer. Good Condition. Cabin, wide 6 foot beam, rollerjib. \$1,700 or BEST OFFER. Eileen 241-0421

New Zealand Adventure, I am interested in backpacking, tramp-ing, Kayaking, whale watching, exploring glow-worm grottos, black water rafting, hiking in rainforests, seeing volcanos and MANY other NZ adventures. I am a 31 year old woman who is interested in traveling from 3 to 10 weeks with one or more other drug-free, smoke-free women. Cydra - (412) 371-2904

WANTED Artists to draw the designs for the 1994 Great Ride, MVC and SABRE T-Shirts. Call Larry Laude (665-9554).

Wanted to BUY: 26" wheels, with quick release hubs, contact Bill at 833-9732

For Sale: Centurian Dave Scott - Ironman SIS Shimano 105 components, 700x20c, CR-MO Tange Frame, 22" Equiv. size, Fushia & yellow, Min. mileage - Excellent cond. asking \$400.00 Rich, 295 9858

For Sale: Woman's Blue Ross Eurosport Bicycle, Racing Style, 26", good condition, \$75 or Best Offer, 571-1848.

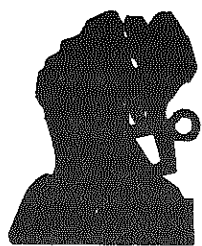
For Sale: 21" Centurion men's 12-speed bike. Fits 5'8" - 6'2". Very good condition. \$99. Glenn 731-7415.

New Zealand bicycle tours, Feb.-Mar. 1994. Three tours to choose from, all two weeks duration. Designed so that you may travel at a leisurely pace, van support and moderately priced. Call Helen Coyne, Serendipetal Tours, 412-776-0678

For Sale: Schwinn Tempo, 23" 12 speed road bike with "Cat-eye Micro" computer, very good condition, low miles. Shimano brakes and gears. \$250.00. Call John-495-2194

Seeking roommate to share expenses for 5 room, 2 bedroom duplex in Mt Lebanon. Has yard, garage and close to trolley and busline; also receptive to shared living arrangements at another location call Donna 561-0963.

Editor, The Golden Triangle
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