

# Golden Triangle

---

VOLUME 55, NUMBER 1

MARCH-APR-MAY 2005

---

## Obituary -- American Youth Hostels - Pittsburgh Council

The end of an era - and a long era at that! The last weekly meeting of AYH was held on June 3 to a packed house, including members dating back to the 1950s. The first weekly meeting was held in the 1930s and, except for a several-year lapse during WWII, had been held weekly ever since.

The cause of death was bankruptcy caused, in turn, by its Pittsburgh hostel on the south side. It was a Black Hole for money as it turns out, pretty much like its Ohiopyle hostel. Below is a bit of history and a biopsy.

AYH's main (and sizeable) contribution to the quality of life in this area has always been its outings program - a lively mix of hiking, bicycling, flatwater canoeing, whitewater canoeing, kayaking, caving, climbing, ski-touring, backpacking and a few others (kite-flying??), plus countless schools in many of these activities. AYH built the Baker Trail and the Rachel Carson Trail that could take one from Pittsburgh to Allegheny National Forest. AYH published numerous editions of numerous guides to hiking and canoeing in the region. Its extended trips in the summer took many of us on unforgettable trips such as backpacking on Mt. Rainier, the Olympic Rainforest, the Olympic Seashore, the North Cascades and Rocky Mtn. National Park, cycling hostel-to-hostel in New England, hut-hopping in the White Mountains, white-water canoeing and sail-canoeing on the streams and lakes of Wisconsin and countless others. No one will ever know how many multi-decade-long friendships came out of the delights, camaraderie, trials and tribulations of all those thousands of trips. Calamity Rock in the Cheat Narrows was named for a terrifying rafting episode on an AYH trip. White water canoe trips have been known to arrive, still cold and wet, back in Pittsburgh around 4 AM. There was a broken back on a bicycle descent off of Pittsburgh's Mt. Washington, and a nasty altercation between a bicycle and a pickup truck.

AYH always had its ups and downs. At times its weekly Thursday evening meetings saw people packed shoulder-to-shoulder watching slide shows of past adventures and listening to 8-10 trip leaders advertising the adventures they had planned for the weekend. At other times the organization was held together by 3-4 people struggling to get the club back on its feet. A lot was learned about the dynamics of "volunteer associations" (as such organizations are called). One example of many: A preoccupation with social aspects and beginner-oriented trips foretells an impending collapse. A focus on substantive outdoor-oriented adventures and pleasures means another growth spurt toward a membership size that tends to attract the purely socially oriented.

AYH was always a down-to-earth, low-budget operation that attracted people of like mind. Its headquarters/ meeting room was a former Mellon estate chicken coop built on the property line with the Marshal mansion (now Arts Center), apparently as a result of some sort of feud. Outings had always been profitable, even with trip fees of \$0.25 to \$1/day, canoe- and bicycle rentals of a few dollars per day, and sales of modestly-priced trail guides. This combination of profitability and frugality might well have been AYH's undoing. The several hundred thousand dollars in savings generated over the decades was perhaps too much of a temptation to the hostel-oriented faction of the club. (AYH always had an uneasy split personality.) They grabbed control of the club, abolished the Activities Board (that had always handled the day-to-day operations of the club) and sunk everything into a highly leveraged hostel. The rest is history.

Bruce E Sundquist



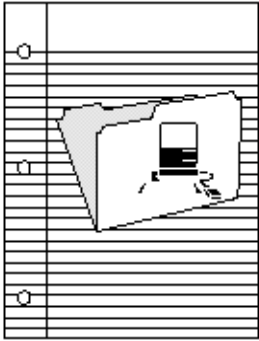
---

## INSIDE

---

Message from the President: Page 1  
Holiday Party: Page 1  
Activity Chairs: Page 2  
Slide Shows and Programs: Page 3  
Rambles: Page 3  
Rock Climbing: Page 3  
Bicycling: Page 3  
Sea-Kayaking: Page 3  
On-Line Membership Help: Page 3  
Hiking/Backpacking/Trails: Pages 4-6  
Other Outdoor Clubs: Page 7  
Canoeing: Page 7  
Sailing: Page 7  
Cross-Country Skiing: Page 7  
Baker and Rachel Carson Trails: Page 8  
PA State Parks Info: Page 8  
Council Memberships: Back Cover

....And MORE!!!



# Submissions Policy: Golden Triangle

**Classified Ads:**

- ? Classified ads are free to Current members of HI-International
- ? All requests for classifieds must be made in writing via the Council Office. Request must include full name, address, phone number and membership number of member. Members are not permitted to place ads for non-members.
- ? Free ads may not be for commercial gain.
- ? Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

**Trips**

- ? All trips must be approved by authorized co-chair
- ? Trip leader must be a council approved leader
- ? Trips must be submitted through co-chair, for that activity. Trip leaders, are not to submit trips directly to editor or office, any trips improperly submitted will not be listed.
- ? Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

**Articles**

- ? Members are encouraged to write articles, about travel abroad and in the states, and about activities and outdoor sports in which the council has a pro gram
- ? All Articles are to be, non-political and non-religious
- ? Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

**General rules for submission**

- ? No handwritten submissions
- ? Submissions Can be;  
On computer disk (IBM), E-mail (Internet/compuserve), Type written material double spaced, faxed. NO EXCEPTIONS. Call if you have questions.
- ? Submitted before the deadline of the issue that submission needs to be run in. (See Editors Golden Rule)
- ? All Submissions are on a first come first serve basis, The GT makes no promises to print material received and all material received becomes the property of the GT.
- ? Standing Deadline; Deadline for the GT, has always been, and will continue to be the First Thursday of the month, prior to the month of the issue.(See Editors Golden Rule)
- ? Please always check in advance with office, to confirm schedule.

**Editors Golden Rule**

- ? @Lack of planning on your part, does not constitute an emergency on my part@

**Please note**, the Golden Triangle frequency of publication for 2005  
**Number 1** issue ->March/April/May    **Number 2** issue ->June/July/August  
**Number 3** issue ->September/October/November

**Triangle Staff**

Managing Editor ... **Joel Platt**  
412-521-5244  
golden\_triangle@bigfoot.com

**NOTICE**

**Please note the deadlines for  
future issues of the  
GOLDEN TRIANGLE**

**Jun-Jul-Aug ISSUE  
All copy, May 4**

If your work is on computer,  
Please contact Joel Platt at  
golden\_triangle@bigfoot.com

**Oops...**

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

Mail regarding the Newsletter  
should be addressed to:

**The Golden Triangle**  
1632 Denniston St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

golden\_triangle@bigfoot.com





SEA-KAYAKING

Kelleys Island, Cape Henlopen and Presque Isle are just a few of the interesting and exciting places we visited last summer. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced paddler, we have a trip for you. So grab your paddle and sunscreen and we will see you on the water.

ActivityCo-Chairs                Vickie 412-344-4929  
   Russ 412-331-2073

See  
Sierra Clubs Hikes, at end.



ROCK CLIMBING

Important Notice / Rock Climbing

We regret to inform our members that the Pittsburgh Council is no longer able to sponsor any rock climbing activities for insurance reasons. Our liability insurance is provided through the National AYH organization. After lengthy discussions with National’s insurance carrier, we have been notified that a number of activities classified as “high risk” have been excluded from our coverage effective 1 April. While National was successful in negotiating the removal of several activities (such as ice-skating and cross country skiing) from the initial list of exclusions, they were ultimately unsuccessful in being able to have rock climbing covered. While we are disappointed with this exclusion, we have no choice but to stop sponsoring all rock climbing activities. Thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted in the organization and operation of the rock climbing activity over the years. It would not have been possible without you. Discussions are underway with other activities organizations that may be able to sponsor rock climbing activities. For more information, please contact Chuck Jones at charlzjonz@excite.com or (412)766-4036 or Annie Jones at (412) 303-1793. Please call before 10 o'clock at night. http://www.wpfi.org/

While it is unfortunate that we will no longer be able to sponsor rock climbing, we would like to remind both members and non-members of the great activities that we sponsor, and encourage everyone's continued participation.

Rambles For Spring 2005

MARCH

- March 16                Walk the area that was featured in the book”The Great St. Patrick’s Day Flood” by Milly Flaherty. We will park on the North Side. Trip coordinated by Bob Tait—412-821-5709. Lunch at restaurant (optional).
- March 23                Townsend Park Revisited. ? Picnic. Marian Fast 412-241-2109
- March 30                Duff Park. Nick Broskovich. 724-863-6707

APRIL

- Apr 6                    Roaring Run Trail in Vandergrift along Kiski River. Lunch at Mosey Inn (optional). Joanne Winwood. 412-371-3167
- Apr 13                   Bloomfield as featured in a new book. Bob Tait and Maureen. 412-821-5709
- Apr 20                   Spring flowers in Murdock Farms. Ruth Fisher. 412-421-9215
- Apr 27                   Round Hill Farm. Maureen Kelly and Bob. 412-821-5709

MAY

- May 4                    Riverside walk on bike trail, 9-mile run to Glenwood Bridge. Ed Divers 412-828-5154
- May 11                   Duquesne City and tour the Greater Community Food Bank. Bag lunch/restaurant. Margaret Laske. 412-421-5219
- May 18                   Raccoon Creek State Park Wildflower Reserve. Bag lunch. Bill Phoennik. 412-279-5411
- May 25                   White Oak Regional Park. Bag lunch. Albert Farhy. 412-521-8226

JUNE

- Jun 1                    Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve. Bag lunch. Earl McCabe. 412-761-1844
- Jun 8                    Gilfillan Trail, 1.25 loop trail, located near South Hills Village off Route 19 on Orr Road. Lunch at South Hills Village Food Court (optional). Helen Brownhill 412-279-3672
- Jun 15                   To be announced. Jon Roolf. 412-496-4925 (cell).
- Jun 22                   Visit to St. Vincent College in Latrobe. Lunch will be provided by the Appleby’s at their home in Greensburg. Edmund Appleby 724-834-5077
- Jun 29                   Steps in Lawrenceville. Lunch at restaurant. Marian Fast. 412-241-2109

**Rambles begin at 10 A.M.** Meet in Mellon Park upper parking lot at Fifth and Shady Avenues. Carpooling is encouraged. Please pay driver \$1 to \$4.00,(plus share tolls), depending on the length of trip.

Rambles are subject to change due to weather or other circumstances. Call trip leader for more information if you plan to meet at trail head or to inquire about the difficulty of the hike. Alternate phone number or for general information call Billie Woodland 412-886-1603.



BICYCLING

IMPROMPTU BICYCLE RIDES EMAIL LIST

Our bicycle email list is up and running. We have been enjoying some good rides. The biggest need now is for people to announce rides.

If you would like to get on our bike email list our address is:  
letsbikenow-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL. YOU RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Glenn Oster continues to ride and report on various trails across the USA. Visit his website at http://www.intellweb.com/trails/oster.htm

UPCOMING SLIDE SHOWS



HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS

AMBLE HIKES ARE 4-6 MILES IN INTERESTING LOCATIONS AROUND PITTSBURGH. CONNIE BLACK HAS AGREED TO TAKE CALLS FROM THOSE WISHING TO LEAD AN AMBLE AS WELL AS THOSE WISHING TO GO ON AN AMBLE. CONNIE'S PHONE NUMBER IS 412-371-1062 AND HER EMAIL IS [ceblack@libcom.com](mailto:ceblack@libcom.com)

ALLEGHENY GROUP - SIERRA CLUB - OUTINGS - MARCH 19 - JUNE 19, 2005

- \* Suggested carpool fee: 6 cents/ passenger-mile + a share of any tolls.
- \* All trips begin and end at the trailhead.
- \* (Unless stated, car-miles are one-way from Monroeville.)
- \* For more up-to-date listings, visit <http://www.alleghenysc.org/>
- \* Hardcopy subscriptions to this list are \$2.50/ year (4 issues). Make check payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club and mail to Bruce Sundquist, 210 College Park Dr., Monroeville PA 15146-1532
- \* E-mail subscriptions are free. Contact [bsundquist1@juno.com](mailto:bsundquist1@juno.com)
- \* All participants on Sierra Club outings must sign a standard liability waiver. To read it before you participate in an outing, go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a hardcopy.

EVENING CONDITIONING WALKS

South Park (year-around). Thurs. evenings, Meets at 6:30 PM. Call Bonnie Thomas, 412-833-1068, for meeting place.

DAY- AND WEEKEND TRIPS

Sun. Feb. 20 - Hike a fast-paced 8 miles in Harrison Hills County Park. \$1.25 carpool - 10 miles from Harmarville. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519

Sat. March 19 -- Hike 10 miles in Moraine State Park on the Glacier Ridge Trail; see the Hidden River Bridge and "moraines". We need a geologist to come on this hike. Intermediate difficulty. \$3.50 carpool --30 miles from Cranberry Mall. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210.

Sun. March 20 - Hike, strenuous and exploratory, on a loop in Beaver Creek State Park on scenic Little Beaver Creek near Fredericktown, including sections of the North Country Trail. Well-preserved canal locks. \$6.00 carpool - 50 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat. March 26 - Enjoy a walk with llamas on a hilly 2 miles in Pine Ridge Park in Indiana County. \$3.50 carpool - 30 miles. Call Diane Neely, 724-459-3012

Sat. March 26 -- Hike at Ohiopyle meeting in the Parking lot and hiking out to Sugarloaf Knob and possibly beyond. There will be several steep climbs. We'll go past Baughmans Rock and up Sugarloaf Knob. Those who are still feeling frisky can go on a little further to the lookout beyond. The route to Sugarloaf Knob and return is about 8 miles round trip if that. The continuation to the outlook might add another 6. This will be a moderately strenuous hike for those who go the whole way. There is some good climbing for those who just go to Sugarloaf Knob and back. This is moderate to strenuous. \$8.50 carpool-65 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. April 2 - Hike a moderate 6-7 miles in Quebec Run Wild Area in Forbes State Forest on Chestnut Ridge. Meet at 10 AM at the New Stanton Park-N-Ride Lot. (Allegheny County trippers can get names, addresses and phone numbers of other trippers in Allegheny County for forming carpools.) \$5.50 carpool - 45 miles from New Stanton. Carpoolers from Allegheny County should pay \$3 more. Call Bill Kozorra, 412-531-6236

Sun. April 3 -- Hike 16 very hilly miles from Summit to Laurel Ridge State Park (Rt.653) and return on the LHHT. The hill going up to Laurel Ridge State Park is a real corker! This is definitely a strenuous hike but there's a lot of variety of scenery. This is my favorite hike. Those who don't want to go both ways could spot cars at Laurel Ridge State Park. \$9.00 carpool - 68 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. April 9 - Enjoy a 4-5 mile hike with llamas in Blue Spruce Park in Indiana County. \$6.00 carpool - 50 miles. Call Diane Neely, 724-459-3012

Sun. April 10 - Hike 6 moderate miles with great views in the Hays area on the south side of Pittsburgh. Meet in Mellon Park upper parking lot on Shady Avenue just south of Fifth Ave. at 10 AM. \$1.50 carpool - 6 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sun. April 10 - Hike, strenuous and exploratory, along the south canyon slopes of the Youghiogheny River through Laurel Ridge, in Ohiopyle State Park, between Sugar Loaf Knob and Ramcat Run (the put-in area for canoers). \$9.50 carpool - 72 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat. April 16 - Try an easy 4-mile walk in Audubon's Todd Sanctuary. It should be a good time for wildflowers. Meet at Harmar Ames. \$3.50 carpool - 30 miles. Call Mike Robertson, 412-678-4039

Sun. April 17 - Hike 10 miles in Lower Indian Creek Valley on an easy, scenic trail from Rt.381-Mill Run Reservoir to the Youghiogheny River. Find a 60 ft. rock face above Lower Indian Creek Valley near the Yough River. We may see the Hawkins Hollow Big Blue Holes. \$7.75 carpool - 56 miles. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

Sun. April 17 -- Hike 12-14 miles on the North Woods Trail system north of Rt.31 and Roaring Run Natural Area. It's moderately hilly. This is moderate to strenuous. \$6.50 carpool - 47 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. April 23 - Visit Bear Cave for about 3 hours. Intermediate. \$4.25 carpool - 35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sun. Apr. 24 - Hike a 10-mile loop on the John P. Saylor Trail in Gallitzin State Forest on Allegheny Front near Johnstown. We will hike the western side of the Trail, utilizing the Bog-and-Boulder Trail, too. Intermediate difficulty. \$10 carpool - 83 miles. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210

Sun. Apr. 24 - Hike 8.5 miles from Hartwood Acres to North Park on the Rachel Carson Trail. Fast-paced intermediate. Meet at the trailhead. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519

Sun. May 1 -- Easy 1.5-mile hike (2 hours) in Seldom Seen Greenway in the Beechview Area. Meet at the far end of Brashear High School's parking lot at 590 Crane Ave. in Beechview at 1:30 PM. Call John or Kathy Murphy, 412-341-9367, or Bill Lawrence, 412-922-395

Sun. May 1 - Hike a moderate 10-mile loop in Laurel Hill State Park on the east slope of Laurel Ridge. Hike the lake view trail and visit a grove of huge hemlocks along Laurel Hill Creek. \$8.00 carpool - 55 miles. Call Mike Robertson, 412-678-4039

Sun. May 1 -- Hike at McConnells Mill State Park. Most of us will go from near Alpha Pass to the waterfall and back. It's 17 miles of pretty tough going. Those who don't want to go both ways can set up a shuttle and go just one way to the waterfall if they wish. This is another very scenic venue with a lot of variety. If you've never done this one you don't know what you're missing. It's definitely strenuous. \$3.25 carpool - 27 miles from Cranberry Mall. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sun. May 1 - Bicycle from Connellsville to Ohiopyle and back on one of the more scenic parts of the Yough River Trail. 28 miles total. \$5.50 carpool - 40 miles. Call John Dern, 412-856-4642

Sat. May 7 -- Hike at Oil Creek State Park. This is 15-16 miles of moderately hilly hiking. The hills are not as challenging as those on the LHHT but it's a good long hike on well-defined trails. Slightly strenuous. \$10 carpool - 84 miles from Richland Mall. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat.-Sun. May 7-8 - What better way could there be to celebrate Mother's Day weekend than by taking Mom on an easy backpacking trip in scenic Quebec Run Wild Area on Chestnut Ridge? That will qualify Mom for our more rugged and remote trips. We'll only do about 12 miles and be back at the trailhead by around noon on Sunday. Limit: 12. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Sat. May 14 - Hike a dry 7-mile loop in Hartstown swamp near Conneaut. Lots of wildlife from turtles to eagles, so bring binoculars. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 9 AM. \$12.25 carpool - 103 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sun. May 15 - Easy 4-mile hike on the Baker Trail, starting near Crooked Creek Dam and going to the Rt. 66 bridge. Enjoy the wildflowers of spring. Meet at the trailhead. Call Luc Berger, 412-683-3131

Sun. May 15 -- Hike a 10-mile 5-waterfall hike in Ohiopyle State Park. See the big falls and also Cucumber Falls, Jonathan Run Falls, Meadow Run Falls, and Sugar Run Falls. Intermediate difficulty. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210

Sun. May 15 -- Hike - strenuous and exploratory - in the Elk Rocks area of the Dunbar Gamelands. Large rock formations and ledges high above the gorge of the Youghiogheny, the historic 1812 New Laurel Furnace and Morgan Run. \$6.75 carpool - 52 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sun. May 22 - Hike an 8.5-mile loop in Linn Run State Park and Forbes State Forest, visiting Wolf Rocks and Beam Rocks. Fast-paced, intermediate. \$7.50 carpool - 59 miles. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519

Sun. May 22 - Bicycle the Mini-M&M - from Markleton to Meyersdale and return (38-40 miles total) on the Allegheny Highlands Trail. The trail follows the scenic Casselman River and crosses the spectacular Salisbury Viaduct. \$9.50 carpool - 73 miles. Call Donna Allen, 412-372-2993

Sat. - Mon. May 28-30 -- Backpacking in the Wilderness in the southern part of Dolly Sods in West Virginia's Monongahela National Forest. It is one of the most popular backpacking areas in this part of the US. Limit: 10. \$23 carpool -- 163 miles. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

**Sun. May 29** - Hike some of the trails in Moraine State Park. 12-15 miles - intermediate+. \$3.50 carpool - 30 miles from Cranberry Mall. Call Alan Aliskovitz, 724-283-5436

**Sun. May 29** -- Canoe Trip on Loyalhanna Creek. Bring your kayak/ canoe, or rent one from the outfitter. Cost: \$15 - \$20 per person. We'll meet at Bush Recreation Area and the outfitter will take us almost to Latrobe. We'll float down the creek until it starts to widen, then we'll have to paddle. Count on 6 -7 miles of steady paddling with only a slight current behind you. For most of the distance the creek is fairly narrow with woods on both sides. It's very scenic. Count on seeing some heron and maybe some other wildlife. There are two eagles nesting near there and they've been seen on Loyalhanna Creek. The entire trip will be 12-14 miles -- a strenuous upper-body workout. \$3 carpool - 26 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

**Sun. June 5** - Hike an easy 8-mile on the Bagdad Loop near Freeport. Parts of the trail are along the Kiski River. Meet at Harmar Ames at 10 AM. \$1.75 carpool - 15 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

**Sun. June 12** -- Hike - strenuous and exploratory - shuttle hike from Quebec Run to Pine Knob (panoramic views) and beautiful Lick Hollow, crossing from the east side to the west side of Chestnut Ridge, passing the vicinity of White Rocks. \$9 carpool - 73 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

**Sat. June 18** - Visit Barton's Cave on Chestnut Ridge for about 3 hours. Intermediate. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

**Sun. June 19** -- Hike in the Mt. Davis area (highest point in Pennsylvania) during what hopefully will be the peak of the Mountain Laurel bloom. This is about a 10-mile hike - not particularly difficult. \$11.50 carpool - 86 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

**NOTES:** Ask the leader for names and phone numbers of trippers for you to arrange a car pool. Reserve at least 36 hours in advance. If you leave your phone number on the leader's answering machine, give it slowly and clearly. Notify leader to cancel your reservation. Bring lunch, rain gear, water, first-aid kit, small flashlight and extra clothes for changes in weather. If you have a cell phone, bring it along. Cell phones have saved the day on several trips when accidents have required evacuation of trippers. Sierra Clubbers planning to lead outings during 06/18/05 -09/15/05 should contact Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737, bsundquist1@juno.com by 05/10/05.

HEADWATERS GROUP (Johnstown Area), SIERRA CLUB, OUTINGS - THROUGH August 28, 2005

Don't forget rain gear. Share carpooling expenses. Call the outings committee chair, 814-255-4775 if you cannot reach the trip leader. If you are from the Allegheny County area, ask the trip leader about possibilities for carpools from Allegheny County. Johnstown is about an hour's drive east of Pittsburgh, but some trips are less than an hour's drive from Pittsburgh.

**Sun. April 24** - Hike in Yellow Creek State Park, starting at 1:30 PM. Call Mary Heinlein, 814-539-2371

**Sun. May 1** - Wildflower hike in the Wilmore dam Area starting at 1:30 PM. Call Cheryl Adams, 814-255-7453.

**Sat. May 7** - Canoe float trip on Raystown Branch of the Juniata River. Meet at 8:30 AM. Call Donna Gregory, 814-255-1765.

**Sat. May 14** - Bicycling in Ohiopyle State Park. Meet at 8:30 AM. Call Ed or Karlice, 814-255-2676.

**Sun. May 22** - Hike in the Black Valley Natural Area. Meet at 1:30 PM. Call Dorothy Brock, 814-288-2299.

**Sun. June 5** - Hike on the Forbes Trail and the Laurel Highlands Trail starting at 1:30 PM. Call Lou Will, 814-536-0255.

**Sat.-Sun. June 18-19** - Car camping at Price Gallitizin State Park. Call Jean Rigo, 814-255-1180.

**Sun. Aug. 28** - Sierra Club Picnic: Meet at Shawee Picnic area #6 at 2:30 PM. Pack a picnic lunch with a dish to share. Call Ed Statler, 814-255-4775.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR USING OUTINGS-RELATED PORTIONS OF ALLEGHENY GROUP'S WEB PAGE

**Trail Guides and Patches:**  
If you are interested in trail guides and/or trail patches, click on "Publications" near the top of the front page. That will take you to a descriptive list of all the trail guides that Allegheny Group sells. Near the top of that list you can click on "Order Form" which takes you to an order form that you can copy and mail in if you want to order any trail guides or patches. The top of the order form lists and describes trail patches and maps that you can order.

**Outings List:**  
The front page contains just a list of outings for the coming few weekends. Each trip on that list is described in only a few words, so it is of little value. At the bottom of that brief list you can click on "more events/outings" which takes you to a page that lists the trips for the coming month or so. Trip descriptions in that list are more complete. But in many cases they are still incomplete. To get the complete description of any given trip, click on that trip's bold-faced title (not

just the date). A complete description of that trip will then appear. Please read this description before calling the trip leader to sign up for the trip. That will help you avoid trips that do not fit your interests or abilities.

**Trails Updates:**  
The outings committee compiles new information that it learns about hiking trails and bicycle paths in western Pennsylvania. It also updates the trail descriptions found in Allegheny Groups hiking guide to trails on public lands on Chestnut Ridge, Laurel Ridge and Allegheny Front in southwestern Pennsylvania (Title: The Laurel Highlands: A Hiking Guide) If you are planning to go on a hike or bicycle trip in western Pa., you should first check this list to learn of any recent changes to the trails you plan to use - or to learn about new trails that have been developed. To get to this information, click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will then appear and near the top of it you will find a sentence on "Trail Updates". Click on that to bring up the page of updates. At the top of that page is a Table of Contents listing all the trails covered. Click on the trail you are interested in.

**About Allegheny Group Outings:**  
If you are new to Allegheny Group's outings, you ought to read a 2-page description of the outings program. To get to this information, click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will then appear and near the top of it you will find a sentence on "About Allegheny Group Outings". Click on that to bring up a page with that title.

**Ski Touring for Beginners:**  
If you are contemplating getting into ski touring, you should read a little about it. To get to this information, click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will then appear and near the top of it you will find a sentence on "Ski-Touring for Beginners. Click on that to bring up a page with that title.

**Waiver Form:**  
If you want to go on an Allegheny Group outing, the National Sierra Club requires that you sign a liability waiver form to acknowledge that you are aware of the risks that are inherent in any of the sorts of outdoor activities that the Club is involved in. You may want to read this form before you come on any Allegheny Group outings. To get to this information, click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will then appear and near the top of it you will find a sentence on "Waiver Form". Click on that to bring up a page with that title.

**HELP WANTED:**  
Allegheny Group's Outings Chair (Bruce Sundquist) has held that post since 1976 -- much too long. Running the outings program involves 32 well-defined tasks. Most are done quarterly; some monthly. About 12 could be done without any experience, and could be divided among several people. If you are willing to share some of these tasks, please contact Bruce at 724-327-8737 or bsundquist1@juno.com

**SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP INDUCEMENT**  
If you join the Sierra Club on one of our outings, your \$25 introductory membership will get you a free hip pack. Call 724-327-8737 for application form and pack.

**ALLEGHENY GROUP MONTHLY MEETINGS**  
Monthly meetings of Allegheny Group are now held at Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center on Shady Avenue just south of Fifth Ave. Driving south on Shady from Fifth, turn left at the second driveway into a parking lot in front of the Scaife Unit of the Arts Center. Parking there is metered (quarters only - 25 cents per hour). Follow the cobblestone driveway back to the Garden Center. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. The first 30 minutes is a business meeting, the main program begins around 8 PM. A social hour follows. We must vacate the building by 10 PM.

**April 13** -- Global Positioning Systems: How to really know where you are when you're lost! And fun and games too. Bill Harbert will tell us all about it.

**May 11** -- Pale Male. Razing Appalachia, Wolf, Affluenza, and other fabulous nature films.

**June 15** -- Ed Divers talks on Principles of foraging for food in the forest.

**July 13** -- Kayaking: sea, river and flat water...even right here in Pittsburgh. Mark Mistrik will tell us all about it.

**August 10** -- National Sierra Club Global Population and the Environment.

**Sept. 14** -- Annual Member Adventure Travel Program.

**Oct. 12** -- The Allegheny River Watershed -- Where the Mississippi Begins. Sue Thompson and Suzie Myer

**Nov. 9** -- Karl Striedick, US National Soaring Champion: Hawks and the Applachians

**Dec. 14** -- Annual Member Slide Show and Holiday party.

**NON-SIERRA CLUB TRIPS**  
Trips listed below are in no way connected with the Sierra Club. Sierra Club takes no responsibility, and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of these trips. They are published here purely as a service to our members.

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIELD INSTITUTE TRIPS**  
For information on WPFI events, contact Sean Brady sbrady@wpfi.org 412-255-0564 or visit http://www.wpfi.org/ All WPFI events are open to the public.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

**BUTLER OUTDOORS CLUB**

Contact Dave Adams at 724-453-1685 or DaveEAdams@aol.com or Bob Tait, 724-287-3382 BobTait@zbzoom.net or visit <http://www.butleroutdoorclub.com> P.O. Box 243, Butler, PA 16003-0243

**Fri.-Mon. May 27-30** - 9th Annual Outdoor Extravaganza. The base camp will be at Breakneck Campground near McConnell's Mill and Moraine State Parks. Activities include road bike trips, bike trail trips, canoeing, kayaking, caving, sailing, rock climbing and rappelling, horseback rides, hikes and pontoon boat tours. For more detailed information contact Joyce Appel, 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@arm-tek.net

**Western Pennsylvania Orienteering Club:** If you like orienteering you might enjoy WPOC's orienteering events. Below is their list of spring events. Registration for all events is from 11 AM - 2 PM. Most of their events are in the Indiana - Johnstown area.

**Sat. March 26** - Camp Seph Mack. Contact Al Sheaffer, aas232@psu.edu

**Sun. April 17** - Blue Spruce Park. Contact Jim Wolfe, jlwolfe@atlanticbb.net

**Sun. May 15** - College Lodge. Contact Jim Wolfe, jlwolfe@atlanticbb.net

**WISSAHICKON NATURE CLUB**

If you enjoy nature lore, look into the meetings and field trips of Wissahickon Nature Club. They meet every other Saturday at 6 PM (except June-August) at Community Presbyterian Church, 7501 Church Av., Ben Avon. Contact Chuck Tague, 412-488-8760 or 432 Olympia Rd, Pgh. 15219

**OUTSIDE ADVENTURES SEA-KAYAKING PROGRAM "Sea-Kayaking Taught From Scratch"**

Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pa. is a non-profit educational organization committed to introducing individuals to safe and enjoyable recreational outdoor pursuits. The sea-kayaking program specializes in teaching all levels of sea-kayaking skills and organizing trips from our evening introductory classes for new paddlers up to advanced expedition tours. Outside Adventures welcomes participation from individuals, families, youth organizations and outings clubs. Sea-kayaks, or touring kayaks are versatile, fun, human-powered watercraft that enables us to do all these things and more. They are sleek and fast, more efficient than canoes, more comfortable and stable than whitewater kayaks, have hatches to swallow loads of gear, and steerable rudders that enable even beginners to control the boat with ease.

**Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pennsylvania - 2005 Schedule**  
Call 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310 for information or to sign up for any event. Also visit [www.outsideadventures.org](http://www.outsideadventures.org) or email outsideadventures@Yahoo.com

**OUTDOORS UNDER-YOUR-OWN-POWER EQUIPMENT FOR SALE**

Contact: Debbie Martinelli, Salute2004@adelphia.net 412-913-5548 (11/3/04)

**MOVING SALE / OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT (and more!)**

Bicycle, Cannondale, 19-inch frame, T2000 top of the line touring, 9 speeds, cane creek headset, cad 3 touring frame, Coda expert road crank, Shimano cogs rear gearing. Rode a short distance - once. Paid \$1500, asking \$1000.

Giro bike helmet, s/m, Good condition. Paid over \$100, asking \$20.

Double Bike Head Light: Includes 20 watt/ 60 Lux Halogen front beam 5-watt Halogen front light, rechargeable 0.6 V/3.2 ahr. Charging unit 6 V/3.2 hr specifically designed for this unit. In original box, new. Paid \$80, Asking \$60.

X-C Skis, 195 cm., Splitkein with poles, 135 cm. excellent condition. Asking \$50.

X-C Ski Boots, Karhu, size 7 1/2 (38). Little used. Asking \$20.

Northface Backpack: holds X-C skis. Good condition. Asking \$35.

Window-Mount Locking Ski Rack (pink). Fits all cars. Never used; in box. Asking \$25.

Tent, Eureka: 4-person, slightly used but in good condition. Asking \$50.

Tent, Eureka: 1-person, used once. Paid \$125, asking \$70.

Reidell Shoe Figure Skates, woman's, white leather, size 7 1/2, nearly new, with blade guards. Paid \$100, asking \$45.

Skates, In-line, Solomon Woman's Size 8, never used, still in box, plus pads for elbows and knees. Asking \$200 for skates, \$40 for pads.

Other Outdoors Clubs

Butler Outdoors Club

BOC runs the same sorts of trips as Allegheny Group. Contact Dave Adams, 724-453-1685 DaveEAdams@aol.com or Bob Tait, 724-287-3382 BobTait@zbzoom.net or visit <http://www.butleroutdoorclub.com> Some trips by BOC and North Country Trails Assn. (NCTA) are listed below.

Wissahickon Nature Club

If you enjoy nature lore, look into the meetings and field trips of Wissahickon Nature Club. They meet every other Saturday at 6 PM (except June-August) at Community Presbyterian Church, 7501 Church Av., Ben Avon. Contact Chuck Tague, 412-488-8760 or 432 Olympia Rd, Pgh. 15219

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

BSWP offers field trips in spring, summer and fall to look at and learn about the enormous variety of plant life that western Pa. offers. Everyone is welcome on field trips; amateurs, professionals, non-members, and anyone who is curious about the natural world. Trips are often at a leisurely pace, but may require hiking and traveling through wet/muddy areas. For information, e-mail your address for sample newsletter and membership information to yoree@sgi.net, or call Loree at 724-872-5232.

WPW (Western Pennsylvania Wheelmen) Bicycle Club

Home Page: <http://wpwbikeclub.org> Ride Hotline: 412-422-2234 Various length and difficulty rides scheduled each weekend and some during the week. Monthly meeting usually the 2nd Monday at 8pm at the Frick Environmental center on Beechwood Blvd in Squirrel Hill. See home page for details.

Moraine Sailing Club

MSC offers sailing opportunities for new and experienced sailors at Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park. They have an active education program for all ages, numerous sailing related social events, Day Sailing at Lake Arthur, and a very active sailboat racing program. For more information see the MSC Web Page at [www.morainesailingclub.org](http://www.morainesailingclub.org) or contact Chris Neuwirth 412-441-5590, email to: [cmn@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:cmn@andrew.cmu.edu)

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIELD INSTITUTE -- TRIPS

For information on WPFI events, contact Sean Brady [sbrady@wpfi.org](mailto:sbrady@wpfi.org) 412-255-0564 or visit <http://www.wpfi.org/> All events open to the public. Fridays, Noon-12:50 PM Nature Walks starting in Market Square, Downtown Pittsburgh, Cost: Free

Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pennsylvania

Outside Adventures 2002 Paddling Schedule  
Call 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310 for information or to sign up for any event.  
[www.outsideadventures.org](http://www.outsideadventures.org) or [www.outsideadventures@Yahoo.com](mailto:www.outsideadventures@Yahoo.com)  
More outings continuously offered. Call for Updates: 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310.  
Outside Adventures Sea-Kayaking Program "Sea-Kayaking Taught From Scratch"  
Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pa. is a non-profit educational organization committed to introducing individuals to safe and enjoyable recreational outdoor pursuits. The sea-kayaking program specializes in teaching all levels of sea-kayaking skills and organizing trips from our evening introductory classes for new paddlers up to advanced expedition tours. Outside Adventures welcomes participation from individuals, families, youth organizations and outings clubs. Sea-kayaks, or touring kayaks are versatile, fun, human-powered watercraft that enables us to do all these things and more. They are sleek and fast, more efficient than canoes, more comfortable and stable than whitewater kayaks, have hatches to swallow loads of gear, and steerable rudders that enable even beginners to control the boat with ease.



Activity Co-chairs: Paul Henry (724) 347-3282  
Brian McBane (724) 443-8972

CANOEING



SAILING

The AYH no longer owns its own sailboats or runs trips but Bob Zavos will help coordinate sailing interests with other area organizations. The Moraine Sailing Club (MSC) is the largest local sailing group. Most activities are on Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park which is about 35 miles North of Pittsburgh. They offer education, social events and run a youth summer sail camp. They also have a large racing program and sponsor a Community Sailing Program for people without their own sailboats. They help organize/publicize Cruising Trips, but do not officially sponsor them. More information is on their website at [www.morainesailingclub.org](http://www.morainesailingclub.org). Big boat sailors may want to check out the Erie Yacht Club: [www.erieyachtclub.org](http://www.erieyachtclub.org) or the Erie Bayfront Center for Marine studies: [www.goerie.com/bcms](http://www.goerie.com/bcms)

Moraine Preservations Fund (MPF), is looking for volunteers to help with the 50 passenger pontoon boat which they run on Lake Arthur in the Summer. It is used for scientific hands-on field trips for students and summer and fall tours for the public. They are looking for people interested in becoming volunteer mates and captains. You will need to have a boater's safety class, which you may already have taken or is easily available locally. To be a mate you must be 16 and 18 to be a captain. The boat training is given by experienced MPF captains, and you will be tested and licensed by the Fish and Boat Commission. The times and amount of time you would volunteer is completely by your choice. Even limited help is appreciated. If you have questions or would like to sign up, please contact Ruth Roperti at 724 843 7046, or email: [missionmorain@zoominternet.net](mailto:missionmorain@zoominternet.net)

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Lake Arthur Regatta is scheduled for August 14 &15. This is one of the largest water and boating related activities in the area. Mark your calendars and look for more information later in the season on the MSC Website or the Butler County site: [www.visit-butler-county-pennsylvania-pa.com/](http://www.visit-butler-county-pennsylvania-pa.com/)



**Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail  
Trail Maintenance Opportunities for 2004**

The Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, conceived and built the Baker Trail in the late 1940's and dedicated the Trail in 1950. It was built by returning war veterans who envisioned a network of "youth hostels" along the Trail where the youth of the world could find safe, inexpensive shelter while touring rural America on foot. Today the Trail is 141 miles long and extends from Freeport, PA to the Allegheny National Forest, and traverses Cook Forest State Park, several State Game Lands, Kittanning State Forest, the Mahoning and Crooked Creek Army Corps of Engineers projects, and several local recreation facilities. All AYH members are asked to spend one day a year helping us maintain the Trail. The Baker Trail is 100% volunteer-supported. We use no Federal, State, or Local government funding. Right now the trail needs AYH members who would like to participate in trail crew maintenance activities. Please contact Steve Mentzer SGMentzer@TrueCommerce.com

**Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers needed.** We also need volunteers to become trail stewards who are willing to adopt a 3-5 mile long section of the Baker Trail. Trail stewards will be independently responsible to work on their section of the trail on their own schedule. Responsibilities include painting yellow blazes on the trail once a year, picking up debris and trash off the treadway, and trimming vegetation away from blazes. Optional skills include chain saw work, shelter repair (we have 10 overnight shelters on the trail that require yearly maintenance—adopt a shelter as your own personal project) and/or you can build bridges, sidehill supports, benches, and other trail amenities. Regardless of the level of your effort, you would be expected to walk your trail section twice a year, preferably once in the spring (April, May) and once in the fall (September, October). All expenses for supplies-paint, brushes, etc.-are reimbursed.

Pennsylvania State Parks  
Reservations & Information

Call Toll Free  
**1-888-PA-PARKS**

Reserve up to 11 months in advance  
Cabins - Pavilions - Camping

Mastercard      www.dcnr.state.pa.us      Visa

**Baker Trail/Rachel Carson Trail Resources**

**Rachel Carson Trail website:** [www.rachelcarsontrail.com](http://www.rachelcarsontrail.com); **this website has information about the Rachel Carson Trail, the Baker Trail, and the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge.**  
**Baker Trail website:** [www.geocities.com/bakertrailpa](http://www.geocities.com/bakertrailpa); **this website has some abbreviated information concerning the Baker Trail.**  
**Hostelling International website:** <http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/>; **general information about the BT/RCT sponsor organization.**  
**Keystone Trails Association:** <http://www.kta-hike.org/>; **has information about all Pennsylvania hiking trails**  
**“Guide to the Rachel Carson Trail”;** **this is a trail guide, with topographic maps, and some interpretive information about the 34-mile long trail, available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.**  
**“Baker Trail Guide Book”;** **a trail guide with topographic maps, and interpretive information about the 141-mile long Baker Trail. Available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.**

**\*\*\*\*\*HIKER ALERTS\*\*\*\*\*****Current hiker alerts for both the Rachel Carson Trail and the Baker Trail may be found at [www.rachelcarsontrail.com](http://www.rachelcarsontrail.com).**

**STUDENT TRAVEL**  
**AYH cards here!**

STA Travel  
sells  
American  
Youth Hostel  
membership  
cards.  
Get your's  
now!

118 Meyran Ave.  
(Oakland - between  
5th and Forbes)  
**(412) 683.1881**

**STA TRAVEL**  
**WE'VE BEEN THERE.**  
ONLINE » ON THE PHONE » ON CAMPUS » ON THE STREET