

Aug 1963

THE PITTSBURGH COUNCIL



GOLDEN TRIANGLE



August, 1963

6300 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh 32, Pa.

open house NATIONAL PLANNING MEETING

by Marianne Kissane

Well, here it is August already, and where did the summer go? Even though it is the month of those hot "dog days," the hostel headquarters remains cool and inviting. Now about coming out on Thursdays at 8:30 for a short program and a long conversation with your friends. The Mellon Park rose garden is practically outside our door.

August 1--Folk dancing, as usual, with that veteran of the Shenandoah trip, H. Gilmour.

August 8--Thursday night at the Bijou--"A film entitled, "Welcome to Washington," offers information about a favorite place for hostel trips, featuring a campsite tour of the Capital with all the monuments included.

August 15--Though the weather makes swimming a favorite activity, tonight's favored activity is cycle racing. On hand will be Chuck Newall with films of bike races on the Monongehela wharf, vintage 1953.

August 22--"Another night at the Bijou:" "A Date with West Virginia" gives us old sternwheelers, mines three miles deep and other scenes of modern and old activities in this film commemorating the state's centennial.

Justin Cline, Executive Director of the American Youth Hostels, for the National Planning Meeting to be held September 27 to 29 at the Bantam Lake Youth Hostel in Lake Side Connecticut.

Delegates from all councils are invited to attend the meetings which will pave the way for the National Conference to be held in Pittsburgh in November. Since we are to serve as hosts for the November conference, it would be wise to have as much information regarding what occurs at this meeting. Margaret Bark, president of the Pittsburgh Council is urging all members, primarily those on the activities board, to plan on attending.

The New England councils have agreed to handle all arrangements and will do their utmost to facilitate transportation problems. The hostel offers wide opportunity for hiking, relaxing and real hosteling.

MORE OPEN HOUSE (cont.)

August 29--Double feature: our regular monthly hootenanny coupled with an ice cream freeze. If anyone has any extra freezers or a strong arm for turning, contact Marianne Kissane 521-3849.



by Hugh Gilmour

Sitting here in this oven of an office in our undershirts, with the sun blazing down and the thermometer climbing up to the nineties, we thought perhaps the icily heading might cool everyone off. The calender reminds us that we have but five months to complete our Christmas shopping, and if that little bit of information doesn't send you straight to the showers, nothing will!

A lot of hostelers have fled town to escape the heat. Liz Saffer is in Ireland, no doubt dancing among the shamrocks. Manny Morgan loaded the car and departed for California. Betty Bierer wrote to clear up any doubts as to where she was headed. If her summer trip to Russia is as busy as her last day in New York, those Russians had better get out of her way. She planned to tour a textile plant, lunch with Justine Cline, take in a matinee on Broadway and then have a restful dinner at the airport. Her itinery includes (as well as Kiev, Moscow and Yalta) Helsinki, Stockholm, Istanbul, Athens and Venice.

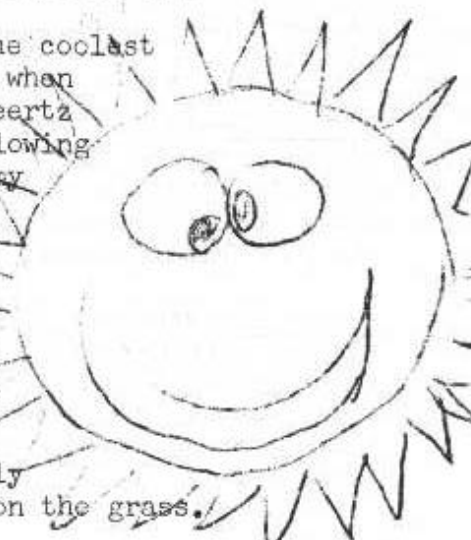
John Bowker is off to a former hot spot: the University of Arkansas in Little Rock to teach, and for those of you who read Ivan Jirak's account of the revolution in Ecuador, don't forget that our gal, Winifred Roensch is along with his group.

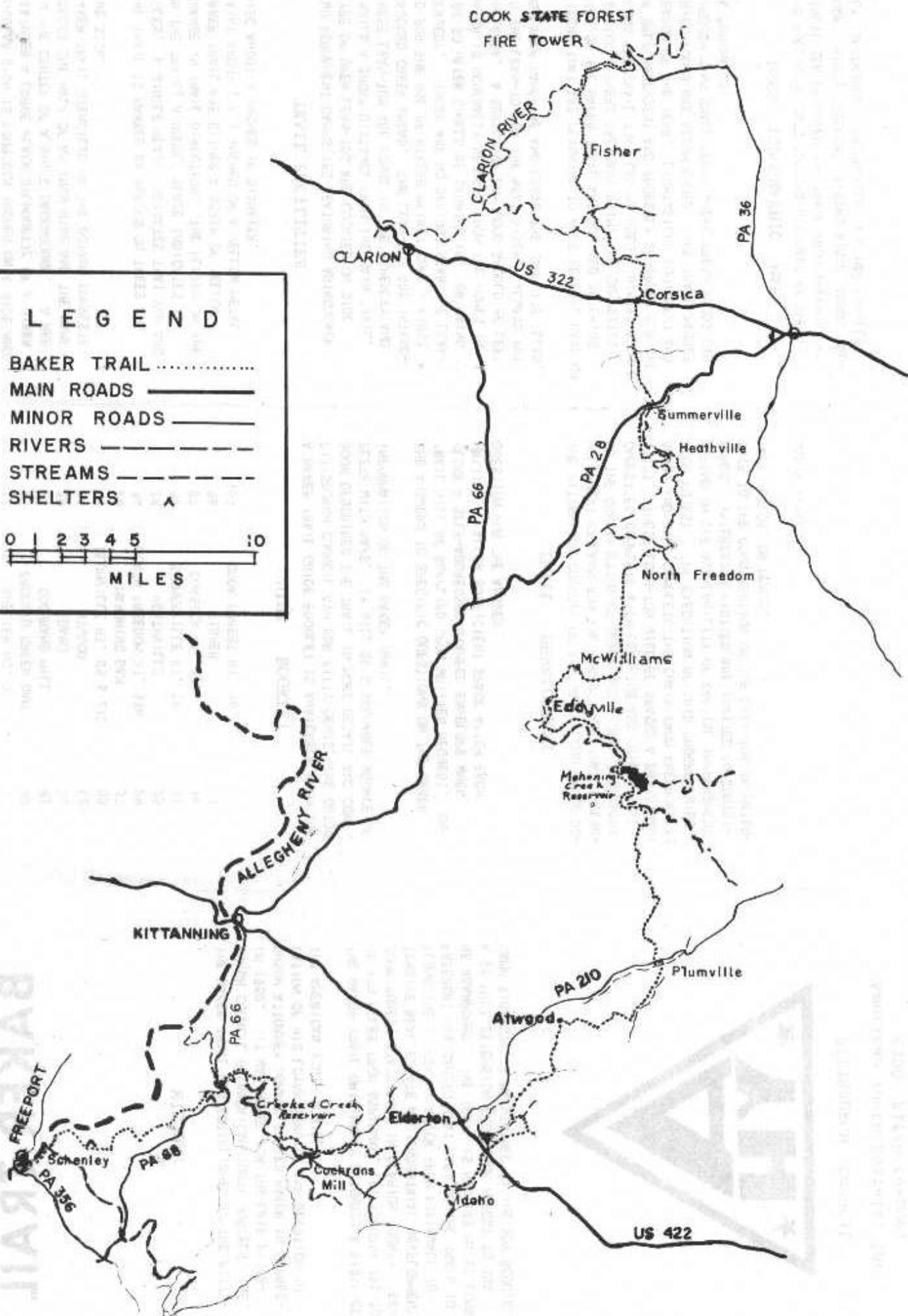
Congratulations are extended orange blossomwise to George Hughes and his lucky spouse who were married in June; John Clayton, the best man, no doubt caught the bride's garter. Lolly Sandoval, now living in New York, is engaged to a commercial artist and hopes for a wedding this winter. Janet Richardson will be getting her B.A. this summer from the University of Seattle, the same spot where Rudy Hammermeister and his wife will be heading this month. Ed Coleman will be teaching chemistry at Beaver High School this fall. May we also say thanks to Pat Vaughan for acting as hostess on Thursday evenings at Open House, and to her father, Richard Vaughan, for the excellent job of printing the new Baker Trail map and information sheet. Copies of it have already been distributed to the Boy Scouts Girl Scouts, and the YWCA, and will be made available along the trail at park offices and other locations.

Joyce Koplos, another Pgh. hosteler now living in New York City, has assumed the job of out-of-town correspondent and has already given us some little bits of news.

UNASSORTED NOTES ACCUMULATED ON THE SHENANDOAH CAMPING TRIP

Shenandoah, probably our nearest national park, is one of the coolest spots in the country, and we were glad to escape back to it when we visited Jefferson's home at Montecello one day. Abbie Geertz with her bouncing jar of vitamin pills is a great one for blowing up air mattresses. Donal Barnhart not only possesses a mummy sleeping bag, but also a mummy tent that just fits a prone figure. Fran Czapiewski is now an authority on wildflowers in Virginia on such isolated items as cohosh bugbane and wild yam. J. D. Myers is a handy person to have along on any camping safari with his numerous lengths of rope and various dishes and tents. White Oak Canyon is just perfect for swimming with its four water falls and broad streams. Any camping group that eats fresh baked ham, noodles Romanoff, banana ambrosia, French omelettes is really living! See you at the pool! Leave your Golden Triangle on the grass.





LOCATING THE TRAIL

THE BAKER TRAIL IS INDICATED ON ROAD MAPS OF THE MAJOR OIL COMPANIES. THE INTERSECTION OF THE TRAIL AND PAVED ROADS IS DESIGNATED BY A TRIANGULAR METAL BAKER TRAIL SIGN. THE TRIANGULAR SIGN IS FOURTEEN INCHES ON A SIDE AND FEATURES A LARGE BLACK SILHOUETTE OF A HIKER IN THE CENTER OF A WHITE BACKGROUND. A RED BORDER ONE HALF OF AN INCH WIDE AND THE NAME BAKER TRAIL STENCILED ON THE BOTTOM COMPLETE THE SIGN.

THE TRAIL IS MARKED BY BLAZES ON TREES AND POLES. A SINGLE BLAZE INDICATES THAT YOU ARE ON THE TRAIL; A DOUBLE BLAZE INDICATES A CHANGE IN TRAIL DIRECTION. THE BLAZES ON THE BAKER TRAIL ARE EITHER A STRIP OF YELLOW PAINT ABOUT 2 X 3 INCHES OR A YELLOW METAL DISC ABOUT 3 INCHES IN DIAMETER.

TRAIL FACILITIES

TWO PERMANENT CAMPSITES FEATURING ADIRONDACK TYPE OF OPEN LEAN-TOS ARE LOCATED ON SIDE TRAILS A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE MAIN TRAIL. THESE LEAN-TOS ARE FOUND IN THE SCHENLEY AND CROOKED CREEK AREAS. THE LEAN-TOS ARE INTENDED FOR THE USE OF HIKERS "FIRST COME - FIRST SERVED". THERE ARE NO SPRINGS NEAR THE LEAN-TOS SO WATER SHOULD BE CARRIED IN. DRINKING WATER IS GENERALLY SECURED FROM THE HOMES IN THE AREA. A SUPPLY OF DRY WOOD SHOULD BE LEFT IN THE LEAN-TO FOR THE NEXT HIKER. ALWAYS PUT OUT YOUR CAMPFIRE AND LEAVE THE CAMPSITE CLEAN.

HIKERS THAT ARE PLANNING TO HIKE SEVERAL DAYS OR MORE ON THE BAKER TRAIL ARE ADVISED TO BRING TENTING. THERE ARE MANY PRIMITIVE CAMPSITES ALONG THE TRAIL THAT CAN BE USED. HIKERS SHOULD BE SELF DEPENDENT AND PROPERLY EQUIPPED FOR THE SEASON OF THE YEAR. LIGHTWEIGHT EQUIPMENT AND DRIED FOODS ARE RECOMMENDED. THE TRAIL PASSES THROUGH MANY SMALL TOWNS WHERE FRESH FOODS CAN BE PURCHASED.

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

THE FOLLOWING USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS OF THE 15 MINUTE SERIES COVER THE TRAIL FROM FREEPORT TO COOK FOREST: FREEPORT, ELDERS RIDGE, RURAL VALLEY, SMICKSBURG, BROOKVILLE, AND MARIENVILLE.

TRAIL DISTANCES (MILES)

FROM FREEPORT	TO	FROM COOK FOREST
2	FREEPORT	103
5	SCHENLEY	101
12	SHELTER NO. 1	98
15	SHELTER NO. 2	91
20	CROOKED CREEK DAM	88
29	COCHRAN'S MILL	83
41	IDAHO	74
48	ATWOOD	62
66	PLUMVILLE RT. 85 & 210	55
74	MAHONING DAM	37
78	NORTH FREEDOM RT. 536	29
82	HEATHVILLE	25
87	SUMMERSVILLE RT. 28	21
96	CORSICA RT. 322	16
103	FISHER	7
	COOK FOREST RT. 36	

GUIDE BOOKLET

A BAKER TRAIL GUIDE BOOKLET IS AVAILABLE FROM THE PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AYH FOR FIFTY CENTS. THE GUIDE BOOK DESCRIBES THE TRAIL IN MORE DETAIL AND COMPLETE WITH MAPS. IT WILL BE A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON THE BAKER TRAIL.

THE ANSWERS TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ON THE BAKER TRAIL WILL BE SUPPLIED UPON WRITTEN REQUEST. ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE WHEN WRITING. ALLOW SUFFICIENT SPACE AFTER EACH QUESTION FOR THE ANSWER.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

THE PITTSBURGH COUNCIL OF AYH HAS A LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR THE BAKER TRAIL THAT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEVEN ADDITIONAL PERMANENT CAMPSITES COMPLETE WITH LEAN-TOS AND OTHER FACILITIES. THESE LEAN-TOS WILL BE SPACED A DAY'S WALK APART AND WILL COMPLETE THE CHAIN FROM FREEPORT TO COOK FOREST. THE EXECUTION OF THIS PROGRAM WILL DEPEND ON THE AVAILABILITY OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS. INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LEAN-TOS IN MATERIALS, LABOR, OR MONEY.

HAPPY HIKING.

BAKER TRAIL

HISTORY

THE BAKER TRAIL WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE PITTSBURGH COUNCIL OF AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, INC. IN 1950. IT WAS NAMED FOR THE LATE PITTSBURGH ATTORNEY HORACE FORBES BAKER IN APPRECIATION OF HIS LOYAL SERVICE AND DEVOTION TO THE AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS.

THE BAKER TRAIL ORIGINALLY EXTENDED A DISTANCE OF 133 MILES FROM ASPINWALL (PITTSBURGH 15) TO COOK FOREST STATE PARK IN CLARION COUNTY. EXTENSIVE REAL ESTATE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE ALLEGHENY RIVER FROM ASPINWALL TO FREEPORT HAS CAUSED THAT PART OF THE TRAIL TO BE ABANDONED. THE TRAIL IS NOW 103 MILES LONG. A 25 MILE EXTENSION FROM COOK FOREST TO BSA CAMP TIONESTA IS MAINTAINED BY THE BOY SCOUTS.



PITTSBURGH COUNCIL

American Youth Hostels, Inc.
6300 Fifth Avenue,
Pittsburgh 32, Pennsylvania

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE is published by the Pittsburgh Council of the American Youth Hostels, 6300 Fifth Avenue, Pgh. 32, Pa.

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PROGRESS on the BAKER TRAIL

by Don Woodland

from the Editor's Desk



The following letter was received from one of our members and workers and in accordance with our free press policy, we are publish-

ing it.

The Crooked Creek Cave by Dave Magram

"This column is going to pain some people, but the truth always does. AYH is falling right over. Why? No enthusiasm, no encouragement, no new ideas, red tape, disorganization!

What happened to the trip to Gettysburg, the trip to Cleveland, the Sunday morning, the Monday and Tuesday evening bike rides? Can it be that just because Lee left that everything is falling apart? Lee led a one-man show and this is great until the one man leaves. We need more people like Lee to talk up the trips and we need more trip leaders and more trips.

The members should do more than come to Thursday night meetings. If we don't get more interest, the folk dances and hootenannies are going to be dropped, and then back we'll go to dull reruns of dull slide shows.

Why hasn't there been more interest in the Golden Triangle? Why does the printing of nine hundred copies of a paper rest on such few people? Sometimes there isn't even anyone for company up in the office when the paper is being run off. And how about those who don't turn in the work on time?

In short, our council is suffering from horrible disorganization, myriads of ridiculous red tape, lack of enthusiasm and lack of publicity."

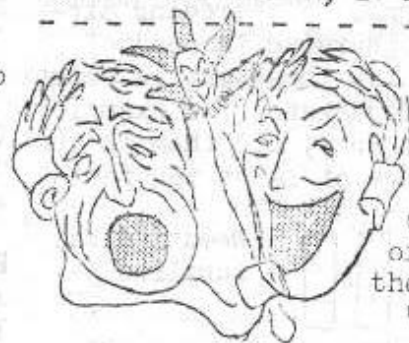
The untiring efforts of Harry Rhule, Winifred Roensch and company have resulted in the Baker Trail signs being completed and the Baker Trail informational sheet being printed. The remainder of the trail signs will be erected on Saturday, July 27 and help is needed in this quarter.

Now...for the big step: Two new lean-to's will be erected this year. These have been designed and will be laid out and pre-cut in our headquarters, thereby saving more time when we begin raising the lean-to at the site. We need the help of people that can saw a board and use a wood chisel.. Gain some valuable experience in carpentry and learn modern methods of pre-cut building construction.

The pre-cutting will be done on Tuesday, August 6. Beginning in the afternoon, we shall work until evening, stopping only for the buffet supper that will be served to our able workers.

This will bring a total of four shelters on the Baker Trail and we hope to add three more in '64, thus enabling hikers to hike the entire trail, stopping over night at the shelters.

Did you know that the Crooked Creek lean-to is surrounded by Mountain Laurel. In June when it bursts into bloom, it is magnificent!



for that evening
out.....

SEE that
satire on the world
of symphonic music!
the clipping of the
"long hairs"

ONCE MORE with FEELING

directed by Hugh Gilmour

August 14-17 8:45 P.M.

SHERWOOD FOREST THEATER
Rt. 366, near New Kensington Tickets 1.50



LAMENT OF A CYCLE

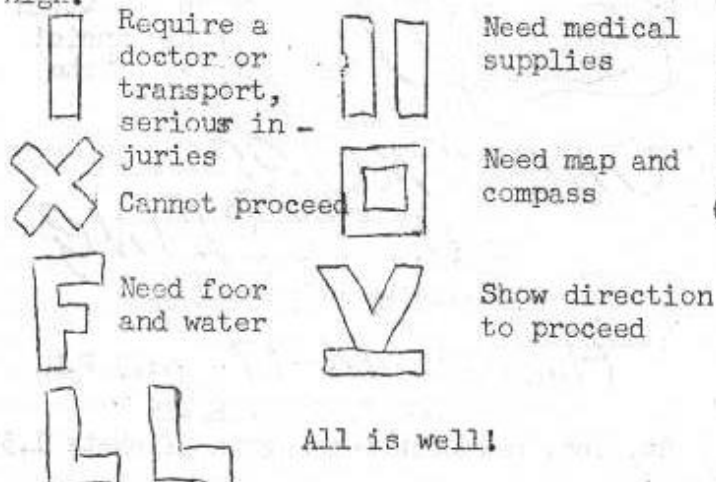
by Chuck Newall

Ooooooh, woe is me! Here I am a rental bicycle. I am constantly being checked over, picked apart, put together and tightened. Once a week I get an awful tasting medicine (mashen oil) to keep me healthy, but what do I get for all of this torture? NOTHING! What I want most, no one will give me: I want to ride away from the fumes and traffic of Pittsburgh out where the air is fresh and clean...out where the forests and farmland mold together with the Pennsylvania scenery that I love so well.

Won't some AYH'er please rescue me from this plight?

RESCUE? ANYONE?

These signs could save your life! They are the official code, known by aviators, by which you can signal to searching aircraft when lost or otherwise in need of rescue. Preferably lay these out in bright colored panels---lifejackets, for example; or stamp them in the snow, dig them in the sand. Make each sign at least ten feet high.



All is well!

our other councils

The MILWAUKEE COUNCIL includes an explanation of the various positions in the operation of their organization. In this way they are able to get helpful workers who understand what special talents are needed and thus feel qualified to volunteer for the work.

The MICHIGAN COUNCIL recently celebrated the second birthday of its sail committee. They instituted sailing lessons to over two hundred members and non-members.

The NEW JERSEY COUNCIL joined the Philadelphia cycle clubs' "Hardly Able" ride in which 179 cyclists participated, including eight tandems.

The LOS ANGELES COUNCIL is urging its members to write to their senator, personally endorsing Senate Bill 1290 which will provide for bicycle and pedestrian traffic on its freeways in places where no other suitable public road exists. Wow!

The SAN FRANCISCO COUNCIL is scheduling a wine holiday (August 24/25) visiting wineries in the Sonoma and Napa Valleys.

The MINNESOTA COUNCIL is buying a bus and is including the names of all twenty-five dollar donors on the side of the bus.

The LIMA COUNCIL has already purchased a bus for their needs and recently conducted a contest to get a suitable name for it. The winner and now the name for the bus is the "Lima Lizzie."

The FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL of Bridgeport, Connecticut conducted a "Kite-flying day" in June, cycling out to a park to fly their kites.

Both the HARTFORD COUNCIL and the SAN DIEGO COUNCIL include a special page of advertisements listing the firms that support AYH.

CAMPING TIDBITS

Cube sugar is better than granular for camping; you can pick it up. To make a mixing bowl, dish pan or a bathtub, dig a shallow hole of proper size and line it with a piece of plastic. A cooking grill can be made by placing a refrigerator shelf across two logs or stones.

Thank you....Helloosee



where to go to
cool off!

Get out of town.....to the hills, the streams, the forests.
You can escape the heat by showing up for one of these trips.

Sunday, August 4--Aimable Pete Shuster will lead a group on either a climbing or cave crawling party (to be decided by the group on Thursday night, August 1). If you can't make the open house on Thursday, meet Pete at 8:30 AM at HQ.



Friday, August 9 to Sunday, August 11--Jim Hunter will conduct a canoeing weekend in the upper Allegheny River for a last look at the Kinzua Dam area before it is flooded. If desired by the group, the trip can be extended another day, to return by Tuesday. Leave HQ at 6:30 P.M. Price of trip \$7.50. Call Jim at BR 9-3712 or MA 1-3500, Dept. of Geology.....Ask for Jim.

Saturday, August 10 to Sunday, August 11--Overnight hike on the Baker Trail between Freeport and Crooked Creek. Bring own food and sleeping bag plus individual necessities and assorted luxuries. Cost of trip is only \$2.00. Leave HQ at 10 A.M.



Saturday, August 17 to Sunday, August 25--Last extended bycling trip of the year! Mel Tobias leads a caravan of cyclists to Allegheny National Forest to visit prospective new hostels. Stay at campsites. You'll need sleeping bag, clothing, mess gear, etc. If interested, call Mel at EM 2-5297.

Saturday, August 17--Veteran hikist and theater-goer, Rhonda Newcomer offers a perfect summer package deal. Hike in the vicinity of Camp Joann, enjoy a picnic supper at a nearby cottage, change into your summer frocks and sport coats and attend a performance of Once More with Feeling at the nearby Sherwood Forest Theater..... Rhonda offers the entire day for \$2.50 which includes cost of theater ticket. Leave HQ at 12:30. Call Rhonda at 731-4199. If enough wish to stay overnight at the above cottage, it can be arranged.



Sunday, August 25--Lloyd Geertz leads an easy canoe trip of which ever river has enough water to float a canoe. This will probably be one of the last canoe trips of the summer. Call Lloyd at DR 2-6053. Leave about 8:00 A.M.

Sunday, August 25--Ruth Stacklin leads a hike to Highland Park to photograph the inmates of the zoo and also to swim. Leave HQ at 12:15 with swim suit, snack or lunch, camera, etc. Cost of trip 25¢.



Saturday, August 31 to Monday, September 2--Spend a safe and sane Labor Day weekend at the Bittenger Hostel for hiking and swimming. Leave Saturday morning at 8:00 A.M. You'll need AYH pass, sleeping sack or sleeping bag, swim trunks, lunch for Saturday and mess gear. Contact Jacek Jedruch at EX 1-2800 Ext. C344.

September takes many people back to school, the office, the mills and the plants, but it also offers cool hikes in the mountains to see the fall foliage. Watch for further hikes in next month's GT.