

The Golden Triangle

Pittsburgh Council

American Youth Hostels

Volume 41 Number 7

July 1990

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Slide Programs for July

July 5

Exploration of the Grand Canyon
with Barbara Manner

July 12

The Steel Industry Heritage Park
with Mike Bilcsik

July 19

Raccoon Creek State Park &
Wild flowers
with Jay Alexander

July 26

South American Climbing
with Bob Cenk

Slide shows begin at 8:30 pm
Headquarters opens at 8:00 pm

We need shows. To volunteer call
Rodney Horner (339-0944)

World Traveler - African Adventures

by Jerry Stagle

Part I

In this article, I will talk about my travels through Africa on an overland truck.

It was autumn in England with the long dark days of winter fast approaching. I had done just about everything I wanted to do in London. Because of the winter weather, hiking on the coast path would not be pleasant with many of the B&B's and hostels closed until spring. Now was the time to leave and I was looking for some place to visit.

During frequent stays at British hostels, I met many travelers who were going to or returning from Africa. As we discussed traveling in Africa, information and advice about the continent was given to me. Because of the difficult, reliable transportation, it was suggested that I join an organized tour group. At first, I did not want to go with a large group, but after hearing all the problems an individual might encounter in Africa, I decided to investigate companies that offered trans-Africa overland trips.

Some hostellers gave me the names of several overland companies and I visited them and other travel agencies in London for information. The itineraries and cost of these trips interested me. Many of these tour companies had trips that originated in England and ended in southern Africa. The cost of these trips varied greatly.

I found a newspaper ad offering a trans-Africa trip by a small company, and for a reasonable price, so I visited their office outside London and decided to go with them. The initial cost was 1,000 British pounds with an extra 250 pounds for a "food kitty" (1985 \$1,000 and \$375 respectively). As the trip did not begin for another two months, I had enough time to prepare. We needed several

medical inoculations taken over a period of time, and I needed to update my camping gear, including a mosquito net to take on the journey. London has several Army-Navy surplus stores and near Covent Garden, the Youth Hostel Association also operates a store which sells camping equipment and clothes.

The company held a pretrip meeting at a pub in the Victoria Rail Station in London. This is where I first met my fellow passengers. The representatives told us all kinds of stories about the upcoming trip and the passengers aired their likes and dislikes about certain other passengers. This negative targeting of others at this first meeting created many problems later on in the trip, highlighting one problem with group travel. The group consisted of twenty-one passengers and two crew, with the majority of the group being males.

Our vehicle was a reconditioned four-wheel drive army truck, painted bright yellow. Later when I saw the truck for the first time, I realized we would have some problems with storage space. Some people brought too much luggage along, even after being told not to, so we all had to adjust to the limited space.

The tour company's itinerary was for us to leave Britain in mid-December and arrive in Johannesburg, South Africa, by June, six months later.

Our first stop was Paris, France. We needed more visas and many former French colonies in Africa have embassies there.

Paris was very cold at the time of our visit. We camped at a campground located

continued on page 10...



COUNCIL NEWS

AYH FUND RAISING

by Joe Hoechner

If our council is ever to open a "Pittsburgh International Youth Hostel" a lot of hard work must be done before the doors even open. A major part of this work will be fund raising of BIG BUCKS. Various Sources of Funds include:

Foundation Grants - for many non-profits organizations this is the way to go. The application procedure involves skilled grant writers who have researched the list of potential foundations so as to be sure they fund a specific type of project.

Corporate support - may be available in the form of cash, materials, services or even the loaning of personnel to non-profit organizations for a community project.

Government Support - don't hold your breath on this one but various grants or low interest loans are available through state, county, and city agencies.

Special events - involves the general public in a major activity organized by the non-profit group. These events not only raise funds for a specific project, but can increase awareness of the organization, increase membership, establish new contacts etc.

Individual Support - is the "grass roots" level of funding from individuals (members or non-members) to a non-profit organization. Funds can be raised by direct mail, newsletter appeals and telemarketing, providing new contacts, material or time donations to name a few methods.

The above is a brief outline. In future issues of our newsletter I plan to go into detail on each source. If you have any comments or suggestions on AYH fund raising write: Pittsburgh AYH, Fund Raising, 6300 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15232. ☞

NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL CELEBRATION

Come join us! We're celebrating the 10th anniversary of the North Country National Scenic Trail, the NCT, on Sunday, September 2.

This 3200 mile trail has been officially sanctioned by Congress, just like the Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail. Pennsylvania is fortunate to have over 200 miles of this route (about half of it complete), and we can feel especially proud because it traces a segment of our own Baker Trail.

AYH, Pittsburgh Council is responsible for the Cook Forest site of the celebration; so round up some of your buddies and lay plans to visit Cook Forest on September 2. You'll be able to hike on this historic trail to make loops as little as 1 1/2 miles or line hikes as much as 10 miles. We need your help to make this a success.

For more information phone Glenn Oster at 234-3967(W) or 364-2864(H) before 9 pm. More about this next month. ☞

AYH HOSTELS ON CAPE COD FREE BROCHURE AVAILABLE

American Youth Hostels announces the opening of its Cape Cod chain of hostels for the spring and summer travel season. AYH operates three hostels on the cape itself, as well as one each on the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. A free brochure describing each of the five AYH Cape Cod hostels is available.

Each hostel offers safe, comfortable, dormitory-style lodging for just \$9.00 per person, per night. Hostels are ideal for educational, civic and religious groups as well as sports and recreation clubs. day use can be arranged for groups needing classrooms or meeting space, and fully equipped, self-service kitchens help keep food cost low.

AYH hostels are also a good choice for individuals travelling on a budget. AYH hostels provide a place and opportunity for travelers of all ages, nationalities, and backgrounds to meet, make friends and learn about the area they're visiting.

The Cape offers beautiful beaches, abundant fishing, boating, sailing, scuba diving, and whale watching. Picturesque bike paths make the Cape an excellent cycling destination. Bring your own bicycle or rent one.

Cape Cod provides a wealth of historic and cultural attractions: historic homes, churches, lighthouses, windmill, glass factory and many museums. Theaters and galleries abound!

Discover AYH and escape to the Cape! For a free brochure on AYH Cape Cod Hostels, write or call: American Youth Hostels, Dept. CC, P.O. Box 37613, Washington, D.C. 20013-37613. ☞



THE PITTSBURGH HOSTEL STORY

by Linda Smithyman

The next meeting of the Hostel Development Committee will be held on Monday, July 16 at my home in Brookline. I don't know what we're discussing since we haven't had the June Meeting yet!!! The time will be 7:30 pm. Call me for details, 531-1868. ☞

AYH PICNIC AUGUST 5, 1990

The annual AYH Picnic will be held on August 5, 1990, that's a Sunday, so mark your calendars now. It will be at the Erie Shelter on Lake Shore Drive in North Park. Bring your own picnic items and maybe something to share too.

We'll get started about 1:00 pm but anyone can come early. North Park offers bikes to rent and horses too. Maybe we can get the sea-kayaks to go out onto the lake and put up the volleyball net too. A small donation to help cover the cost of the shelter permit would be welcome. Additional details will be in the August newsletter. ☞

Linda Smithyman

Activities Board Meeting ...

The June meeting was sparsely attended, but was nevertheless a productive meeting. Among other business, we voted to renew memberships in the North Country Trail Association and the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, and decided to hold the annual picnic on Sunday August 5th.

The July Activities Board meeting will be at the home of Janet Supowitz located at 11 Glenbrook Drive, Penn Hills, 8 pm on Wednesday, July 11. ☞

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

THE GREAT RIDE — I'd like to thank all of you in the Council who helped to make this year's Great Ride such a grand success. The weather was a little shaky for a while, but it wasn't long before the sun started shining and dried everything out. From the reports I've heard so far everyone - riders and volunteers - enjoyed themselves and had good words for the Ride itself. Besides the good cycling, the Great Ride also helped raise over \$5,000 for the Pittsburgh International Hostel and gave us a lot of good publicity for the hostel throughout western Pennsylvania. Thanks again to you all, and I hope we'll be able to do it again next year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — The May Board meeting was devoted primarily to a discussion of potential hostel sites on the South Side. No action was taken on specific sites until better estimates on acquisition and development costs can be obtained. ☞

GREAT RIDE - A GREAT SUCCESS!

Yes, the Citiparks 1990 Great Ride was a Great Success! Over 1800 cyclists turned out for the biggest bike ride in western Pennsylvania despite a discouraging weather forecast. After a few early morning sprinkles, the sun came out for a bright sunny day on Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park.

Due to the help of many volunteers, the riders enjoyed a beautiful day for cycling as they spread out in three separate rides — the 50 mile Town and Country Ride to the North Hills, the 25 mile Grand Tour of Pittsburgh, and the 15 mile East Ender. Those riders on the 25 mile course who were up for a little something extra choose to go up McArdle Roadway for the 6 mile Mount Washington Challenge.

In addition to providing the cycling, the Great Ride also helped to raise money for the Pittsburgh International Hostel. The final statistics aren't in as of this writing, but we do know that over \$5,000 was raised for the hostel! With luck, this will go up as the final figures become available.

Entertainment at Flagstaff was provided by the Tequila Mockingbirds and by 3WS. Snacks for the rest stops and a contribution for the T-Shirts were provided by Weight Watcher Frozen Foods, as well as the featured trip to the Bahamas, which was won by John Gruendel of Allison Park. George Schmidt and the Western Pennsylvania Wheelmen helped out with volunteers and ride marshals as did the crew from Pittsburgh AYH led by Marianne Kasica, Jack Peth and Chuck Ejzak. Allegheny Valley REACT kept us in touch with radio communications. And the area bike shops and dealers provided sag wagon service, bike repairs, and a great list of bikes and bike accessories for prizes at the drawing. Bill Eberle help with data processing and John Hinderleiter provided this year's logo and T-shirt design. Last but certainly not least were the invaluable efforts of Citiparks, especially Vince Hurley and Bill Backa.

☞ Lary Laude

Trips in JULY

BICYCLING

General Information: It is best to call the trip leader before the ride to tell him or her that you are coming and to see if there are any changes. Make sure that your bike works properly and bring a spare inner tube, at least one water bottle, and if the weather looks threatening, a rain jacket or rain suit. AYH bicycle rentals must be arranged with the trip leader one week in advance. Bicycle helmets (ANSI or Snell approved are required on all AYH cycling trips.

7/4-8 W-S All at Slippery Rock

Slippery Rock University, 0-100 miles LAW National Rally. If you have any interest at all in bicycles, you probably will not want to miss this even. If you have not already registered, you may still register by the day

7/8 Sat/Sun B/C Glenn Oster 364-2864(H)* 234-3967(W)

Leave HQ at 8:00 am. Ride road sections of Baker Trail in Dayton, PA area. Camp over night. Call for information and reservations. *(Call before 9 pm).

7/14 Sat All John LeBlanc 233-0588(H)

8:00 at HQ. Call John to find out more details, but there are a lot of possibilities including swimming and hiking. Mountain or city bikes (upright with wide tires) are preferred but the trail is also acceptable for drop handlebar ten speeds with 1 1/8" or wider tires.

7/15 Sun C Terry Gossard 321-2382(H)

Moraine Park, 35 miles ride from Moraine State Park to McConnel's Mill and back. Swimming at Moraine after the ride. Call to reserve and for more information.

7/20-22 FSS All Joe & Cheryl Hoechner 242-0781(H)

Meet at HQ. Pine Grove Furnace, 0-60 miles Stay at the Iromaster's Mansion Hostel. Enjoy riding or hiking right from the hostel; swimming is just a short walk away. Both the park and the hostel are well above average.

7/21 Sat C/D Chris Klein 441-1152(H)

9:30 at HQ. In Town, 20 miles Ride through some of Pittsburgh's eastern sections and parks.

7/220 Sun C Jeff Weiss 661-2507(H).

7/28-29 Sat/Sun B National M.S. Society 261-6347(H)

Meet at North Park. MS 150, 48 miles/day. This is an annual event designed for fun and funds. This year's tour will go from North Park to Slippery Rock University for an overnight and return on Sunday. There are a lot of activities planned for Saturday night. Each rider is required to raise a minimum of \$150 in order to get to go. Registration forms are available at HQ or call the MS for more information.



Pittsburgh Council Activity Chairs

Bicycling

Chuck Ejzak 466-6196
Dino Angelici 931-6651

Canoeing

Clare Bunker 244-9788

Caving

Dan Martt 921-4638

Climbing

Eric Bauer 687-0766
Rich Rosenberger 355-4058

Family Activities

Barbara Hanusa 441-7205

Hiking & Backpacking

Ben Brugmans 736-2751
Pat Tieman 561-3286

Kayaking

Ray Yutzy 341-5682
John Gayler 421-1307

Mid-Week Trips

Cliff Ham 687-4520

Rafting

Jon Maiman 441-2306
Linda Smithyman 531-1868

Sailing

Rick Tomlinson 963-8910

Sea Kayaking

Mark Mistrik 441-8293
Ted Sell 795-6286

Volleyball

Joel Platt 521-5244

X-C Skiing

Fred Parker 856-4713
Rick Ulaky 422-0849

PHONE NUMBER CORRECTION

FRANK BRUNS: 561-8579

Frank's phone number is incorrect in a previous publication. Please do not call the number in the May *Triangle*!



**Not all endangered
species have wings or
paws...**

America's rivers are disappearing. 6,000,000 miles of rivers already lie motionless behind dams, and countless more are drained nearly dry or are choking with pollution.

When a river dies, so does the wildlife that lives beside it. So do the fish that live in it. And the anglers, canoers, kayakers, rafters, hikers and campers who enjoy rivers lose a treasured part of their lives.

With your help, we can save our rivers, but we must act now. Call 202-547-6900 and find out how you can help keep our rivers free-flowing.

American Rivers is the only nationwide charity whose mission is to preserve the nation's outstanding rivers and their landscapes. All contributions are tax-deductible. Write: AMERICAN RIVERS, 801 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., Suite 303, Washington, D.C. 20003

Trips in JULY

CANOEING

General Information: Bring these items on most trips: Lunch, water, change of clothes, sun hat, knee pads, suntan lotion, waterproof bag, strap for glasses, raincoat. Wear old sneakers and clothes that dry quickly or retain body heat when wet - wool or polypropylene clothes when it's cold, synthetics when it's warm. The stream we choose for a trip depends on the water level, which varies widely from week to week. We usually decide where to go a day before the trip - sometimes on the same day before the trip, so we don't publish an itinerary in advance. We often stop for dinner on the way back to HQ.

Unless otherwise stated, meet at HQ at 8:00 am to load boats and gear.

7/1	Sun	WW II-III	Ray Yutzy	341-5682(H)
7/7	Sat	WW I-II	Rick Tomlinson	963-8910(H)
7/8	Sun	WW I-II	Bob Buck	793-1480(H)
7/14	Sat	Basic School	Jim Porcelli	271-4776(H)
7/15	Sun	WW I School	Gordon Bugby	371-4233(H) before 10:00 pm
Canoe School I - This school is required for beginning paddlers who want to participate in the AYH canoeing program. It reviews basic paddling strokes then goes on to upstream and downstream ferrying, river reading and etiquette, safety, rescue and scouting procedures.				
7/21	Sat	WW I-II	Janet Supowitz	247-4016(H)
Second annual mid-summer, middle Yough, mid-day Pot- Luck Lunch. Sign up for trip and pot luck dish early, Very popular, big turn out expected!				
7/22	Sun	TBA	Clare Bunker	244-9788(H)
7/29	Sun	WW I-II	Millard Underwood	561-0671(H)
7/21	Sat	TRPC	Ray Yutzy	341-5682(H)
Three Rivers Paddling Club New River W VA weekend, call Ray for more details. (Note: This is not an AYH event)				
7/28	Sat	TBA	Clare Bunker	244-9788(H)
8/4-5	Sat/Sun	TRPC	Ray Yutzy	341-5682(H)
Three Rivers Paddling Club "Turkey Bash" weekend-clinic, picnic and trips at Ohiopyle. Reservations are required. An excellent weekend for all skill levels, not to be missed! (Note: This is not an AYH event)				

KAYAKING

7/7	Sat	Beg School	Ray Yutzy	341-5682(H)
7/15	Sun	WW I School	John Gayler	421-1307(H) 772-5277(W)
Kayakers are welcome on all canoe trips. Contact kayak chairperson for equipment rental.				

Trips in JULY

CLIMBING

General Information: Skill levels listed for a trip are the lowest level recommended for that trip. Consult trip leader if you are not sure about the skills required for a particular trip. Beginner trips are open to everyone. All you need to bring is lunch, water, rain gear and a sunny disposition (we avoid climbing in the rain). We will leave HQ at 7:00 am, stop for breakfast on the way and return around 8:00 pm. Remember to wear comfortable clothes that give you freedom of movement and bring along a pair of tennis shoes. Please call the trip leaders ahead of time since spaces are limited.

7/7-8 Sat/Sun Int Eric Bauer 687-0766(H)

7:00 am at HQ. Seneca Rocks trips. This trip involves following a leader up a multi-pitch climb. Spaces are limited by the number of leaders.

7/21 Sat Beg Rich Rosenberger 335-4058(H)

7:00 am at HQ. Beginners trip at Coopers rocks.

HIKING/BACKPACKING

7/13/15 Fri/Sun B/C Glenn Oster 234-3967(H) 364-2864(W)

7:30 at HQ. Enjoy Glenn's second "goof off" backpack trip on Old Loggers Path. Bring your swimsuit. Good opportunity to sample backpacking. 4-5 miles per day. Call for information and reservations. Call before 9 pm.

7/14 Sat All Pete Srinl 921-1238(H)

8:00 at HQ. Maintenance trip on Baker Trail. No fees.

7/14 Sat Beg/Int Tom Kaveney 276-8044(H)

8:00 at HQ. Moraine State Park, 7 miles. Bring swimsuits.

7/22 Sun Int Ben Brugmans 736-2751(H) 736-0103(AM)

8:00 at HQ. 8 miles on Laurel Highlands Trail.

7/21 Sat Beg/Int Linda Smithyman 531-1868(H)

Hike at Ohiopyle State Park, hopefully find a waterfall along Jonathan's Run and watch the rafters go by. There's an option to stay overnight at the hostel if there is room and people can raft, hike, bike, or just relax by the river on Sunday. Reservations to stay overnight must be made ASAP.

Mild-Week Rambles

Every Wednesday. Meet at 10:00 am in the upper parking lot at Fifth and Shady Avenues. We generally take a 3 to 4 mile "ramble" at a slow pace. Call Marilyn & Cliff Ham (684-4520) for more information on current activities or to make arrangements to meet the group.

**AYH HOT LINE
(412) 362-8181**

ATTENTION: FRIENDS OF THE MONTOUR TRAIL!

Now is the time for all of our friends to come to the aid of the Montour Trail. This month State Legislators will consider a \$100,000 grant to the Montour Trail Council to assist in our fund raising efforts for acquisition of the abandoned Montour Railroad right-of-way.

We need your support in the form of a letter to your State Representative and State Senator. If you don't know who they are, call your local municipality or the League of Women Voters at 261-4284, to get their names, phone numbers and addresses. Call or write now! Simply say, "I urge you to support the Montour Trail funding request for \$100,000. We need this recreational trail which will benefit all the citizens of Allegheny and Washington counties and preserve green space in a rapidly developing area."

Please don't put this off. It will only take 10 minutes. Ten minutes for \$100,000. . . . that's a great deal so please act now. Dick Wilson, George Schmidt, Montour Trail Council, Board of Directors. ☺

Deadlines for the AUGUST Issue

Copy
JULY 5

Binding and Mailing
JULY 19

VOLLEYBALL

ATTENTION VOLLEYBALLERS!

We will be playing every **MONDAY**, starting at 6:00 pm in Mellon Park, top of the hill. Call Joel Platt at 521-5244(H) or 421-4446(W).

WORLD ADVENTURE!

LOW COST TRAVEL—AYH STYLE

Free catalog is now
available.

New trips offer in-depth
cultural experiences.

There are 39 exciting
itineraries in 19 countries.
Write or call for your copy
today

American Youth Hostels
6300 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

Trips in JULY

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

7/8 Sun Fam Lyn Reder 441-4404(H)

Bicycling trip at Ohiopyle State Park. Contact Lyn for more details and to reserve.

7/20-22 Fri-Sun Fam Ellen DeBenedetti 242-6650(H)

Cooks Forest State Park. Over night camping. Contact Ellen for information and reservations.

8/4 Sat Fam Cindy Walter 834-6264(H)

Hike, swim, picnic. Jennings Nature Reserve. Contact Cindy for reservations.

RAFTING

General Information: What to Bring: Suggested attire for raft trips includes old sneakers, bathing suits, T-shirt (optional), sunscreen, bandana, glasses strap and a towel. You'll need a full set of dry clothes to change into after the trip. Wool clothing and/or rain gear are needed for cool or rainy days. Bring your own bag lunch to eat on the river. Most trips take a full day and a stop for ice cream or dinner on the way back. **Impromptu Trips:** When river water levels cooperate, we frequently organize impromptu trips, usually on rivers other than the Lower Yough. They're announced at the Thursday evening open houses.

7/4 Wed Adv Jon Maiman 441-2306(H)

TBA at HQ. Raft at the Upper Yough. in Maryland. We will be using professional guides for this trip. Cost is \$85. per person plus transportation fee. Note: A \$20. deposit and advance reservations are required for this trip.

7/14 Sat Beg Kevin Craig 487-1538(H)

8:15 am at HQ. Lower Youghiogheny River trip. Everyone is welcome including first time rafters. Approximate cost of this trip is \$16-\$18 for AYH members.

7/22 Sun Beg Linda Smithyman 531-1868(H)

7:30 am at HQ. Lower Youghiogheny River trip. Everyone is welcome including first time rafters. Approximate cost of this trip is \$16-\$18 for AYH members.

7/28 Sat Beg Shirley Ulakey 422-0849(H)

8:45 am at HQ. Lower Youghiogheny River trip. Everyone is welcome including first time rafters. Approximate cost of this trip is \$16-\$18 for AYH members.

7/29 Wed Adv Jon Maiman 441-2306(H)

7:45 am at HQ. Lower Yough River trip. Everyone is welcome including first time rafters. Approximate cost of this trip \$16-\$18 for AYH members. We'll probably stop for dinner on the way back.

8/4 Sun Beg Linda Smithyman 531-1868(H)

8:45 am at HQ. Lower Youghiogheny River trip. Everyone is welcome including first time rafters. Approximate cost of this trip is \$16-\$18 for AYH members.

Trips in JULY

SAILING

SAIL THE AYH 15' FLYING JUNIOR. Every Saturday and Sunday, every weekend in July sailing will be done on Lake Arthur, Moraine State Park. Contact any of the following persons for information about signing up for sailing. Sail pass holders may reserve 14 days prior to the desired date. Other experienced persons may sign up 7 days or closer to the desired date. Boat rental fees are: \$100. for a full season sail pass with no additional fees for usage or \$20. per person per day when reserving as an individual, or \$45. per day to reserve an entire boat and arrange your own crew. **Sailing leaders are:**

Jim Hurst	267-0447
Art Lamb	373-2798
Jan Herczak	921-3565
Bob Van Horn	344-9111
Bob Tabos	325-2175

SEA-KAYAKING

General Information: On most day trips bring lunch, water, sun lotion, sunglasses, hat and a change of clothes doubled-wrapped in water proof plastic bags, and an old pair of shoes to wear while kayaking. For cooler weather also bring layered clothing and a water-resistant paddling jacket. For longer trips contact the trip leader. Don't forget your rain gear.

7/14 Sat/sun Int Ted Self 836-4126(H)

7:00 am at HQ. Kayaking on Lake Erie near Sandusky, Ohio and tent camping at the State park. Return Sunday evening.

7/18 Wed Beg School Mark Mistrik 441-8293(H)

6:00 pm at HQ. Introductory level Sea-Kayaking at North Park or Glade Run Lake. Beginner instruction on a calm, flatwater lake and/or intermediate rescue instruction, or come out if you enjoy evening paddling. Probable food stop afterwards. This is a good way to become acquainted with Sea-kayaking if you're interested in one of the longer trips. Call to reserve a space.

7/21 Sat All Bryan McBaine 443-8972(H)

9:00 am at HQ. Day trip on Lake Arthur at Moraine State Park. Swimming and picnicking.

7/25-30 One Week Mark Mistrik 441-8293(H)

6:00 pm at HQ. Intermediate level Sea-kayaking road trip to Down East Maine. Visit York, Freeport, Bar Harbor, and Acadia National Park while hiking, hosteling, eating (seafood!). Stop at L. L. Bean's and some of the finest paddling in North America. Acadia has an exceptional variety of botanical and animal life.

8/10-18 One Week Mark Mistrik 441-8293(H)

Sea-kayaking, camping, hiking in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. More to follow next month.

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AYH TRAVEL SALES AGENCIES

Atlas Travel Service
400 5th Avenue
Kaufmann's (9th floor)
Pittsburgh PA 15219
(412) 261-0248

Campbell Travel
300 South Allen Street
State College PA 16804
(814) 238-4987

Centre for Travel
114 South Hiester Street
State College PA 16801
(814) 238-4987

Edinboro Travel Service
122 Erie Street
Edinboro PA 16412
(814) 734-1639

Forum Travel
4608 Winthrop Street
Pittsburgh PA 15213
(800) 888-4099

Lenz Travel Service
173 South Main Street
Slippery Rock PA 16057
(412) 794-4833

Living Waters AYH Hostel
RD #1, 1 mile west
Schellsburg PA 15559
(814) 733-4607

McMullen Travel & Tours
Clarion Mall
Rt 68 & 180
Clarion PA 16214
(814) 226-1040

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

SOME NOTES FROM A TRIP WEST

by Cathy Lynch (aka. Sadler)

The Kayak Gypsies left their boats in their living-room dry dock and flew to Arizona from which come. SOME NOTES FROM A TRIP WEST.

The Grand Canyon Youth Hostel: Good news—there is one. Bad news—it will be closed for good in September. Reservations are essential, and the only welcomed forms of advance payment are A.Y.H. vouchers or money orders (no personal checks). The handbook says 20 beds and one bathroom. The hostel has two of the usual two-tier bunk beds in each of five rooms, a tiny kitchen, a snug common room, and a room in which Manager Eric Smith and his dog sleep, which doubles as the hostel t-h-e office.

Each of the two nights we were there the hostel was filled to capacity, mostly with international travelers. One night in the common room two Japanese and four Germans played Monopoly with occasional translations or advice from travelers from France, Canada, and New Zealand while Eric tended the fire in the fireplace (it was five degrees outside). Meanwhile Eric's dog looked for people to scratch his ears or throw his ball.

More important, with cheerful efficiency and thoughtful organization Eric enabled us all to cooperate in sharing the hostel's limited space (including its single unisex bathroom).

The hostel used to be a dorm for workers in Grand Canyon village. About eight years ago A.Y.H. negotiated and developed the use of this building with the National Park. In conversation, Eric told us that A.Y.H. will be allowed to continue to use it only if the hostel's capacity is decreased and its facilities are up-graded. The Arizona Council can not justify the expense that would be involved for the size of hostel that would result. So the hostel will be closed in September, leaving Flagstaff as the nearest hostel to the Grand Canyon.

Those of us in the common room that night agreed—an international consensus of representatives of about five countries—there is a need for a Grand Canyon hostel. The Canyon is a wonder of international interest. There should be a low-cost accommodation for hostel-style travelers right near the rim—as there is for those who have the money (and made-in-advance reservations) to stay at the hotels and lodges run by the park's concession-operator.

Because there is a Grand Canyon Youth Hostel, we saw the Grand Canyon early on a snowy morning and late on a cloudy night without having to drive all the way from Flagstaff. And an intrepid German hiker named Rudi set out with his back pack in the snow to hike to the bottom, camp at Phantom Ranch, and return to the hostel the following night. We shared a bit of our time and Canyon experience with people from other parts of the world. With your A.Y.H. card, you can too, but you'll have to go before September.

J. D. Myers: A dog skull that J.D. found on a hike near his present home in Tucson, Arizona started him on his present career as archaeologist, specializing in animal remains. During our recent visit with him, he showed us binders full of class notes and reprints of articles about digs, information on dig sites he has been to or he plans to help at, and a model of an turquoise and ebony Indian frog fetish which he had reproduced from a picture of the museum original. Readers of the *Westinghouse Retiree News* will have seen more details about J. D.'s digging career in a recent article *Achaeology Buff 'Bonkers' on Bones*.

But J. D.'s friends will want to know that he remembers us all. In the room that serves as his office, the list of those who helped with the Baker Trail hangs on the wall. In other places there are snapshots of various A.Y.H. activities and A.Y.H.ers. J.D. also shared with us some pages of a travel journal, kept by Elinor during their cross-country trips, which he found among her papers. He is editing this on his computer with an idea of possible publication.

We shared with him what news we had of mutual A.Y.H. friends. He told us to say "hello" to everyone.

A personal note, Jan. I certainly admire the liveliness and interest you have brought to *The Triangle*. Your editorials are a real pleasure to read, and the new format and layout are a great advance over previous ones.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone when we're back in Pittsburgh next year. With wishes for an early spring and lots of water in the rivers for all. ☺

Classifieds

For sale: One older fiberglass Kayak. Includes: helmet, neoprene sprayskirt, life jacket, Norse paddle, wetsuit vest. Minimum bid, \$150. Sealed bids opened August 1. Mail bids to: Kayak Chairperson, Pittsburgh Council, AYH, 6300 fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15232.

For sale: Gregory Snowcreek internal frame backpack like new. Includes add-on pockets. Price \$220. Call Glenn Oster at 234-3967 or evenings before 9 pm at 364-2864.

For sale: Katadyn Water Filter. Best water filter available. Filters to 2 microns- more than enough to stop giardia cysts. Only \$130. Call Glenn Oster at 234-3967 or evenings before 9 pm at 364-2864.

continued from page 1...

near the Seine River. During the Christmas season while we were there, the transportation workers were on strike, so we had some problems running around obtaining the needed visas.

By Christmas Day, we were in Spain on the Mediterranean coast, which was a lot warmer than Paris. Here we began having problems with the crew. The crew didn't like each other! At that point I knew that this trip was going to be strange! The driver stated he was only going to drive the truck and not be the leader of our group. He said that the tour group members would have to organize everything and figure out how everything operated on the truck. The mechanic wanted to just eat and fool around and do as little maintenance of the truck as possible. The crew had been commissioned to buy some spare parts for the truck at several places along the journey. Somehow this was not accomplished, which obviously created problems later on during the trip. These two idiots really divided the group causing uncertainty on what actions we should take. Since there was no natural leader within the group to take command, we decided to continue the trip and give the crew a second chance. Here's where I began to learn to adjust to various situations.

A month later in the desert of southeast Algeria, the mechanic was driving the truck way too fast over a rocky road. He was upset at the world because his girlfriend just broke up with him. He was taking out his revenge on the truck and its passengers. In front of us on the road were two other overland trucks from Austria, going very slow, due to the road conditions. Our mechanic didn't like their slow pace, so he decided to pull off the single lane road and pass them. The terrain was extremely rocky. All morning long, we passengers in the back were hanging on for our lives and trying not to get injured while flying around. One girl was injured when she landed on top of a shovel lying on the floor.

The mechanic continued driving like a madman, screaming at anyone who questioned his driving. The driver was sitting in the back, pretending to be reading a book while this all was going on! When questioned about the mechanic's driving, he stated that he was

scared of the mechanic and could not control him, so he did nothing to stop him.

While passing the two trucks, a warning light came on indicating a problem with the oil pressure. The mechanic ignored it and continued driving until the truck came to a stop. The engine seized up! There was an oil slick on the ground back down the road.

Then the mechanic fell out of the cab and rolled around the ground moaning and groaning about some illness he had. The other trucks stopped and then continued their way because they didn't want to get involved with this mad Englishman. We were all violently upset about what had happened so far that day. Here we were, 100 kilometers from Illizi, Algeria, in the Sahara Desert near the border of Libya.

Twenty-five days later, we left that spot! What did we do for 25 days? We waited. We went looking for water, and carried water back to the truck every other day. We took long walks in the hills and down through down through wadis looking for firewood. And again we waited. We washed all our clothes at least once. We talked and made plans for the future. We got on each other's nerves, but mostly we waited. Africa taught me one thing — patience.

Since there were few things to do with only two of our group preparing meals twice a day and one-half of the group going for water daily, it left us with plenty of time to sit around, discussing the situation and complaining. As I mentioned before, certain people disliked others, so this caused cliques to form. Our mechanic could not handle constructive criticism from three persons in the group. He confided to me that he had nightmares about cutting off their heads with his machete. I discussed this with others in the group to warn them. We decided to buy his machete and keep it well hidden. After this episode, we had no problems with the mechanic, but had numerous unnecessary personality clashes within the group. A psych major would have a field day with our group. We did have one woman who was associated with the field of psychiatry, but she quickly jumped on another truck when the chance came and left behind most of her luggage. She had joined the group en route and was feeling sick all the

time, so she didn't have an easy time adjusting. Another person left due to illness. Most of the group wanted to complete the trip so as not to lose all the money we had paid. We could have left the truck in the desert and hitched a ride back to Illizi, but the truck would have been stripped of all our possessions had we done so.

In storage on the truck, we had dehydrated and canned food. Occasionally someone would come by and sell or give us some 3-day old bread or vegetables. Sometimes a passenger would hitchhike to town for supplies and to send mail, then return days later with some food.

Since it was winter, we were not in a great life-threatening situation from excessive heat. We weren't lost; the local government officials and tribal chief knew where we were. If it had been in the middle of the summer, it would or been a different story. We would have had to abandon the truck and return home.

But what I most remember about that spot in the desert was the purple color of the landscape, the constant strong wind, and the beautiful star-studded skies at night.

After the new part from England arrived and was installed, we resumed our journey. The engine was not completely repaired and operated with only five of its six cylinders. It made the truck go slower than usual, but we were glad to be moving at any speed.

The Sahara Desert is littered with all kinds of trash and abandoned vehicles. Just look anywhere and you will see junk lying around. This is where we obtained some of our spare parts and other useful items.

The best scenic times of the day in the desert was in the late afternoon, night and early morning. The changing colors of the desert at these times are beautiful.

We finally arrived in the desert oasis town of Tamanrasset, or Tam for short. A new mechanic was waiting there to replace the old one. The new mechanic tried his best to fix the truck, but without truck parts it was hard. We would have to wait until we got to a country that had a British Bedford dealership, so we could overhaul the motor of the truck. So, off we went across the deserts again, heading south for Niger.

to be continued...

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

Ohiopyle AYH Hostel
Ohiopyle State Park
P.O. Box 99
Ohiopyle, PA 15470
(412) 329-4476

Charleroi Youth Hostel (S.A.)
Rego's Hotel & Restaurant
601 McKean Ave.
Charleroi, PA 15022
(412) 483-6200

Living Waters AYH-Hostel
RD# 1 (1 mile west on Route 30)
Schellsburg, PA 15559
(814) 733-7607

Point Park College Youth Hostel (S.A.)
201 Wood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
(412) 392-3824
(after 4 pm: (412) 391-4100)
(summer only)

THE EDITOR'S FANCY

If you didn't participate in some sort of outdoor activity on the Memorial Day weekend, you most likely missed a good drenching. Now canoeists appreciate having lots of water. But dang, there was plenty in the rivers and streams and it just kept on coming down!

We wandered off to Virginia in the vicinity of the south fork of the Shenandoah. It was already "up" and muddy brown. If I find myself mid-trip and it starts to rain, I grin and bear it, (naw, I grumble and grouch), but I can't bring myself to start out in the pouring rain. So I opted to drive around the George Washington National Forest and look for a campsite for that night. We camped alongside Passage Creek.

By the second day, water levels were so high, boaters were being warned off the rivers. We scouted Passage Creek. It is a pretty stream running north through pastures and then turning into a class 3-4 as it leaves the National Forest. It had plenty of water (no eddies), right up in the trees and poison ivy and about level with the electrified wire cow fences that crossed it.

So on to Occoquan Creek, between Routes 50 and 7 just east of Winchester. Without an ounce of guilt I offered to run the shuttle, and headed into Winchester to look for ice cream. After waiting until almost 6:00 pm at the midpoint bridge I became uneasy. So thinking I couldn't have possibly missed them, I decided to check the takeout, then all points backwards. They had finally made it to the midpoint bridge, after getting around several "live" fences, (one owner spotted them and offered to turn the current off), and carrying over countless trees down across the stream. They had had enough for that day.

On the third day I paddled even though the skies were still lead grey. We did a short stretch of Antietam Creek right under Burnside bridge... in the pouring rain...

I can honestly say the percentage of sunny weather for our canoeing trips has been about 50-50, but you have to spend a lot of days in a canoe to get that kind of average. ☺

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Black Locust Tree Seeds Available

Thank to the Earth Day efforts of V.O.A. (Volunteers for Outdoor Allegheny) and Pittsburgh AYH we have a quantity of seed packets available.

These seeds are for Black Locust Trees, a quick growing, strong, soil-improving tree that can grow in poor soil, slag heaps etc. Complete planting instructions are on the seed packet which contains approximately 100 seeds.

If you would like a packet or two please send a self addressed, stamped envelope to: Pittsburgh AYH, Trees, 6300 fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15232. ♦♦ Joe Hoechner

THE STUDENT ID CARD NOW AVAILABLE

Pittsburgh AYH now sells the International Student ID Card as a service to its members. This ID card is the only authentic internationally recognized proof of student status and lets you take advantage of special student privileges, discounts and travel benefits on all continents! It also automatically includes accident and sickness insurance.

The student ID card is available to any junior high, senior high, college, or vocational school student who is at least 12 years old. To get a card send \$10, one photo (1-3/8" x 1-1/8") and one of the following proofs that you are a student for the 1989/1990 school year: a letter from the registrar or dean with the school seal saying you are enrolled; a clear photocopy of transcript or grades for a fall '89, spring '90 or summer '90 session; a report card or letter from your principal or guidance counselor stating you are enrolled; or a bursar's receipt indicating full payment for a fall '89, spring '90 or summer '90 session.

Send these to the Pittsburgh AYH address with a check made out to Pittsburgh AYH. Allow 2 weeks for processing. Sorry if this sounds complicated, but we don't make the rules. ♦♦

Terry Bicycles - fit for a woman

Tires, tubes and sprockets aren't the only things that make up a bicycle; fit can mean the difference between a pleasant ride and a torture rack. Terry Precision Bicycles for women are designed to provide comfort with features for the novice rider as well as the sophisticated tourer or racer. Based on the unique proportions of women, the entire bicycle has been sized to meet the needs of the female cyclist. See your local dealer for a test ride.

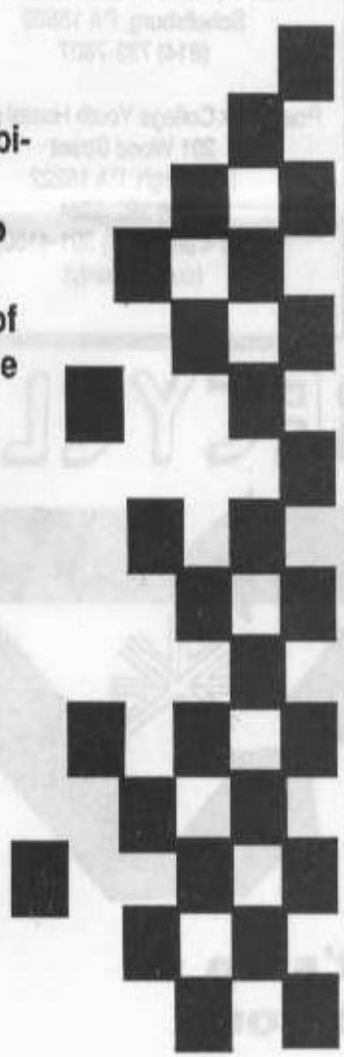
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PA BOAT REGISTRATION - NEW THREAT

by Tom Irwin

The Pennsylvania Fish Commission (PFC) has been thwarted over the past few years in their efforts to require registration of non-powered boats. Now they're taking a big bite out of their goals by proposing that registration be required for any boat using PFC access areas. It has been determined that the PFC has authority under the current law to impose this requirement through regulation rather than legislation. The rub is that the existing law does not give the PFC the ability to exclude canoes and kayaks from numbers, transfer fees and other hassles of the present registration law as it applies to power boats. The PFC is proceeding and has filed a Notice of Proposed Rule Making to be published in early June in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. The public has 30 days to comment and the issue will probably be presented at the July meeting of the PFC for a vote. The new regulation can take effect in January of 1991.

What this means is that any boater using a PFC owned or controlled access area must have PA boat registration with approved Coast Guard type numbers (3" high - 8 digits) on the craft. Sale of the boat requires a transfer of ownership. This will apply to well over half of the access areas in the state listed by the PFC. If you obtain a Pennsylvania Boating and Fishing map (through your representative or at a location selling licenses), the areas with PFC ownership are identified.

Fundamentally, it is difficult to oppose this move since we regularly claim that we do not use PFC access areas. However, many of the areas have been built by other entities (with public or private money) and turned over to the PFC with little to moderate PFC input.

This is a major step towards state wide registration. The Commission seems smug in its approach to numbers and seems satisfied that the existing law allows them to impose this requirement on non-powered boats. The PFC continues to ignore our proposals for alternatives on this issue and seems determined to obtain their fund raising objectives through registration. This position is in the hands of the Commissioners and Boating Advisory Board who dictate policy to the Bureau of Boating within of the PFC.

Surprisingly, the Boating side of the PFC seems to understand our problems and is privately sympathetic while preaching the official PFC views.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

WRITE LETTERS! First to John Simmons, Director, Bureau of Boating, Pennsylvania Fish Commission, P.O. Box 1673, Harrisburg, PA 17105-1673. Second, write your representative and state senator. You can find his/her local office by looking in the Blue pages of the phone book under "Government & Other Public Services - State Legislature."

Phone the local office and ask for the best place to write. Ask your representative to contact the PFC on your behalf to express your displeasure. Third, write the representative in a district where your boating will be affected. Tourism and your dollars are important to these people. Finally, if you know of an organization that has contributed to creation of access areas such as the Conservancy or local governments, write them and ask their assistance to maintain free public access or at least get their pressure on the PFC to seek a better method of fund raising.

Besides the above, other arguments include:

A statewide launch permit system has been proposed as an alternate by boaters that would require display of a permit on boater or boat. The PFC has not responded.

Pa boaters face regulation by both the PFC and Department of Environmental Resources through the State Parks. It would be preferred that non-powered boating interests be combined (under the DER) or regulation coordinated between the two agencies with launch permits, registration and other regulations universally accepted. (Our relationship with the DER is good, but our financial support of the DER through launch permits is not recognized by the PFC).

Boaters fundamentally oppose the registration of their equipment. No non-powered equipment in Pennsylvania is required to be registered except highway trailers and gliders (aircraft). Hunters are not required to register their guns, and fishermen are not required to register their rods and tackle. We prefer another method, rather than registration, of dealing with non-powered boaters.

The display of a valid fishing license should qualify boaters to use PFC access areas.

Pennsylvania tourism will suffer. Pa and out of state boaters will look twice at adjacent states before paddling in Pennsylvania.

Club oriented paddling in Pa is largely independent of the PFC and recognized for its safety and contribution to the sport. We can benefit from improved access and coordinated instruction programs (like those of Ohio DNR). However, we would like a fee structure that is fair. We stand to pay an average of \$18 (3 boats at \$6.00) each under this proposal which is more than fees for power boats, fishing license or hunting license in the state.

Finally, if you get a response from our legislator or other interest on this issue, drop a copy to me to keep me informed of our progress or lack of it. ☞

(Reprinted from the June issue of the Three River's Paddling Club newsletter, *The Paddlers' Gauge*)

Mon Valley Century Bicycle Tour

Presented by Pittsburgh Council, AYH

Sunday August 19, 1990

Start The MVC will start in Elizabeth, PA from the Bingo Hall. Pick up registration packets containing map, rider number and related items at the Bingo Hall beginning at 6:30am. The ride begins and ends at the hall. 100 mile riders should start by 8:00, 65 mile by 10:00 and 35 mile by 11:00.

Route Large sections of each ride follow the Monongahela River. The scenery varies from dying industrial towns to spectacular views of the river and wooded hillsides. Each ride breaks away from the Mon Valley along Mingo Creek to Mingo Park. Mingo Park features two well restored covered bridges and lunch. You will have a choice of 100 miles, 65 miles, or 35 miles. The 100 mile route is composed of equal portions of hilly, rolling, and flat terrain. The most challenging climb occurs just out of Brownsville and is nearly two miles long. (All of the other hills are much gentler). The 65 and 35 mile rides are flat to gently rolling and are well suited for intermediate and beginner riders. All routes will also be marked with arrows on the pavement.

Food A lunch stop is included for all riders. 65 milers also receive a snack stop. Century riders receive 2 snacks, at 30 and 50 miles. There are many convenience stores along the route.

Support A sag will pick up those who can't finish due to bike problems or fatigue. (You and your bike are expected to be in good condition before the ride starts.)

Finish Please check in at the conclusion of your ride. This is essential to the efficiency of our sag service. You will receive your MVC t-shirt at this time (pre-registered get their t-shirt after the ride, others will be mailed). Please be sure to check in!!!!

Cost \$10 before August 5, 1990; \$13 thereafter and day of the ride.

Contact Lynn or Chuck Ejzak, (412) 466-6196

Helmet The Pittsburgh Council AYH strongly encourages you to wear a helmet.

1990 Mon Valley Century Bicycle Tour Registration Form

Mail to: Pgh AYH, Dept MVC, 6300 Fifth Ave, Pgh, PA 15232;

Make checks payable to: Pittsburgh AYH

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Emergency _____

Contact: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Emergency _____

Phone: _____

T-Shirt (circle one): S M L XL Amount (circle one): \$10 before Aug 4

I plan to ride (circle one): 100 65 35 \$13 after Aug 4

Age (circle one): Under 18 Over 18

Liability Release Must be signed by all riders (or legal guardian if under 18). I have read and understand this form and the bicycling event it describes, and I do voluntarily request the right to participate in this bicycling event. In consideration of the Pittsburgh Council, AYH, admitting me to this program and its administration of the same, I do hereby discharge, release, and hold harmless the American Youth Hostels, Inc., Pittsburgh Council, AYH, its officers, trip leaders, volunteers, and workers participating in this bicycling event, individually and collectively from any and all liability for damages of any kind or character resulting from any injury or condition I may suffer, or which may result from my participation in this bicycling event.

I do hereby request and consent to, and permit emergency treatment in the event of injury or illness.

I will abide by traffic laws and regulations and will practice courtesy and safety in bicycling. I acknowledge that collisions, falls and various types of injuries do occur when bicycling. I have trained sufficiently for participation in this bicycling event and have inspected my bicycle to assure that it is in good and safe condition.

Signature: _____ /Date _____

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American Youth Hostels is a nonprofit organization which promotes international understanding, educational and recreational travel, good citizenship and 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 through its councils and National Office. AYH is the U.S. affiliate of the 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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ARE YOU MOVING? SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS?

To continue receiving the Triangle you must notify us by mail, The Golden Triangle, 6300 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232 or call 362-8181. The Triangle is mailed to you Third Class to save you extra postage. The U. S. Post Office does not forward Third Class mail. If it is not addressed correctly, it goes into the trash! Problems with your subscription to The Golden Triangle should be referred to the same address. Thank you →

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

All articles of interest to our members are welcomed — subjects relating to our trips and activities, the environment, the outdoors, etc. Articles can be submitted can be:

- neatly typed and double spaced (at least a 12 point font so we can digitize the copy using a scanner. Dot matrix output does not scan well).
- on a 3.5" IBM or Macintosh disk with files formatted as text. The disk will be returned to you.

•sent to the editor via modem when prior arrangements are made.

Sorry I cannot accept more than one or two short paragraphs of hand-written copy. The use of material will be limited to available space. Place articles in the Editor's box at AYH Headquarters or mail to The Golden Triangle, 6300 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15232. *Jan Bugby* Editor



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS PITTSBURGH COUNCIL 6300 FIFTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA 15232



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- \$50.00 Supporting Membership
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- \$18.00 Foreign nationals, including Canadians
- \$10.00 Vol. I, International Hostel Handbook (Europe & Mediterranean)
- \$10.00 Vol. II, International Hostel Handbook (Africa, Americas, Asia & Australia)
- \$14.00 Cotton sleep sack, required at all international hostels
- Donation for Hostel Development Fund (tax deductible to extent permitted by law)
- Total — make all checks payable to: PITTSBURGH AYH

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Were you a member of AYH last year? No _____ Yes _____ Pass # _____

I would like to volunteer, please contact me: Yes _____ No _____

How did you hear about AYH? _____

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- USA Hostel Handbook, listing over 250 Hostels in the United States.
- The Knapsack, National AYH travel newsletter.
- The Golden Triangle, Pittsburgh Council's newsletter of trips and activities.
- Open house Thursday nights at Council headquarters.
- Access to National travel programs and Leadership Training courses.

The Golden Triangle

Pittsburgh Council

American Youth Hostels

Volume 41 Number 7

July, 1990

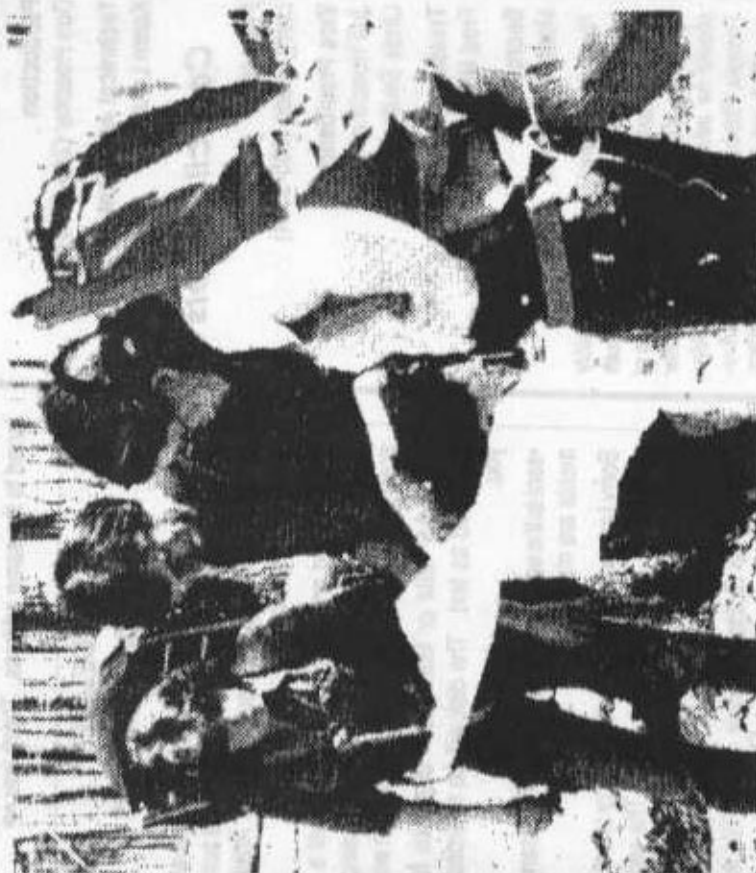


photo by Barry Govenor

Happy Hiking !!

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