



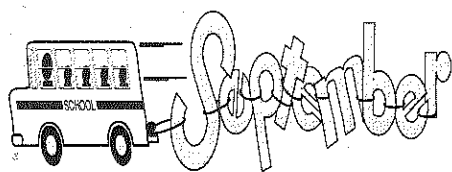
# GOLDEN TRIANGLE

American Youth Hostels, Pittsburgh Council

*Hostelling International, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping all people, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling.*

VOLUME 46, NUMBER 7

SEPTEMBER 1996



## Features

### SABRE (Southwestern Autumn BREEze)

Bicycle Tour, Sunday  
October 6. Southwestern  
Allegheny county and  
Washington county.  
100 km (65 mile) and 50  
km (35 mile) rides  
offered. Rides start at  
Settler's Cabin Park.  
Registration includes  
marked roads, map,  
snack stops and a pic-  
nic lunch at the end.  
Call AYH office for an  
application or get one  
at AYH. or contact **Bill  
Eberle 921-3395** for  
more information.

HI-Pgh on the  
information super  
highway, point your  
browser to;  
[http://info.pitt.edu/~marianne/  
ayhpg.html](http://info.pitt.edu/~marianne/ayhpg.html) for the latest on  
activities, slide shows & local  
hostelling.



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.....And MORE!!!

## Bridge over Muddy Waters: A Trail Maintenance Saga

by Patty Scheuering

Many thanks to the Baker Trail Maintenance Crew who worked at Crooked Creek the weekend of July 12, 13, and 14. We were few in numbers, but included some of the most unrelenting workers I have ever seen: Dee Garvin, Tim Henigin, Vince Roelf, Bob Tait and myself cut, lopped, dug, shoveled, picked and slopped in the muck & mire for nine hours on Saturday stopping only because of fuel problems, both people and equipment.

We stopped just shy of completing the most satisfying maintenance project I have ever done. With blue skies above and flooding waters surrounding us, we were able to divert the flow and save the reservoir, or at least all those high priced hiking boots that will no longer get wet and muddy on the Baker Trail! A FANTASTIC JOB!!

Our accomplishments were many, including a bridge (over muddy waters) made of readily-available resources: dead trees. We were so pleased with our work that we are considering replacing another decaying bridge in the same area in the near future.

On Sunday, Tim, Dee and I went back to finish what we started Saturday (singing our Baker Trail song) with help from Travis Anderson, a Crooked Creek Park Ranger working on his own time. Pictures were taken by the Park for an up and coming slide presentation, either for a job well done or visual aids on what not to do!!

When Travis left us to go to work in his regular job, the Rangers brought a non-volunteer worker named Rob to help. Rob was fulfilling some community service on the trail for past indiscretions. We were happy to have the extra hands to carry equipment as we changed venues. He helped a good deal and took a lot of verbal harassment in the good nature it was meant. He said he would like to work with us the next time too. A real glutton for punishment!

Mid-day Sunday, Tim planted a sign post on the edge of the new strip mine by the covered footbridge over Horney Camp Run to help hikers find their way across the open field with less confusion. We met a couple of backpackers hiking through who were heading for the Cochran's Mill shelter. This made John and Luke Speck, caretakers for this shelter, really happy. John and Luke joined us Sunday afternoon in time to help with the detour around the strip mine: the cutback, cleaning up the brush, and reblazing. There should not be any problems with this section of the Baker Trail, at least until next year.

We thank the Crooked Creek people for all their time and effort! The trail crosses their property, but maintenance is AYH's responsibility. Paul Toman and John Derby, both Army Corps of Engineers rangers at Crooked Creek Park, as always, were a tremendous help in setting things up and making accommodations. Thank you! They helped reduce the tremendous amount of time and effort expended to set these weekends up so they run effectively and efficiently.

We will have many fond memories as we watch the poison ivy spread and blister! Thanks a million, guys, on a job REALLY well done!!

## NOTICE

Please note, that the Golden Triangle has changed its frequency of publication. the new schedule is as follows.

Number 1 issue ->  
February / March  
Number 2 issue ->April  
Number 3 issue ->May  
Number 4 issue ->June  
Number 5 issue ->July  
Number 6 issue ->Aug.  
Number 7 issue ->Sept.  
Number 8 issue ->Oct.  
Number 9 issue ->Nov.  
Number 10 issue ->  
Dec. / January

Deadlines for submission will remain as always the first Thursday of the month preceding the month of the publication. (i.e., the first Thursday in January for the combined Feb/Mar issue.). Please consult page two of the "GT" for the actual dates of upcoming deadlines or call the office at (412) 422-2282.

Editor...



"S'MORE"  
break - Paul  
Henry & Vickie  
Gotaskie at a  
rest stop along  
Oil Creek last  
March  
(Pittsburgh  
AYH  
Sea-Kayaking  
Program)

### AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL  
5604 SOLWAY STREET  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15217

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## HOSTELLING



**Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.**

Serving Western Pennsylvania & West Virginia Panhandle  
Since 1948, Incorporated 1955

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The following positions are currently open and we are in need of responsible people to fill them. If you are interested please call Larry Laude at 665-9554.

Caving, Volleyball coordinator,  
Ast. Store Keeper, HQ Volunteers

## NOTICE

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

**October**  
All copy, Sept 5  
Binding/Mailing, Sept 26

**November**  
All copy, Oct 3  
Binding/Mailing, Oct 24

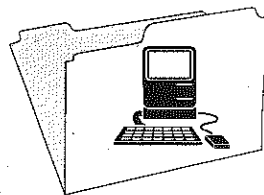
If your work is on computer,  
Please contact Bill Eberle  
@ 921-1932 or  
76202.3051@Compuserve.com

## Moving?

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

## About AYH

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

Submissions Policy:  
Golden Triangle

## Classified Adds:

- Classified adds 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 adds for non-members.
- Free adds 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 program
- All Articles are to be, non-political and non-secular
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

## General rules for submission

- No handwritten submissions
- Submissions Can be:
  - On computer disk (IBM / MAC), E-mail (Internet/compuserve), Direct Modem, Type written material double spaced, faxed
- 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"

## September Slide Shows

**September 5:** Gail Gregory, "Ecosystems In Our Backyard: Costa Rica, Belize And Tikal".

**September 12:** Joyce Appel, "Canoeing On The Mohican River Of Ohio And In The Pine Barrens Of New Jersey". If time allows, also on the Allagash Wilderness Waterway of Maine.

**September 19:** Walter Vaux, "Egypt And Israel". See Alexandria, Cairo and Memphis.

**September 26:** Moon eclipse and astro-party. Bring binos and telescopes. If cloudy, we show the slide show "Voyager I Encounters Saturn".

**October 3:** Rain date for last week's astro-party. See Jupiter and Saturn. If cloudy again, or if it's too much astronomy, we show the video "Adirondacks".

Slide shows start at 8:30 PM, at AYH Headquarters, Shady Avenue at Fifth Avenue. Doors open at 8:00 PM. If you want to give a show, call Luc Berger at 683 3131.

## Oops...

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

## MATERIAL...

All material to be published, should be sent to the address below. It Can be submitted on Disk in either IBM or Mactintosh format, sent E-mail. or Type written. NO EXCEPTIONS. Call if you have questions.

Mail regarding this Newsletter should be addressed to:

**American Youth Hostels**  
**The Golden Triangle**  
5604 Solway ST.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
Office: (412) 422-2282

## Pittsburgh Council Hostels

## Ohiopyle AYH Hostel

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

## Living Waters AYH Hostel

RD #1(1 mile west on Route 30)  
Schellsburgh, PA 15559  
(814) 733-4212





## CYCLING WEEKEND AT WILDERNESS LODGE

October 4-6, 1996

**GOOD NEWS!** Our August 2-4 trip to Erie County was so successful that we are planning to return. Perhaps summer and fall weekends at Wilderness Lodge will be added to the tradition already established by our cross-country skiers. Those who have been there can attest to the comfort and relaxing ambiance of the Lodge and to the excellence of Nansi Janes' cooking.

Don Hutchinson of North East, PA, who volunteered his knowledge of the area during the August trip, has offered to map out a route through farms and vineyards along the shore of Lake Erie, securing permission from the local growers. Other riding options available to you are: (1) touring the relatively flat macadam roads in the scenic environs of Peek 'n' Peak and French Creek, where you will find a classic General Store stocked with everything from Woolrich to ice cream; the French Creek Tavern features a famous Friday Night Fish Fry; also worth noting is Peek 'n' Peak's offer of the use of its pool, sauna, and fitness center to the general public for a fee of \$5.00; (2) The Lake Erie Shoreline Tour including a stop at the Heritage Winery and a rest stop at Orchard Beach in Freeport where you can wade along the shore; (3) a ride on Presque Isle, using both the paved bike trail and the park roads. NOTE: Except for Presque Isle, mountain bikes or hybrid bicycles are recommended. Helmets are **REQUIRED** on all rides.

**COST:** \$55 per person for AYH members, \$65 for non-members for a bed in a hostel-style room (3-6 persons). There are three private double rooms, two persons per room at \$130 for AYH members, \$150 for non-members. The cost includes Friday and Saturday night lodging and a family style dinner Saturday evening. Vegetarian meals are available upon request. Transportation cost is not included.

Reserve early by calling the AYH Office at 412-422-2282; space is limited to 36 people. Send a check for the full amount payable to Pittsburgh AYH a.s.a.p. after your call to guarantee your space. There will be no refunds after September 16 unless a replacement for you is found. A waiting list will be kept. Fees include a non-refundable \$10 per person, or \$20 per double room.

For more information, call Pat Rossi at 335-5067, or Mary Ruth Aull at 795-7078.

### Wilderness Lodge Bicycle Touring Weekend October 2-3-4, 1996

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AYH pass #: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am driving and I can take \_\_\_\_\_ passengers.

\_\_\_\_\_ I need help finding a ride. (we'll try)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will drive and meet the group at Wilderness Lodge.

### LIABILITY WAIVER

In consideration of your acceptance of my application for participation in the Cycling Weekend at Wilderness Lodge, I, the undersigned, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, waive and release any and all claims for damages, for death, personal injury or loss of property I may have, or which may accrue to me as a result of my participation. I, the undersigned, discharge and release the Pittsburgh Council, HI-AYH, and Wilderness Lodge, their activity leaders, and their respective agents, boards, commissions, and any other involved employees and representatives from all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation, whether or not caused by the negligence of any of the above parties.

I acknowledge that there are inherent risks and dangers which may arise at any time during the Weekend. My participation is voluntary and is done at my own risk. I voluntarily assume all risks of loss, damage or injury that may be sustained while participating. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the completion of this event. I understand and agree that medical or other services rendered to me by or at the insistence of any of the above parties is not an admission of liability to provide or to continue to provide any such service and is not a waiver of any of said parties of any right hereunder.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## MILTON LOOP CAMP-OUT: SEPTEMBER 13-14-15

You are invited to volunteer for trail maintenance duty on the weekend of September 13, 14, and 15 when AYH will be camping at the Milton Loop Campground north of Kittanning, near the village of Dayton, and on the shores of the Mahoning River. Camping fees will be paid by AYH and Baker Trail t-shirts will be given to anyone working on Saturday and Sunday.

Friday night will be your chance to set up camp, cook yourself a camp dinner, and meet the other volunteers around a roaring campfire. On Saturday morning, we try to get out on the trail by 9:00 AM and work until 5:00 PM, depending mostly on weather conditions. On Saturday evening, we plan to drive into Dayton (home of the famous Dayton Fair) to eat dinner at Stockdale's Restaurant (home of good ol' country cookin'). On Sunday, we work half a day, quitting at noon, so everyone can get home and get unpacked and relax a little before going back to the grind on Monday.

The work should be relatively light: we need to do a lot of blazing in the area and may send out several small 2-3 person crews to handle that chore. We will walk through the Baker Trail along the Little Mahoning, clearing out fallen timber, and maybe putting down some filler in soft spots along the way. We also need to walk the trail along the Mahoning Reservoir, doing some bramble-clearing, checking for blown-down trees to cut away, and making sure the blazing is up to par.

Some special events you might want to watch for: **Paul Henry** may make a surprise appearance to help us locate the spring down by the reservoir; **Cindy Rogers**, who maintains the Smicksburg Road to Milton Loop section of the Baker Trail, may stop by to work or to say hello, and **Curt Slater**, who maintains the Reservoir section, may materialize as well. Other friends of the Baker Trail in the area include **Susan Torrence**, who works for the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau and who is the brains behind the Armstrong County Fall Foliage Hike, many times on the Baker Trail, may stop by to say hello as well. **Patty Scheuering**, if her schedule allows, will show us how to build a bridge in a single bound!!

We always have a good time at our trail maintenance campouts: good company, good food, lots of comraderie, a weekend in the outdoors. Plan to join us.

If you have questions or need more information, call Jim Ritchie at 412-828-0210.

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

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

Thanks for your interest and help.

Clip out the coupon below and make your donation today.

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

\_\_\_ \$2500  
\_\_\_ \$1000  
\_\_\_ \$500  
\_\_\_ \$250  
\_\_\_ \$100  
\_\_\_ \$50  
\_\_\_ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

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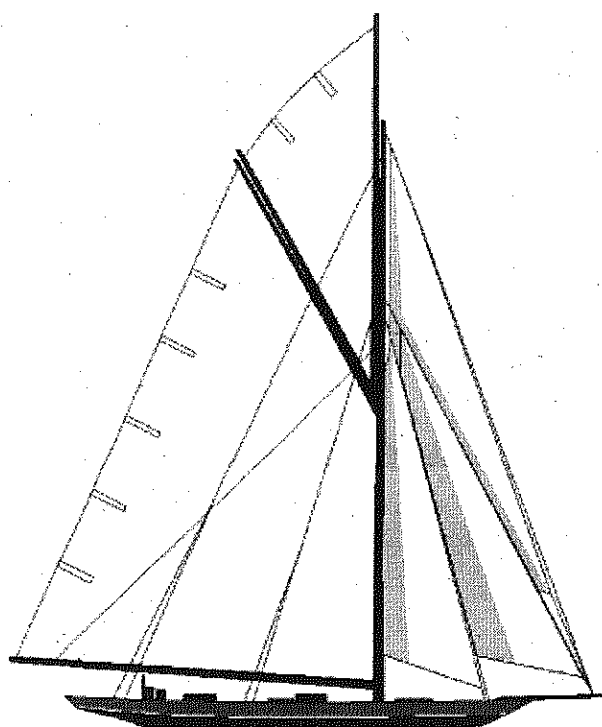
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your Donation to:  
AYH

Pittsburgh Hostel Fund  
5604 Solway St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
412-422-2282

## SAILING

The AYH owns Flying Juniors, Sunfish, and an International 470. Several members also use their own sailboats. Most of our day sailing trips and classes will be on Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park near Butler, Pa. All trips require previous sailing experience unless otherwise stated. This generally means a minimum of a Red Cross certified Basic Sailing Class or equivalent. Participants for all sailing activities must be in good physical condition and able to pass minimum Red Cross recommendations for swimming competency. Personal Floatation Devices are required on all trips. Individuals with their own sailboats are encouraged to join our program



Oct. 11-13 Fri.-Sun. Annapolis, MD  
Bob Zavos 241-0659

WEEKEND TRIP. Drive to Baltimore Friday evening or early Saturday morning and stay at the Baltimore AYH. Tour the Baltimore waterfront and take an optional cruise on a larger cruising sailboat. Enjoy a group dinner and breakfast at the hostel. On Sunday morning we drive to Annapolis and attend the world's largest sailboat show with numerous exhibits, seminars, and hundreds of large cruising sailboats on display at the Annapolis docks. Several vendors will also have demonstration sails on small boats in the Annapolis harbor area. Drive back to Pittsburgh Sunday evening.

**Fees:** Day sail fee at Lake Arthur is \$14 AYH members, \$16 non-members. Day sails start at the Watts Bay area at 10AM.

## CANOEING

Saturday September 7 Brian McBane 443-8972  
Moving Water School. Call for details.

Saturday September 7 Paul Henry 962-1511  
Flatwater trip. Call for details.

Sunday September 8 Paul Bronder 882-9255  
Canoe and whitewater kayak trip. Call for details.

Saturday September 14 Paul Henry 962-1511  
Flatwater canoe trip on the Shenango River in Mercer County. Call for details.

Sunday September 15 Paul Bronder 882-9255  
Class I - II trip. Call for details.

Saturday September 21 Joyce Appel 526-5407  
Afternoon paddle and separate evening paddle. Camping possible near Crooked Creek State Park. Flatwater. Call for details.

Saturday September 28 Paul Bronder 882-9255  
Class I - II trip. Call for details.

Saturday October 5 Brian McBane 443-8972  
Moving water school. Call for details.

Sunday October 6 Paul Bronder 882-9255  
Class I - II trip. Call for details.

October 11 - 20 Joyce Appel 526-5407  
Class I canoe camping trip on the Buffalo National Scenic River in Arkansas. Paddle between towering white bluffs during the autumn foliage viewing season. In addition, we hope to hike to overlooks and waterfalls as well as explore some easy caves. Call for details and reservations.

### Throughout the month of September

Due to the unpredictable river conditions, expect additional trips to be announced at the Thursday evening AYH open houses. For information on these "pick-up" or impromptu trips, call:

Jon Maiman 441-2306  
Brian McBane 443-8972  
Paul Bronder 882-9255

## HUTCHINSON SHINES ON LAKE ERIE BICYCLE TOUR

by jim ritchie

On the weekend of August 2, 3, and 4, AYH-ers and friends tried out a new idea, a bicycle-touring weekend at Wilderness Lodge, near Erie, where AYH has been going for many years for cross-country skiing in the winter. Nansi Janes, the innkeeper, doesn't usually book a lot of people in the summer, because she likes to take a little time off to visit friends, chat with her brother Colin and his wife Elsie, visiting from England, and just relax. But the AYH group has always been a good group so Nansi agreed to try it out at least once.

Fourteen registrants went up on Friday night, most seeing the beautifully greened-over countryside around the lodge for the first time. A few early arrivals went to the Rustic Inn on the Ridge, about 3 miles away, and enjoyed the excellent broiled fish Friday night special and got a chance to meet each other. Before going out to eat, some of the riders took time out to get lost in the woods, where all the cross-country trails are located.

On Saturday, the group drove off bright and early with their bikes to the old Western Reserve village of North East, and parked on the village green (the town was founded by the families of Revolutionary War soldiers from Connecticut) where an arts and crafts fair, with music and sweet treats was being held. Don Hutchinson, an ex-Marine who was born and raised in North East, joined us and led us through the countryside south, east, and north of the village, along roads lined with vineyards, and orchards of cherries, peaches, and apples. Don's local riding partner, Chuck, joined us as well. Don told us he spent 20 years of his life looking for the perfect place to live and when he retired from the Marines and visited his place of birth, found that place right there in North East. It is truly a beautiful little town.

Don had arranged for us to visit the Heritage Winery where the riders tasted wine samples, with more than 25 varieties available (not too much, mind you—except for co-leader Mary Ruth whose two thimble-fuls had her feeling good). Those who wished also got a tour of the winery where the wine-making process was explained.

We then went up to the lake shore where we visited the State Marina, and then the "Million Dollar House", a large, beautiful neo-Victorian mansion on the shore of Lake Erie, with an outdoor swimming pool and extensive flower garden, reputed to cost more than a million dollars to build.

The last stop on Saturday's tour was at Orchard Beach at Freeport, PA, a small, quiet and pleasant, community beach along the Lake. A few of the riders quick-changed into suitable swimming gear and jumped in while others ate a snack and relaxed in the shade. Back in the village, some of us drove to Heritage to buy some special wines they had tasted, some milled around the arts and crafts fair looking for a special buy, and others went back to the Lodge to relax and wait for Nansi's dinner to appear.

On Sunday, the group split up, about half driving up to Presque Isle to enjoy the wonderful bicycle trail along the edge of the peninsula and others rode their bikes into the New York State-Chautauqua County countryside. The weather was perfect and the riding was great—it looked like the catalogs you get for "Vermont Bicycle Tours".

If this trip sounds like fun, a similar trip has been scheduled for the first weekend in October. Look elsewhere in this issue for more information, or call Pat Rossi at 335-5067 or Mary Ruth Aull at 795-7078.

## TRAIL MAINTENANCE '96

Sept. 13-14-15 Fri-Sat-Sun Jim Ritchie 828-0210  
Baker Trail at Milton Loop. A weekend-long trail maintenance project. We'll camp at the Milton Loop Campground near the Mahoning Reservoir. We will have two objectives: one to clear trail for the Armstrong Fall Foliage Hike from the dam to Smicksburg Road; the other to blaze miles of trail along the dirt roads passing through Amish country. Saturday night dinner will be at the famed Stockdale's in Dayton, PA. Call Jim for information and a reservation.

Sept. 27-28-29 Fri-Sat-Sun Keystone Trails 828-0210  
KTA Annual (Fall) Meeting, Pine Creek Valley/Sawmill Lodge. KTA is Pennsylvania's premiere trail maintenance organization with members from more than 50 hiking clubs. KTA meetings always have an outstanding hiking program with six or more hikes to choose from each day, all ability levels. Come learn about trail building and trail maintenance activities and issues all over the state of Pennsylvania and meet some of PA's legendary trail maintenance leaders. Speaker and slide show on Saturday evening. Visit the KTA Home Page on the World Wide Web for more information or call Jim Ritchie for more details.

## MID-WEEK RAMBLES

"Rambles" are casual Wednesday outings sponsored by the of Hostelling International - American Youth Hostels. Most take place in and around the city of Pittsburgh. The group normally meets at 10 a.m. in the upper parking lot of Mellon Park in Shadyside, off Shady Avenue near the intersection with Fifth Avenue. **Starting May 29th, the group will meet at 9 a.m.**

Trips are normally three to four miles in length, at a leisurely pace. Trips are always subject to change because of weather, conflicts of schedule, and the choice of the group. We do plan to walk in all kinds of weather, so please dress appropriately. From time to time, we will schedule lunch at a restaurant or a brown bag lunch. These are optional. We also try to carpool to save energy and to enjoy each other's company. Please share the expenses of transportation when trips exceed 10 miles; the suggested contribution is \$1 per passenger.

Call Marilyn at 687-4520 for information on September's trips, but please call before 10 o'clock at night.

## AYH Sheet Sleeping Sack.... DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT ONE!



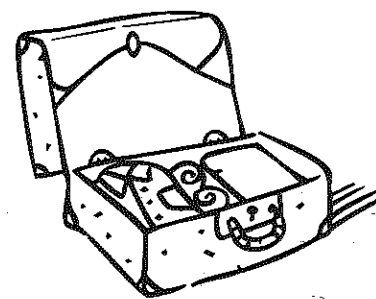
Required in all youth hostels, the sleeping sack serves as your top & bottom sheets, with a built-in pillowcase. Regular sleeping bags are not allowed at hostels due to public health regulations. Our nylon sleep sack is especially light, compact, and dries extremely quickly (handy on trips). The cotton/polyester sleep sack is a little heavier and bulkier, but feels just like your bedsheets.

Order one today! See the order form on the back page for prices.



## Chamounix Carriage House Grand Opening

Chamounix Hostel is pleased to announce that Carriage House adjacent to the Mansion is open for the 1996 summer season. The Carriage House has undergone full adaptive restoration and represents an imaginative reuse of a notable historic property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Upon opening the new addition will provide accommodations for an additional 22 travelers and offer groups the benefit of having private dorms and bathrooms. The tentative date for a ribbon cutting ceremony is late-May, so plan a visit to Philadelphia and come celebrate with us.



In preparation for the Carriage House expansion, improvements to the basement level of the Mansion have recently been completed. The dining room, game room and kitchen underwent a full renovation to increase work space and upgrade equipment. A fresh perk for hostellers in the new kitchen is free morning coffee/tea service.

The Mansion has a limited number of smaller dorms which are available as family rooms. Plan ahead and request a room together. A portable crib is even waiting for the littlest hostellers.

The Chamounix estate is situated in a quiet, safe corner of America's largest city Park. There is always plenty of free parking in the yard and it's only a 15 minute drive or 30 minute bus ride to the Center City historic district. Discount bus tokens are available at the hostel to save forty-five cents each way.

To reserve a bed in either the Mansion or the Carriage House call the hostel's new toll-free reservation number 1-800-379-0017.

## RAILBANKING ACTION ALERT

by Bob McKinley

With the 104th Congress less than three weeks from adjournment, the leadership of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has decided to take one last swipe at railbanking.

The Railroad Subcommittee has scheduled a hearing on railbanking for Wednesday, September 18, at 2:00 PM in Washington, DC.

We are told that over forty opponents of railbanking have contacted Congress and asked to testify against this federal program that has preserved over 3,119 miles of otherwise abandoned rail corridor in 25 states.

Congress needs to hear a counter voice from supporters of both railbanked and non-railbanked rail-trails.

RTC is asking you to immediately fax the Chair of the Railroads Subcommittee (at the number below), and: Request to testify at the September 18 hearing on behalf of your rail-trail (you will most likely be invited to submit written testimony, if you are in fact invited to testify, contact RTC and we will make every attempt to help you get to DC); Indicate that as a steward of a rail-trail or a person knowledgeable about a particular rail-trail, you can provide the committee with valuable first hand experience regarding rail-trails; Request, in view of the tight deadline, that in the least, the Subcommittee invite to testify at the hearing those organizations well known to it to represent your interests; Request that the Subcommittee invite all interested parties, including those who have actually railbanked corridors, to submit written testimony for the official record on this issue.

In the interest of time, please fax a copy of your letter to Rep. Susan Molinari, Chair of the Railroad Subcommittee (fax 202-226-3475) with a cc to Rep. Robert Wise, Ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee (fax 202-225-7856). It would also be very helpful if you would send a copy of your letter to each member of Congress who represents a city or county through which your rail-trail passes, as well as a copy to me at RTC.

Thank you for your prompt help. Together we can stop this Congress from taking rash action that would damage railbanking



**KENN HOWARD**  
**MASSAGE THERAPIST**  
**412 242 2424**

*Great for tired and  
sore canoeing muscles!*



*Aye, There's the rub.  
-Hamlet*

## HIKING / BACKPACKING

**Sat Sept 7 Paul Bronder 882-9255**

Intermediate hike to explore Big & Little Sandy creek in Chestnut Ridge. Expect to have wet feet! Meet at Wendy's at Southland at 8:30am. Call for info & a reservation.

**Sat Sept 21 Leo Stember 681-1385**

Strenuous hike on Rachel Carson trail: 17 miles, from the R. Carson home-stead to Harrison Hills. Call for information & a reservation

**Sat Sept 21 Luc Berger 683-3131**

Easy 3 mile nature walk in Riding Meadow park near Fox Chapel. This is a joint trip with the Botanical Society of W. PA. See glade lake, and the ancient bed of the Allegheny river. Call for information & a reservation.

**Sat Sept 28 Steve Nydes 661-9357**

Moderate intermediate 9 mile hike at McConnell's Mill. Call for info & a reservation.

**Sun Sept 29 Loraine Johnson 829-0345**

Intermediate 8 mile hike (rocky terrain) at Cooper's Rock in W. VA. Meet at AYH HQ at 8am. Call for info & a reservation.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

\*Southwestern Autumn Breeze Bicycle tour; Bill Eberle, 921-1932

\*The Great Ride, Bicycle tour; Larry Laude, 665-9554

\*Weekend bicycling trip leaders; Wm Eberle, 921-1932

\*The Mon Valley Century bicycle tour; Chuck Ejzak, 466-6196

\*MS-150 Bicycle tour; Bill Eberle, 921-1932

\*Hostel development and fund-raising; Marianne Kasica, 665-9554

\*Ohioyle hostel support and work parties; Wm Eberle, 574-2025

\*Office help answering phones and assisting hostellers;

Larry Laude, 422-2282

\*Leading Pittsburgh Council trips; Wm Eberle, 921-1932

\*Slide shows at the Thursday Open House; office, 422-2282

\*Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail;

Jim Ritchie, 828-0210

\*HQ Maintenance, minor routine maintenance on a regular basis.. 1-2 people are also needed to coordinate the work, track of volunteer time and to report on HQ to the board and to identify any problems or required major repairs. If you can help as little as one hour a month, please call Ray Yutzy at 341-5682.



## SEA-KAYAKING

I was told once that when you first get into your boat at the beginning of the season its like being reunited with a good friend.

On the first spring morning, when you finally slip into the boat and the cast off from the shore, the familiarity surrounds you. You verbally greet your boat. The snug fit of the of the boat around you and feel of bouncy of the water underneath it gives such a feeling of exhilaration. I want to paddle as fast as I can. I want to feel my arms press the paddle and fall into the familiar rhythm, to press the foot pegs the foot and twist my body to ask for as much speed as I can muster. I watch the boat shoot through the water and I can get a rush of crazy joy and great peace.

When I first learned of sea kayaking it interested me because it was so versatile. Here was a sport that I could go on my first paddle with minimal instruction and have a great time.

I liked it because you could do a peaceful flat water lake or river and take in all the wild life at your own leisure or, as your skills improved, take on some white water or go out on the ocean and play in the swells and chop and surf on the waves.

I also was attracted to the travel aspect. I love to go and see new places and more than that, get into the environment not just view it from a distance. Just one glance at the newsletter let me know that they had trips going to the kind of places I wanted to go.

The people, camping and economical aspects were enticing to me as well. Have so enjoying meeting new friends and visiting with all the wide spectrum of people that come on these trips.

Camping is near and dear to me so being able to load the boat and go for an extended trip was such a bonus. I must admit the first time I went on a camping trip I brought all my gear down to load it and thought I'm going to need a trailer! To my relief not only did it all fit but I had room to spare.

I was pleased to find out how affordable the trips were. Group rates, sharing rides, camping or hostelling as well as more than reasonable boat rental rates help to keep the cost down.

The flavor of each trip is always different because the places change and the mix of people is always varied.

Generally I have always sensed a welcome to new people and an attitude of helpfulness to folks that may not have a lot of experience. Its nice to be able to benefit form others experience, you don't have to reinvent the wheel, and nobody expects you to know everything all you have to do is ask. That's a nice feeling!

This year I find myself teaching more than anything. I find it so satisfying to bring a group of beginners out and explain the basic, answer questions and put them in a boat and let them fly, so to speak. Its fascinating to watch the range of ages and scope of people react to their first paddle.

Equally rewarding is watching the delight in a persons face as the complete their first role of the boat, or successfully exits the boat and reenter, solo.

Teaching is great but I get the distinct impression that I am just introducing them to a dear friend.

**Sunday September 8th, 1996**

**Loree Speedy 521-9425**

**Meets: 9:00 AM in Shadyside**

Sea-kayaking daytrip to Yellow Creek State Park. Contact the trip leader for more information and to reserve a sea-kayak.

**Wednesday evening September 11th, 1996**

**Mark Mistrik 361-2943**

**Meets: 5:30 - 6:00 pm in Shadyside**

Intro to Sea-Kayaking. Evening trip to either North Park or Glade Run Lakes. This is an excellent way to try kayaking, learn new techniques or practice. You can also just relax and explore the lake on your own. Call for more information and to reserve a kayak.

**Friday evening September 13th thru Sunday September 15th, 1996**

**Mark Mistrik 361-2943**

**Meets: 5:30 - 6:00 pm in Shadyside**

Chautauqua & New York River Trails Weekend. Saturday, explore one of New York Lake Country's scenic river trails by kayak. Sunday, paddle on Lake Chautauqua to its town namesake and visit the unusual Victorian village. Car camping overnight on Erie's lakeshore with campfires. Call for more information and to reserve a kayak.

**Wednesday evening September 18th, 1996**

**David Engel 363-3367**

**Meets: 6:30 pm at the restaurant**

Paddler's dinner for September at the Crow's Nest restaurant in Sharpsburg. Outdoor-related conversation and a new restaurant every month. Please let us know you're attending several days in advance so we can make the right number of reservations.

**Saturday September 28th, 1996**

**Tracy Duggins 963-0675**

**Meets: 9:00 am in Shadyside**

Sea-Kayaking daytrip to Loyalhanna Lake. Very pretty local lake is one of our favorites. Contact the trip leader for more information and to reserve a kayak.

**Friday evening September 27th**

**thru Monday October 7th, 1996**

**Mark Mistrik 361-2943**

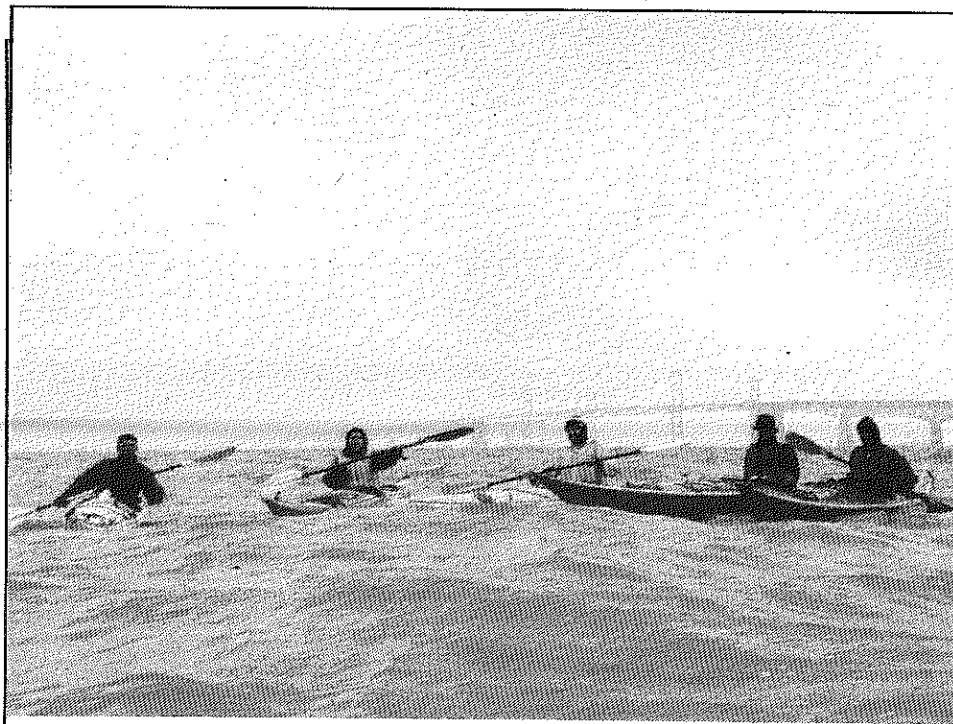
Sea-kayak the redrock canyons of Lake Powell in Southwestern Utah. This trip will be supported by a maxivan and a houseboat while we're on the lake. Each morning we will move the houseboat to a new side canyon, then you'll have the entire day to explore the area by kayak and/or on foot. You may camp back in the canyons or return to the houseboat at night. Expect daytime air temperatures in the mid to upper 70's and the water should be warm enough for swimming. This is the easiest of our long trips this year, and is suitable for beginners. Trip includes some sightseeing in Colorado and a visit to the hot springs along the way. Space is limited so call early for more information.

**Saturday October 12th**

**thru Sunday October 13th, 1996**

**Ed Ostrovecky 224-1419**

Ed's annual Kinzua Fall Foliage Weekend.



Chesapeake Bay Bridge paddlers at the end of our Memorial Day weekend trip. Sandy Point, Maryland.  
(Pittsburgh AYH Sea-Kayaking Program)

**Friday evening November 1st**

**thru Sunday November 3rd, 1996**

**Mark Mistrik 361-2943**

Post-Halloween weekend trip to Lake Moomaw, Virginia. Strange, but scenic area features an ancient fault, mountains, waterfalls, abandoned homesteads, and even hot springs. Fossilized Devil's Corkscrews are abundant here. More than anything, this place reminds me of hiking through Shenandoah, but with a kayak! Call for more information and to reserve.

**Friday evening November 8th thru Sunday November 10th, 1996**

**Mark Mistrik 361-2943**

Weekend roadtrip to Urbanna, Virginia. Two overnights in a resort-quality condo, paddling daytrips on the Chesapeake Bay's Eastern Shore, and (optional) French toast breakfast, guaranteed best breakfast in the AYH. Trip includes an evening paddle to see the bioluminescence - naturally occurring sparkling water, that occurs there. Call for more information.

**Wednesday evening November 27th thru Sunday December 1st, 1996**

**Mark Mistrik 361-2943**

South Carolina Lowcountry. Come spend a Southern-style Thanksgiving with us in sunny & warm South Carolina. Sightseeing in historic Charleston, beach walks, palm trees, plenty of wildlife and porpoises. Blackwater river, lake & saltwater paddling daytrips. Lodging in a rustic cabin with fireplace overlooking the Edisto river. Call for more information. Space is very limited.

## AYH ROCKS!

Yes, Pittsburgh AYH rock climbing is back. As you may know, Eric Bauer, last year's climbing chair, has moved on to a new job in the Chicago area. This year, Jim "Woj" Wojciechowski and Vern Miller have joined up as co-chairs to continue the program. Thanks go to Eric for all his work in the past and to Woj and Vern for taking a turn as lead climbers. Here's the schedule for this year's classes:

Friday-Sunday September 6-8  
Saturday September 29

Seneca Rocks Trip WV (call for details)  
Beginners Class

All classes will meet at 7:30 am at the AYH activities headquarters in Shadyside the morning of the trip, and all classes will be held at Coopers Rock in West Virginia. For class and trip information, call Woj at 322-4524 or call Vern at 398-8328 or 935-3434.

## TRANSITIONS ON THE RACHEL CARSON TRAIL

by jim ritchie

July 13th and 14th were "spruce-up" days on the Rachel Carson Trail on which volunteers worked to spruce up road crossings in eight different locations as well as to clean up two major off-road problem areas. Assisting in the effort were Bob Roth, Vince Roelf, Kate Frissell, Chris, John Dern, and Paul Bronder. First off Chris, Kate, Bob, and Vince worked in the woods by Peterson's Nursery cleaning up an area that had been substandard for nearly two years: the trail disappeared just as it attempted to come out on the gas pipeline area and the egress was blocked by a mound of brush and cuttings. That section is now in excellent condition.

Meanwhile, Jim, Paul and John worked on road crossings at Harrison Hills Park, Altermoor Road, Donnellsville Road, Burtner Road, Ridge Road, and Bakerstown Road near St. Clemens Cemetery. Later on that afternoon, all seven trailworkers joined together to blaze and clear the trail just before a point the Rachel Carson Challenge folks probably know as "Mile 13". The jump into the woods here was lost; in fact the entire trail was more or less lost all the way from Rich Hill Road. Now it is impeccable!

On Sunday, Jim and Bob visited more transition sites, road crossings, this time reblazing the entire 2 miles along Wagner Road, Shafer Road, Cedar Run Road, Route 910, and Myers Road. If you have the map, it's clear where you go, but if you are following blazes, you WERE out of luck—no longer!! After that, we went to Casey's Equipment along Saxonburg Boulevard, Russellton Road just before Mile 14, and on Yutes Run Road, all the way from Tawney Run Road to the gas pipeline running up behind Cheswick.

The Rachel Carson Trail thanks all those who came out on two hot, uncomfortable days and put a little back into the hiking trails they so often have enjoyed.

## CYCLING WEEKEND

October 4-6 Fri-Sun

Mary Ruth Aull 795-7078  
Pat Rossi 335-5067

**Wilderness Lodge Bicycle Touring Weekend.** This is a repeat of the weekend in August. Don Hutchinson will join Pat and Mary Ruth to lead a trip through the vineyards to watch the grape harvest on the shores of Lake Erie. Mostly flat roads. Meals and lodging all included in one price; see details elsewhere in this issue of the Golden Triangle. All kinds of bikes are invited—mixed dirt and paved roads; Relaxed country touring; call Mary Ruth or Pat for more information.

## ADOPT A PIECE OF RACHEL'S TRAIL

A three-mile section of the Rachel Carson Trail, located near Tarentum and not too far from the Allegheny Valley Expressway needs a caretaker, someone who is willing to make sure the Trail has fresh paint on the blazes, clip away vegetation covering the blazes and pick up an incidental trash along the way. The three miles in question start at Bull Creek Road just off the Expressway, and extend to Saxonburg Road in Harrison. It takes two days a year, all your expenses for paint and brushes is reimbursed, and you have the satisfaction of CONTRIBUTING to the cause of things you yourself value. If you are interested or just have questions, call Jim Ritchie at 828-0210 or Leo Stember at 681-1385.

## BICYCLING

Sept 6-8 A/C

**Stanford House Hostel** In the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area (in Ohio). This whole area is a bicyclists delight. Ride on rail trails going in many directions. Stanford House is a wonderful hostel that has long been a favorite destination for Pittsburgh AYH trips. Call Joan for more info and to reserve. **Joan Roelf 795-8345**

Oct 6 A/B/C

**SABRE (Southwestern Autumn Breeze)** Southwestern Allegheny county and Washington county. 100 km (65 mile) and 50 km (35 mile) rides offered. Rides start at Settler's Cabin Park. Registration includes marked roads, map, snack stops and a picnic lunch at the end. Call AYH office for an application or get one at AYH. Discount for registrations received by Sept 15. **Bill Eberle 921-1932**

**Ride Class:** A Adv. (50+ miles), B Inter. (30-60 miles), C Easy (15-40 miles), D Beg. (10-20 miles)

**All Trips:** Trips are generally open to riders of all ages, subject to the trip leaders' approval. (Most riders tend to be between ages 18 and 70) AYH Members are given priority over non-members for trips with limited space. Bicycle Helmets (ANSI or Snell approved) are required on all rides. Riders are responsible for their own equipment. To become a member, sign up at one of our weekly Thursday evening (8:00 to 9:30 p.m.) open houses, or call or write the AYH office for an application.

## CLASSIFIED

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

**For Sale:** Rhode Gear Eurosport twin rear-mounted bike rack, hardly used, fits most cars. \$75. Glenn, 731-7415.

**WANTED TO BUY:** Tandem Bicycle, John Gayler, 366-4062

**For Sale:** Olympic Bicycle T-Shirts, Haines 100% Beefy T. Official and Licensed. Call Michael at 322-7206.

**For Sale:** Used clipless Nashbar leather bicycling shoes. Men's size 9, \$15. Warren 687-1680

**For Sale:** NIKON FG SLR. 28 mm 52 mm and 70-210 mm zoom macro lens closeup lens tripod and bag mint condition \$400.00. Call RICHARD GREGO, 412-533-5725

**For sale:** Epoke 205 mm x-country skis, good condition, \$50; Contact ski boots, size 11, hardly used, \$35; free poles. Call 731-7415.

**For Sale:** Northface internal-frame backpack \$150; Northface tadpole tent (1-2 person) \$140; Whisper light stove \$50; First-Need water filter \$40. Call 242-9747(w) or 1-800-917-4763(pager) and leave message.

**For Sale:** Sail board/wind surfer; Mistral-large older model in good condition. Fiberglass mast, hardware, 2 sails (4m&6m) \$250. Perfect for starter. Night 766-3972 or Day 762-7440.

**For Sale:** 2 Dolfin professional silicone dive masks; low volume, fog-free, double edge. Used once and in original box. (older snorkels free) \$35 Eileen 531-9610

**For Sale:** Cross-country skis, boots (size 44) and poles. "Trak" waxless skis. As new - used once. \$85 for all. Peggy 361-4781.

**For Sale:** 60" metal desk, 55" wood roll top desk, steno chair Peg Cline @ 372,1782

**Distributing AYH brochures** We are looking for places to distribute hostelling brochures, primarily brochures describing hostelling and how to purchase a Hostelling International membership, but also some specific hostel brochures. If you have some suggestions on where we can display brochures for potential hostellers - such as colleges, travel agencies and travel bookstores, please call the office at 412-422-2282. We will be happy to deliver them.

Editor, The Golden Triangle  
5604 Solway St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

## REMINDER TO TRIP LEADERS

All trips and equipment usage must be approved by the appropriate activity chair or co-chair. Trip reports and fees should be turned in by the end of each month at either the AYH Activities Building or AYH Office or mailed to Pittsburgh Council, 5604 Solway St., Pittsburgh PA 15217

## Central Susquehanna Hostellers

### CSH Meetings

Meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm at the Lewisburg Area Community Center at 100 North 5th Street in Lewisburg.

### Bike Rides

In addition to longer weekend rides, there are normally shorter bike rides every Thursday evening. Call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

### CSH Information

Call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

## Lewisburg Trips

For information on activities in the Lewisburg area, call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

The Pittsburgh Council Travel Store is open Mon. 9 to 3, Wed. 11 to 6 and Fri. from 9 to 3. Hours are subject to change, so it's a good idea to call the office at 412-422-2282 before coming in. We're in Room 202 of the Wightman School Building at 5604 Solway Street in Squirrel Hill, near the intersection of Wilkins and South Negley. All passes, ID cards, rail passes, and books are available.