

Sept Oct 1950

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

VOL 1 NO 4 PITTSBURGH, PA.

THE WINNER

Jim Deitt of Ingram won the trophy in the men's division of the Second Annual Track Races held August 12 in Schenley Oval. Of a possible 50 points, he accumulated 29. Tony Pranses came in second with 24 points, Ted Jeanette, third with 19, and Bud Edlis, fourth with 18.

In the women's division, Betty Bierer took the trophy with 35 points out of a possible 40, with Grace Kriner following, and Mary Comensky, third.

Deitt won the mile-against-the-clock race in 2:47 and the matched sprint elimination, quarter mile, in 39 seconds. Pranses placed first in the 2-mile race in 5:36 and in the slow race. Buddy Edlis and Bill Dunlop formed the winning team in the 5-mile relay; time 14:26.

Every record established last year was shattered. The best time for the mile in 1949 was 2:58, while 7 placed under this time this year. The matched sprint time was bettered by more than 4 seconds.

NO JOINT TRIPS, FROM SEPT. 1 ON

Due to an increasing number of cyclists, all joint hike-bike outings have been cancelled. Since almost everyone who cycles also enjoys hiking, it was felt that it is not fair to either cyclists or hikers to detract from each other's groups. Commencing September 1, there will be no joint trips.

FIELD DIRECTOR VISITS HERE

Dan Evans, AYH Eastern Regional Field Director, visited the Pittsburgh Council, July 22-25. In addition to a buffet dinner meeting with the officers at Chairman Pranses' home he also attended the campfire supper on the Abers Creek outing and took a rental cycle on a Sunset Cycle Trip.

28 Miles Cross-Country

The Annual Cross-Country Race will be held Saturday, September 9. The 28-mile course will vary slightly from last year's, starting and finishing at Frankstown Avenue and Washington Boulevard. From Washington Boulevard the route will follow Allegheny River Boulevard, cross the Hulton Bridge, out Guys Run Road, Dorseyville Road, Saxonburg Boulevard to Route 8, cross the 62nd Street Bridge, up Butler Street and back to Washington Boulevard.

Last year's race had a field of 11 with Tony Pranses winning in 1 hour, 35 minutes. At least 25 entrants are expected to try to break this record.

Jim Deitt, winner of the track races, will not be able to compete since he reports with the 28th National Guard Division, September 5.

PROGRAM CHANGE MADE

Elizabeth Saffer, Program Chairman, has announced a change of policy in the showing of color slides and movies. They will be screened only on the last Thursday of every month. Art Ellis is in charge of selecting and projecting the slides. Should you want your photographic work shown, contact Art and make arrangements by the second Thursday of the month.

The following programs have been set up for Thursday Night Open House:

- Sept. 7 - J. D. Myers - Report on the Horseshoe Trail trip and Packaging and Preparing the Food for Extended Trips
- Sept. 14 - Square Dancing
- Sept. 21 - Mrs. J. E. Timberlake - "30 Days on The Appalachian Trail"
- Sept. 28 - Slides, Movies, etc.
- Oct. 5 - Report on Great Lakes Trip
- Oct. 12 - Square Dancing
- Oct. 19 - Louella Maxwell "Weather Maps"
- Oct. 26 - Slides, Movies, etc.

The Golden Triangle

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL A. Y. H.
6300 FIFTH AVE PITTSBURGH 32, PA.

PE.1-2556

MO.14997

Fall In For Fall NOW

To Non-Active Hostellers:

You must have had an interest in hosteling to have written us that first letter or your friend must know that you like that kind of life to have given us your name. Every time you receive The Golden Triangle, you probably read the schedule and think to yourself that this month you will go on a trip. Well, now that Fall is coming and the days will not be so uncomfortably hot but more inducive to exercise outside of a swimming pool, why don't you plan definitely on a trip. The picnic at Bruce Merritt's will be a good chance to meet the group without blistering your feet, or perhaps that Raccoon Creek hike with a campfire supper will fit into your plans better. If you live on the outskirts of Pittsburgh and would find it more convenient to meet the group at some point other than the scheduled meeting place, get in touch with the leader and he will be glad to make arrangements.

If you are a cyclist who has not shown up this summer, we will be surprised because there are so many new cyclists around. However, the Monday evening Sunset trips are still going out from headquarters at 7 p.m., and 10 miles is just about right to get in shape.

Thursday open house and Tuesday square dances (first and third Tuesdays) are lots of fun.

Do let us meet you soon. Names on a file card are intriguing, but personalities are interesting.

Sincerely,

Pittsburgh A.Y.H.

UNCLE JOHN

The Brashear Association, at whose camp the first Pittsburgh hostel has been established, was formed as a memorial to perpetuate the memory of the humanitarian side of the life of Dr. John Alfred Brashear, a Pittsburgh astronomer. "Uncle John" was born in 1840 in Brownsville, Pa., where he received his only formal education in the public schools. His first view of the Moon and the rings of Saturn was paid for by his grandfather, an amateur scientist, who also taught him the constellations. When he moved to Pittsburgh and worked in a rolling mill as a millwright, he continued to study the stars. At the lunch hour the men would gather around him while he drew pictures of the heavens on strips of sheet iron. Since he could not afford a telescope, he and his wife worked for three years grinding a five-inch lens. They cut a hole in the attic roof for the telescope and the next day sent out invitations to the neighbors to come and see the stars. From this modest beginning Brashear rose to become the peer of any maker of astronomical lenses and instruments of precision of his day. His great contribution lay in his mastery of the art of making a plane surface.

The mechanical genius of Brashear, though great, was overshadowed by the personality of the man. The force that dominated him was a sincere desire to share the beauty of the universe with all mankind. As chairman of the Allegheny Observatory Committee, it was characteristic of him that he did not stop until he had a room in the new building where anybody who wanted to could see and hear about the "starry heavens" free. On his death in 1920, Brashear was mourned not only as Pittsburgh's, but Pennsylvania's "best loved citizen."

The Brashear Association owes its existence to the humane impulses and indefatigable energy of Mrs. John McFarlane Phillips, who inaugurated and led the movement to buy the old Brashear home and guided the project through its hardest years.

--WITH PACKS

By John Ferchak



The trip through the Adirondacks will long be remembered by those who participated. Memories brought back were varied for mountain climbing is a personal thing to which each climber reacts in his own individual way. To some, perhaps, the actual scaling of the peaks provided sufficient pleasure; to others, the views compensated for the climb; to the rest-----? This article, therefore, will attempt to present only an overall picture of the tour.

On Friday evening the group assembled at Headquarters where approximately 200 pounds of provisions and camp equipment were evenly distributed among the eleven participants. Total pack weights were brought to an average of about 45 pounds. With the preparations completed the trip began at seven-thirty.

After an all-night drive the group arrived at Keene Valley early Saturday afternoon. Lunch was eaten at the Spread Eagle Restaurant and immediately afterwards the cars were driven into the woods and parked in the space provided for that purpose. The churchgoers camped in the parking area that night while the remainder of the party pushed on to Bushnell Falls, approximately five miles away.

On Sunday the two units assembled at John's Brook Lodge, the last outpost of civilization maintained by the Adirondack Mountain Club. The packs were left at the lodge while the group climbed Big Slide and descended by way of Yard Mountain. After picking up the packs the party moved on to the first camp site at Wolf Jaw Lean-To.

The climbing began in earnest on Monday morning. A short distance from the lean-to the packs were cached at a trail intersection while Lower Wolf Jaw was climbed. Before the sun had set the pack-laden crew had scaled Upper Wolf Jaw, Armstrong, and the Gothics. The re-climbing of the rock face of the Gothics to watch the sun set brought the day to a close.

A night of rain provided a misty, overcast Tuesday. The steep, rugged trails of Saddleback and Basin were made doubly difficult by the prevailing conditions. Nothing but mist was visible from the peaks of Saddleback, but, by the time the summit of Basin had been reached, the mists began to occasionally part and provide a sight with which a clear day's view could not compare. Later in the day the most inspiring view of the trip was seen from the top of Haystack. To the east the mists had cleared, while to the west they shifted and swirled in ever-changing patterns which alternately revealed and concealed the purple peaks beyond. With great reluctance the descent was made and camp set up at Plateau Lean-To.

Mount Marcy, the highest peak in the state, was scaled on Wednesday morning and immediately afterwards the summit of Skylight was reached. While the main portion of the group moved on to Avalanche Lean-To, four members climbed Colden.

Thursday was an optional day. While several members remained at camp to rest up, a party moved out through Avalanche Pass, skirted the shores of Avalanche Lake, and headed up the McIntyre Range. The unmaintained trails of Boundary Mountain and Iroquois presented a major obstacle which most of the climbers managed to overcome. Next on the list was Algonquin which afforded, what is generally conceded to be the best view in the Adirondacks. Wright Mountain was the last peak of the day and, also, of the trip.

The journey back to John's Brook Lodge via Klondike Pass was accomplished on Friday. By popular demand Bushnell Falls was chosen as the last camp site. With prospects of an easy Saturday the group engaged in a campfire song fest before turning in.

Plans for scaling Porter and Cascade on Saturday morning were abandoned in favor of spending the night at LaAnna

THE FIRST HALF *By Jack Stein*

In the first half of 1950 the Pittsburgh Council scheduled and held 32 outings. These outings ranged in scope from an easy walk atop Mount Washington to a 107-mile bike race.

Now that the Pittsburgh Council has been in operation for over two years, many outings have been designated as "annual." Usually these are trips and events that have won popular approval, such as the various cycle races, Dulaney Cave Crawl, and Mt. Davis.

We started the year on January 2 with Harvey Hindin's Westinghouse Valley Hike. The following week Grace Kriner led the hike along Plum Creek from Oakmont to New Kensington. The stop for lunch included square dancing, with the Hoof-and-Mouthers joining in. The first overnight of the year was at Frisco, and between hiking along Conoquenessing Creek and meeting quite a few more Walczaks, an enjoyable time was had. January 21 was the day that most of us learned that girls are not permitted to walk through tunnels under construction, so the fellows had a good time with a guided tour of the Squirrel Hill Tunnel. The hike along the old Harmony Short Line right-of-way opened a new field for hiking - old abandoned rail-lines.

Celebration of our second anniversary included a retake of our first hike, from Mt. Lebanon to Presto. With the exception of the newly strengthened cable bridge, everything seemed the same. Our third year started off with what "experts" called our toughest hike. Betty Bierer was responsible for this hike from Boston to Elizabeth. Nobody argued that the weather was cold after Walt Pagel's bottle of milk froze solid. On a very wet March 11 the group visited Old Economy on the way to the North Sewickley Vol. Fire Dept. The steam heated floors came in very welcome. The last snow battle of the year was had on Jan Reel's Bridgeville hike, and a new recreation was found in swinging vines. Sam Shaw and Co., the Hoof-and-Mouth Hiking Club, took over for the weekend of March 25-26. Facili-

ties were made wide open for AYH in the Wheeling area. The first cycle trip of the year was a success as 16 cyclists lined up Route 30 to Herminie and met the hikers for lunch. J. D. Myers led another hike along the Twin Echoes Trail on April 16, and we found that the trail had become tangled with the Turnpike Extension at some places. A return to the Pollock's in Avella marked the next overnight.

National Hostel Week opened with the Century Race, 107 miles. Tony Frances copped the decision, but it pays to be last--Harvey Hindin and Mary Comensky appealed to the photographers from the local papers. The following day we went to McConnell's Mills, and had a grand time crawling through the caves. As part of Hostel Week, the first Baker Trail night hike was held, with a campfire overlooking New Kensington. Hostel Week closed with an overnight to the Improvement of the Poor Camp near Warrendale.

Chestnut Ridge, 40 miles to the east, was visited May 14, with a beautiful 10 mile hike filling the day. This time in a little warmer weather we again slept on "Pennsylvania's Roof Garden," Mount Davis. Everyone got a real soaking from the cloudburst. The Walczaks got together again and this time planned a hike and bike trip for Memorial Day that had a spontaneous meeting point. The first hike utilizing the complete Baker Trail was held on June 9-11, with many hikers getting into shape for the Adirondacks Trip. A new hosteler was found in the person of Lloyd George, a canine. The largest cycle gathering of the year was at Bushy Run, where 25 cyclists took to the highways and all lined up for the cameras at Trafford, eating watermelon. The Brashear Hostel had its opening on June 24, with a combined hike-bike trip. Again rain caught up with the hostelers, and a cooking shelter was finally devised--then the rain stopped. Next came Mon. City -- but that is the second half!

BIKE STORAGE SUCCESS!!

Individuals storing their bicycle at AYH headquarters will share the cost of fire, theft, and vandalism insurance that the Pittsburgh Council has taken out on its building at 6300 Fifth Avenue. Such storage is not encouraged, however, due to the limited space available. The rates are 25¢ per night, \$1.00 a month on a contract basis, and \$10.00 a year on a contract basis.

Congratulations

Married, August 19, Walt Pagels and Anne Hopkins.

Born, August 24 at 6 a.m., to Louise and Tony Franses, a new hosteler, Terry Jay.

*Brashear Hostel
Open Year Around*

Four of the seven extended trips scheduled by the Pittsburgh Council were held this summer. Eleven rugged mountaineers climbed for a week in the Adirondack Mountains, five cyclists spent two weeks seeing New England, twelve cyclists, including many veterans of last year's New England trip, battled the headwinds on the Great Lakes trip, and five hiked the Horseshoe Trail from Valley Forge to Manada Gap. Now everybody is talking about where they are going next year. If you have any special trip in mind, get in touch with Jack Stein, the Trips and Trails Chairman, and talk them over with him.

WITH PACKS

(cont'd from page 3)

Hostel and eliminating another all-night drive. Upon arrival at LaAnna the hostelers spent the evening square dancing and making use of the available recreational facilities.

About eight o'clock Sunday evening the mountaineers returned to Headquarters. The trip was over, but memories would be retained and stories told and retold by those who had gone into the heart of the Adirondacks and made it their home for seven never-to-be-forgotten days.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (continued from page 6)

Friday-Sunday, October 20-22 - HIKE TO BRASHEAR HOSTEL. Starting Friday night, we hike up Tom's Run Road, camping at Mt. Nebo, hiking the following day to the hostel, sleeping there Saturday night. Hike 5 miles Friday night, 17 Saturday, Leader, Larry Cohen (EM 1-0869). Cost \$4.50

Friday, October 27.- FOUR-MILE NIGHT HIKE, WATCHING SLAG DUMPING NEAR THE AIRPORT. Along with a wiener roast, this trip is another innovation on our schedule. Cost \$1.00. Leader, Fred Mauk (EM 1-6299)

Sunday, October 29 - SQUAW RUN ROAD CYCLE TRIP. Last bike ride of the year, a leisurely 35-mile run north of Pittsburgh, passing through the Fox Chapel District. Cost 15¢. Leader, Chet Markle (MU 2-9063)

Tuesday, October 31 - SECOND ANNUAL HALLOW'EEN PARTY. With everyone in costume, prizes will be awarded, with fun and games the program, also refreshments. Cost for everyone, 50¢. Leader, June Redman (IO 1-3249)

WE HOLD OUR OUTINGS REGARDLESS OF THE WEATHER!

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL, AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, INC.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Weekend outings open to 1950 passholders only. One-day affairs are open to all, but nonpassholders pay 25¢ additional registration fee. Costs listed are approximate but cover total expenses and will be collected by leader at meeting place.

On overnight outings, bring eating and sleeping gear. On one-day outings where AYH provides meals, bring eating gear. Private cars permitted only when authorized by leader. Bicycles must have a light and a license from the district in which the owner lives.

Details of meeting places, times, and exact cost are listed on bi-weekly postal cards sent to 1950 passholders. Others phone leaders for details. Reservations accompanied by one-half the listed cost must be made in person or by mail at least 48 hours prior to outing.

Fri.-Mon., Sept. 1-4 - TRAILER BIKE TRIP TO HORSESHOE TRAIL. We rent trailers and drive to Harrisburg, then cycle for three days in the beautiful Pennsylvania Dutch country. Points of interest will include Hershey, the oldest iron mine in the country, Indiantown Gap, Ephrata Cloisters. Bring eating gear and sleeping sack. Private cars a necessity. Cycle about 45 miles daily. Cost \$16.50. Leader, Buddy Edlis (MO 1-3229)

Sat., Sept. 2 - FORT VUE AND LIBERTY RIDGE TRAIL AND CAMPFIRE SUPPER. A repeat of a recent night hike in the McKeesport area, this time by daylight. Bring eating gear. Hiking about 8 miles. Cost 80¢. Leader, Fred Freunthal (JA 1-1095)

Sat., Sept. 9 - SECOND ANNUAL CROSS COUNTRY RACE. Again a gala day started with the race, then supper at AYH Hostel Headquarters. There will be prizes for the race, and everyone is encouraged to enter. Entry fee for the race - \$1.00. Dinner and party - 60¢. Party alone - 25¢. For race information contact Tony Franses (PE 1-2556). Leader for evening events, Elizabeth Saffer (CH 1-0382)

Sun., Sept. 10 - HIKE ALONG ABANDONED WAYNESEBURG AND WASHINGTON RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY. A 12-mile hike along the iron pike, passing Mt. Wheeler and scaling many hills south of Washington, PA. Bring your lunch. Cost \$2.15. Leader, Vonnice Noble. For reservations phone Jack Stein (JA 1-0381)

Sun., Sept. 17 - CYCLE TRIP TO LOYALHANNA DAM. Bring your bathing suit, for swimming will be included in this 60-mile bike trip to one of Pittsburgh's flood control dams. Bring your lunch. Cost 15¢. Leader, Louie DePian (SC 1-9147)

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 23-24 - CROOKED CREEK OVERNIGHT. A hike along the newest section of the Baker Trail, with swimming and hiking at this favorite spot in Armstrong County. Bring eating and sleeping gear, Saturday lunch. Cost \$1.00. Leader, Herb Buchwald (MA 1-4725)

Sat., Sept. 30 - PICNIC AND NIGHT HIKE, CHARTIERS VALLEY. Picnic and other events at Bruce Marritt's, then a night hike into the West End, with the lights of Pittsburgh as a backdrop from atop Elliott. Cost 75¢. Leader, Mary Comensky (HO 1-9908)

Sun., Oct. 1 - CENTURY RUN TO PROSPERITY. A 100-mile ride in the wilds of Washington County, the goal being Prosperity, population 175. Cost 15¢. Leader, Reg Moser (EV 1-7284)

Sat., Oct. 7 - RACCOON CREEK HIKE AND CAMPFIRE SUPPER. A hike along one of Western Pennsylvania's picturesque streams in the height of Fall colors. Bring eating gear. Cost \$1.75. Leader, Harold Huckins. Call Jack Stein (JA 1-0381) for info. Private transportation necessary.

Sun., Oct. 8 - MON-TOUGH VALLEY CYCLE TRIP. Fifty miles along the Youghiegheny to Sutersville. Bring lunch. Cost 15¢. Leader, Dick Fischer (HA 1-5070)

Sun., Oct. 15 - CANONSBURG LAKES CYCLE TRIP. A repeat to the reservoirs in this district, with cycling along one of the favorite runs, Thomas to Finleyville. Cost 15¢. Leader, Bill Mitchell (NE 1-1734)

(continued on page 5)