

1958

August - September

Vol. VIII

New Hostel at Bridgeville —

Applause and gold medal are what he deserves....But Vince Roelf will be well satisfied if you just go down and use the new hostel that he's been developing at the Matthews' Farm.

A few months ago he started with nothing but an old building filled with dirty hay. He finished with an overnight accommodation that any Swiss visitor or Pittsburgh hosteler should find very comfortable---rustic, but nice. Outstanding features of the place include Dutch doors, engineer-designed furniture, barn swallows, and a HIS & HERS partition of canvas which rolls up to make room for square dancing.

To open the hostel officially, John and Ramona will be hosts to two groups of Europeans, on August 1 and 2, and on August 6 and 7. A picnic supper with local members will give everyone an opportunity to meet the Swiss hostelers and to inspect the accommodations. Shirley Cristina is making arrangements for this event.

Thanks go to the hostelers who also helped with improvements:

Margaret Bark
Norman Roy
Betty Beck
Armand Panson
Lois Ann Wagner
Myron Marks

Lee Pezzuti
Jacek Jedruch
Paul Harris
Madeline Harris
Fran Czapiewski
Gloria Fisher

The new 1958 Handbook will now be mailed to all AYH members who have passes dated after April 1. Members whose passes were issued between January 1 and March 31, 1958, may secure a free copy by sending their name, pass number, and expiration date of pass to National AYH, 14 W. 8th. St., NYC.

Welcome to

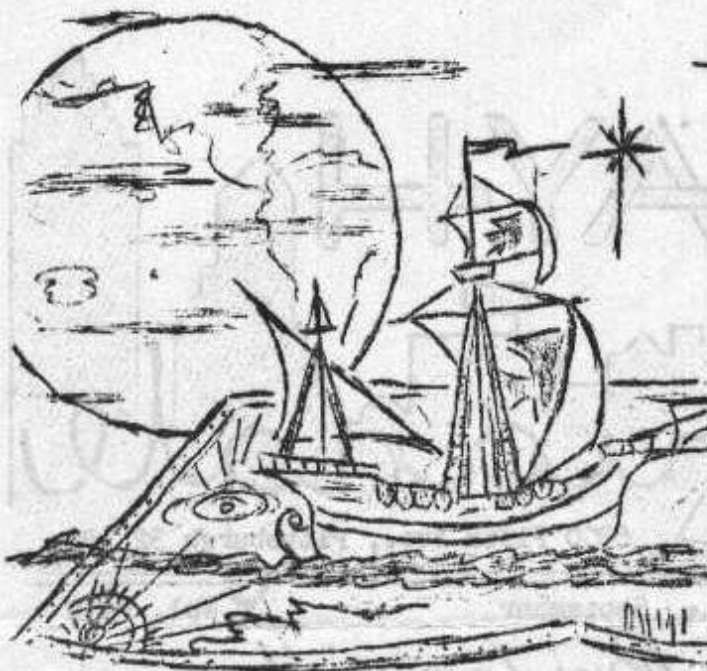
Open house

Every Thursday at
8:30 P.M. at H.Q.
Fifth and Shady



THE KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION'S annual fall meeting will be held on September 26, 28 at Camp Michaux. Details later from Gloria Fisher, but put this on your calendar now. All hostelers are invited. Spring Council Meeting is scheduled for March 14-15 1959.

THE PURPOSE of the KTA is to coordinate the efforts of walking and outdoor groups in and around Pennsylvania; to build, maintain, and use trails, shelters and campsites in the area; to aid in the conservation of wild lands and wildlife, and to protect places of natural beauty and interest; and to further enhance the purpose of the Appalachian Trail Conference. Pittsburgh Council, AYH is a member club.



Burton Holmes once summed up his love of travel this way:

"TO TRAVEL IS TO POSSESS THE WORLD. THE TRAVELER POSSESSES THE WORLD MORE COMPLETELY THAN THOSE WHO OWN VAST PROPERTIES.

OWNERS BECOME THE SLAVES OF WHAT THEY OWN."

Mr. Holmes recently passed away at the age of 88. He originated the movie travelogue.

PHOTO CONTEST. The Minolta Camera Company is conducting a nationwide hosteling picture contest. Minolta cameras will be awarded for pictures which best depict the spirit of hosteling, camping, cycling, etc. Pictures may be in color or black & white. If black & white, they should be no smaller than $3\frac{1}{4}$ by $4\frac{1}{4}$. No limit on number of pictures.

Send your entries before September 30 direct to Minolta Cameras, Contest Headquarters, 150 Broadway, New York City 38. Winning pictures will be sent on a tour of the forty-eight states.

PITTSBURGH BICENTENNIAL, 1958 - 1959



Gateway to the future

hosteling here and there

The AYH National Reunion was held at Bantam Lake Youth Hostel, Lakeside, Conn. near Litchfield, on August 1-3, 1958. National Field Representative William A. Nelson, and his wife, Ruth, who just moved to Bantam Lake, were houseparent hosts on this occasion. Hostelers from other lands were also invited.

In the Schirrmann Tradition. Fears that the youth hostel movement is losing touch with the spartan traditions of the pioneers should be dispelled by the handbook details of the new hostel at Te Araroa, New Zealand: "No lighting, 3 bunks (no mattresses) 3 on floor...not open at shearing time." The hostel is in fact installed in a shed used by the sheep shearers.

Ski Europe, 1959 - The dates of February 14 - March 8 have been definitely set for Chicago Council's Ski Europe 1959 trip. Flying, they plan to land in Zurich, and go from there to the following three areas in Austria: St. Anton, Innsbruck, and Kitzbuehl. There will be three groups rotating among these areas the first two weeks of the trip. The third week will be open.

Any of the above areas will be available at the basic trip cost, and in addition, optional trips may be taken to Vienna, Salzburg, or Davos, Switzerland at extra cost. \$485.00 is the estimated cost which includes transportation, overnighing, meals, leadership and insurance. If interested, write the Metropolitan Chicago Council, 431 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill. for an application. A deposit of \$25.00 is required.

When You Travel this summer....
 what's your photographic ratio going to be, between people and scenic pictures?

Too often it's on the side of places and things and the human element is left out.

Before you pack your bags, make up your mind to bring back a set of people pictures from your vacation. People give a place its character and they also play a large part in your impression of an area.

WANDER ON YOUR OWN.....If you go with a group you'll be conspicuous and you'll probably get only the pictures the others get. Be brave, be bold---and take the unexplored streets and by-ways off the beaten path.

And leave behind your friend who has no camera. He's the worst liability....for he'll never understand why it takes so long to get a picture and he will hurry you into poor ones.

(from Photography Magazine)

"You'll talk of your vacation,
 Tell back and front and sides of it.
 We'll think at last the topic closed,
 But no, you'll show the slides of it."

Vacationing in ---
 (John
 Ramona Matthews
 Canada....canoeing.....
 Madison, Wisc....studying.....Abbie Mudie
 Lexington, Ky...touring...Lois Ann Wagner
 Los Angeles...getting married?....Shu Kao
 Oklahoma...milking cows...Madeline Harris
 England....cycling.....Ralph Ludington
 Copenhagen...sightseeing..Rosemary Thiebaut

for the annual
Election of
Officers
 to the
 ACTIVITIES BOARD -

September 25

CAMPING That Leaves No Trace...

You're tired after a day's journey; ready to settle in a nice, peaceful camp and enjoy the beauty of the wilderness.

But blight has struck....Cans, paper, and old wrappings litter the area where you want to pitch your tent. So, in disgust you either move on to another site or shovel away enough debris to make camp.



What can be done?

The Sierra Club has developed techniques for disposing of camp litter. In order that scenic beauty is preserved for others to enjoy, they follow these rules;

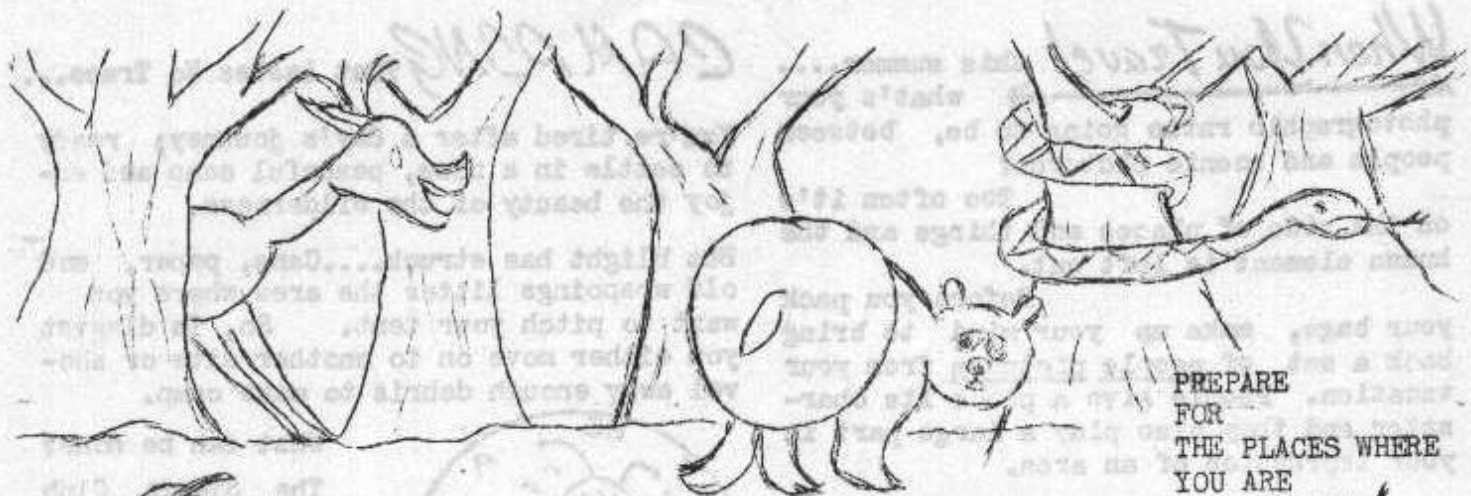
1. Burn everything--scraps of food, paper, old clothing.
2. Burn tin cans until labels, tin, and lacquer disappear leaving the bare metal exposed to the elements. An unburned can takes years to rust and the lingering food smell invites rooting animals to dig up the pit, scattering litter everywhere.
3. Flatten the burned cans with an axe.
4. In mountainous areas it may be difficult to dig a pit. Sliding the flattened cans between large boulders puts them out of sight. Dispose of other unburnables in this manner, too.

Preserve the wilderness for your next trip.
 BE A CAMPER WHO LEAVES NO TRACE!

GIVE CAREFUL THOUGHT NOW.....
 TO YOUR CHOICE OF

CANDIDATES





PREPARE
FOR
THE PLACES WHERE
YOU ARE
VACATIONING!

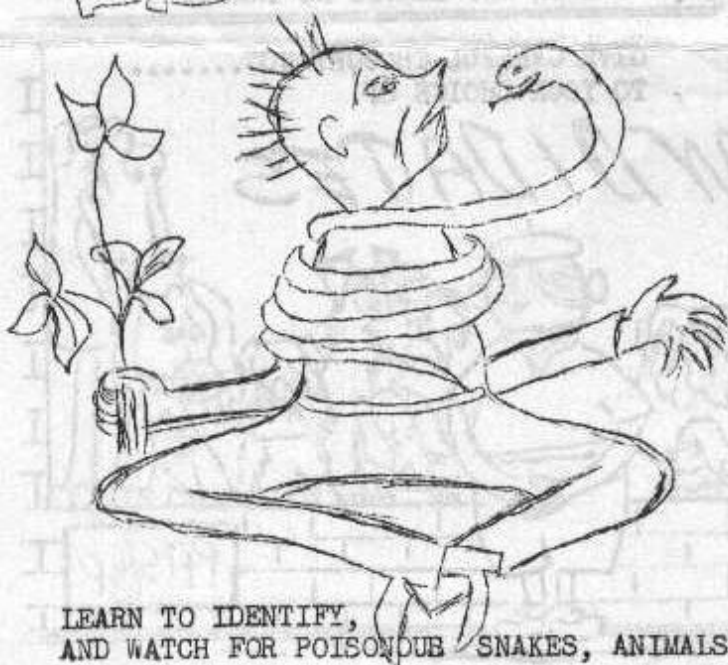


WEAR
THE
PROPER
CLOTHING

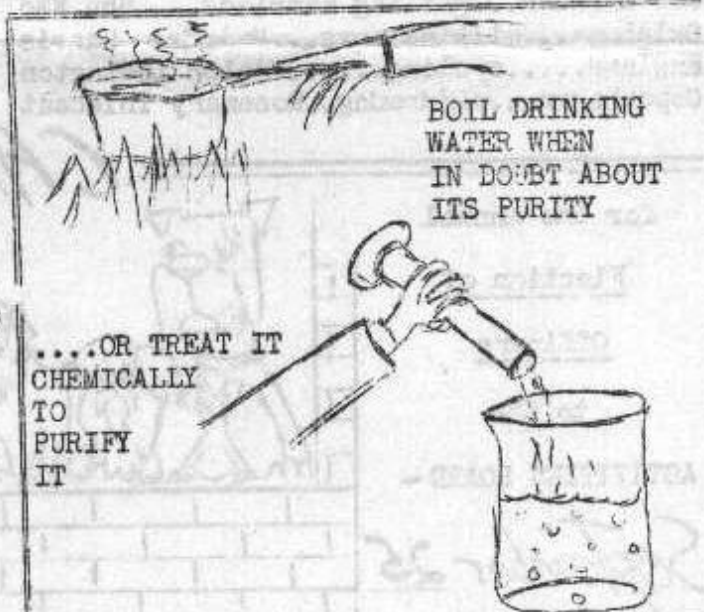


STUDY
UP
ON THE
COUNTRY

AND BE
READY
FOR
SPECIAL
HAZARDS



LEARN TO IDENTIFY,
AND WATCH FOR POISONOUS SNAKES, ANIMALS AND PLANTS



BOIL DRINKING
WATER WHEN
IN DOUBT ABOUT
ITS PURITY

....OR TREAT IT
CHEMICALLY
TO
PURIFY
IT

Letter

Dear Sunda,

c/o American Express
Geneva, Switzerland

You'd really complain if you would see the easy life I am living here in the small villages of Switzerland. Mainly I've stayed away from the big towns because it is difficult to get acquainted with people there. Hiking up the precipitous hillsides I can watch folks as they lead cattle to the alpine pastures, make hay in the bright sunshine, carry tremendous loads of potatoes, meat, other products in wicker baskets tied to the back. Though the main language here is German, people seem friendly and smile back when greeted. But their's is a hard life. I have yet to see anyone but a tourist taking life easy. It is said that these Swiss have a high standard of living....so they do in the cities; but life in the hills is very primitive even now. Yet the people put beauty into every-day living. Flowers bloom everywhere. Beautiful paintings and decorations are put over the outside of the homes. Colorful designs are embroidered on clothes.

Expenses are almost the same as at home except that gifts of beauty which one would like to purchase are more expensive.

I'm a few blocks from the road that leads to the Simplon Pass. The men are working at some re-routing and improving of it. There is a small cement mixer and a little earth smoother but all the work is done by hand...digging, laying of curbing, breaking of boulders for the bed, spreading cement, etc. Such a great amount of hand labor everywhere because equipment is so expensive the village people cannot buy it. I wonder how they keep the roads clear in winter?

The views from the Pass were spectacular. I went almost to the top of one of the mountains but remembered that no one knew where I was in case I should become injured so far from anyone.

Yesterday I went to the top of the Garnergrat Mt. and was thrilled at the sight of the Matterhorn, Monte Rosa, Breithorn, Weishorn, and others with their snowy caps against the clear blue sky. Hated to leave but am paying for it now with a severe sunburn of face, ears, neck, arms, and legs. Luckily I had cream or I'd have had to stay in bed now.

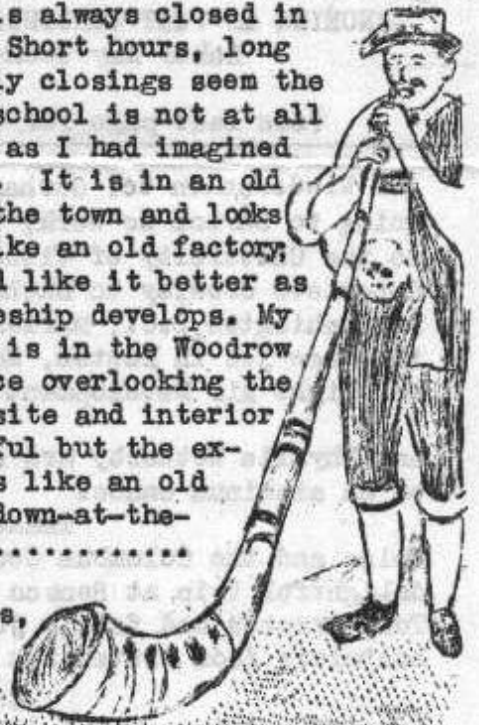
I did not get Tony Portman's plans for my Swiss journey because he was hospitalized in Italy. He and his wife had been attending a U.N. Conference on youth, after which they were enjoying

a brief holiday together. Coming home, on a mountain road, they were hit head-on by a speeding Italian car. Mrs. Portman was killed instantly. Her head was the only recognizable portion of her body and had been severed from it. Mr. Portman was critically injured with four fractures of the skull. This all happened on June 6. At the end of the month he is to be flown to a hospital at Basle where he will remain until November. It will be necessary for him to leave his beautiful mountain home at Gersau to go to Zurich where there will be fewer climatic changes to affect his head. When school is over in Geneva I will try to go visit him if he is able to see me.

It took two days to complete rooming and schooling arrangements at Geneva. My, it seems everything is always closed in that town! Short hours, long lunches, only closings seem the rule. The school is not at all pretentious as I had imagined it would be. It is in an old section of the town and looks something like an old factory, but I should like it better as acquaintanceship develops. My other class is in the Woodrow Wilson Palace overlooking the lake. The site and interior are delightful but the exterior looks like an old Palace run-down-at-the-heels.....

Best wishes,

Betty
Bierer





CONQUER INERTIA.....MAIL THIS APPLICATION NOW TO HUGH GILMOUR!

Mr.)

Mrs.)

Miss)

Mailing Address _____

I am interested in: (check) cycling, hiking, canoeing, mountain climbing, skiing, square dancing, cave crawling

Enclosed is \$ _____ in cash, check or money order to cover the cost of the A.Y.H. pass checked below: _____
Date of birth if under 21 _____

() Youth Pass \$2 () Senior Youth \$4 () Adult Pass \$5 () Family Pass \$7
for those under 18 for those under 21 for those 21 & up No. of children

DISCOUNT OF \$1.00 FOR ANY PASS RENEWED WITHIN THE MONTH OF EXPIRATION.



The EVOSEVICH twins, Martha and Bertha have offered their home on S. Tenth St. as a temporary hostel accommodation for out-of-town visitors.

WARREN YOUNG is now working in Baltimore for the Air Arm division of Westinghouse and is soon to be married to a former co-worker at E. Pgh. Others engaged: MOUNT FITZPATRICK, to Shirley Rarick; BOB HARM to ELLEN COOKE; CHAS. RICHARDSON to JANET ROUFF.

For every hosteler who moves on to brighten another spot in the world, we gather a replacement just as good: Norman Roy, maker of beautiful benches (for the new Hostel at the Matthews')

Rhonda Newcomer, (I was thrilled when the kids in school asked me to be on their basketball team") bookkeeper, understudying for the job of Treasurer.

Jacek Jedruch, who livens hikes by singing Polish folk songs in a bouncy baritone voice (he can also make beautiful benches.)

Lee Pezzuti, handling our press releases (she was responsible for getting the Sun Tele photographer out to the canoeing classes.)

Tony Von Elbe, just twelve, but cycling the shorts off such veterans as Ken Dishart and Stu Reynolds.

Amy Marie Comensky, just 2-1/2 months, and destined to be Miss AYH of 1976.

CANOEING IN WEST VIRGINIAON THE
Labor Day Week-End

(see last page for details)

Auf Wiedersehen to: Gerhart Backenstoss, going to Zurich to work; Millie Magura, to the University of Wisconsin to study; Genevieve Crowley to Catholic University in Washington, D.C.; Marianne Schlochauer to a new job in Boston, Mass.; Mary Ryan to Wright Air Development in Ohio.

Joan Schewe and Phyllis Wetherby are now joint-owners of an aluminum canoe.

Thanks to Bernie Weiss and the Columbus Council for that delightful trip at Seneca Lake, July 26. Tony Pranses and family joined the nine hostelers from Pittsburgh who went.

See Jack Paskind for AYH patches, berets, bicycle parts.

August 10, Sunday

TRIPS AND TRAILS CHAIRMAN

Bob Snelsire

Ja. 1-1423

CROOKED CREEK TRIP - Hike on the Baker Trail, swim, top it off with a campfire supper. Bring lunch and roastables for the evening meal. Leave AYH 10:00 A.M. Cost \$1.50. Reserve with Victor Sorokin, Ex. 1-2800, ext. 2321 (during the day)

Hold

August 16, Saturday - SURPRISE SCENIC CYCLE TRIP. Bring lunch, camera. Leave H.Q. at 10:00 A.M. Reserve with Linda Snelsire, Ja. 1-1428. Arrange for cycle rentals with Jack Paskind.

August 23, Saturday -

Sh-h-h-h! Don't tell anyone but we're getting together for another party at Headquarters. Just wear your old clothes and sneak over about 10:00 A.M. Bring lunch--we'll supply other materials (whitewash, paint window panes, travel posters, etc.)

have

you

squared

with

Jack

Paskind

about

bike

Storage

\$10

yr.

August 30, 31, Sept. 1 - COOPER'S ROCK

Camping out or in...

your choice. Canoeing, hiking, swimming, spelunking in Cornwell Cave. Bob Snelsire is taking reservations. Cost will be approximately \$9.98.

September 7, Sunday - CYCLE WITH TRAILERS, away from the city traffic. Meet at 9:15 A.M.

September 13, Saturday -

WHITE ROCKS NEAR FAIRCHANCE, hiking the ridges around Uniontown, practice rock climbing for the tentative Tetons trip next year. Bring mess kit for campfire supper, a lunch for noon-time. Cost around \$2.50. Reserve with Trips and Trails chairman.

September 21, Sunday - CANOEING ON THE UPPER YOUGHIOGHENY

September 27, 28 - CAMPING AT PINE GROVE FURNACE, for the KTA meeting (see page one) bring sleeping bag, hiking and dancing shoes and Saturday lunch. Leave Sat. 7:00 A.M. Reserve with Gloria Fisher by September 18.

ANNUAL
ELECTION

September 25



Schedule for AUGUST and SEPTEMBER

NOTE:
It will now cost 25¢ a day for trips; 45¢ if you're not a passholder. Rates per meal are now 60¢. Introductory pass for overnites, still 50¢.

CANOE RATES:

\$ 1.75 a day per person (\$2.00/white water)

16.00 a Week " canoe

26.00/2 wks. " "

Reserve with Mount Fitzpatrick, Fr. 1-7798

ANNUAL
ELECTION

September 25

AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, INC.
Pittsburgh Council



6300 FIFTH AVENUE - PITTSBURGH 32, PA.
Phone: Ch. 1-0382
National H.Q. - 14 W.8th. St., N.Y.C.

Betty Bierer
326 N. Neville St.
Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

Form 3547 requested

Dorothy Couil

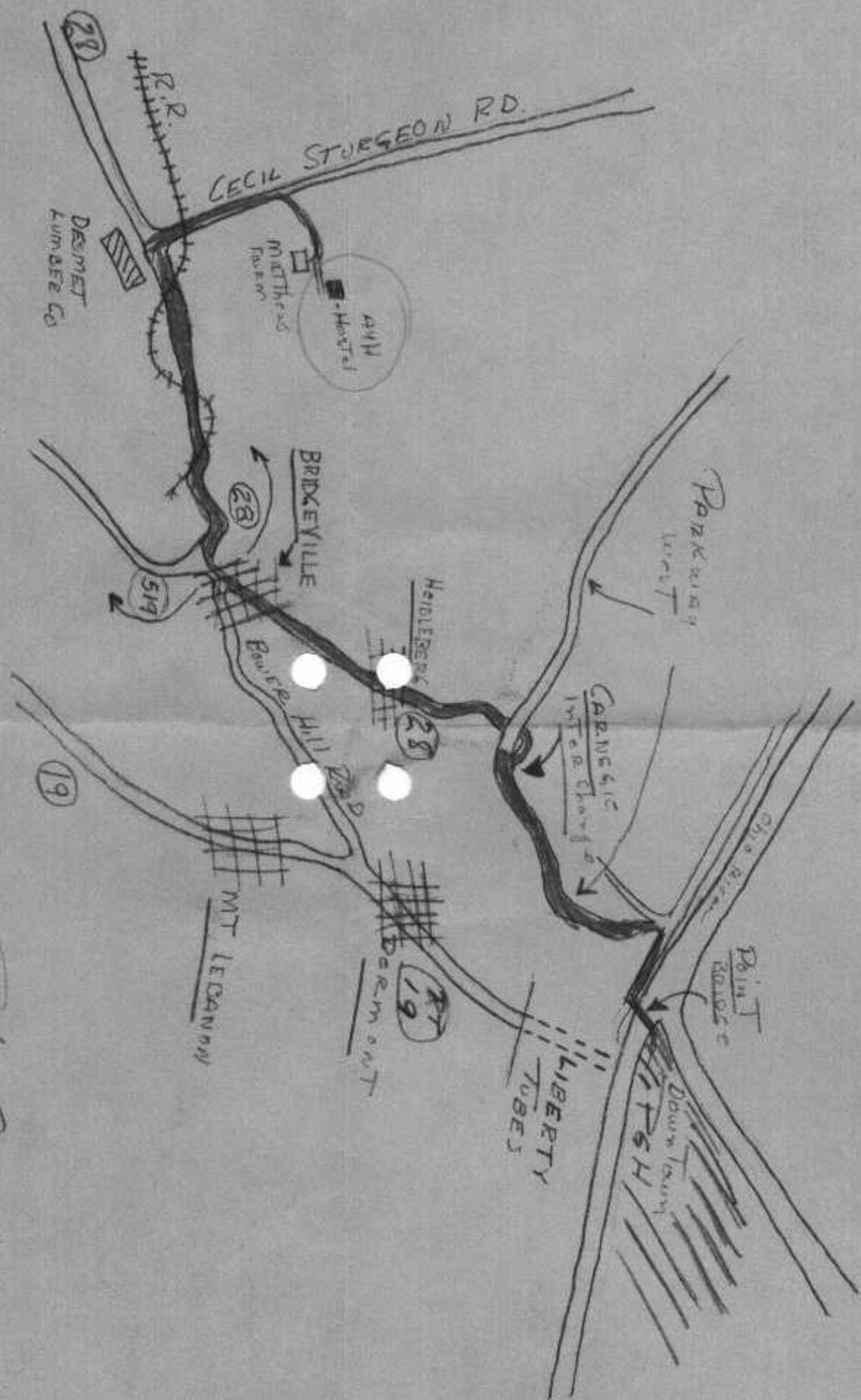
Sun Oct 4 7⁰⁰



(copy of our new letter head)



A greater understanding of the world and its people through out-of-doors, educational and recreational travel....This is the goal of the American Youth Hostels. It is non-profit, non-sectarian, non-political, organized for charitable and educational purposes. It is open to all.



NOTE:

4.3 Miles from

Intersection 28 & 519

To Desmet Lumber Co.

1 mile from Desmet Lumber Co.

To Right Turn off To

Matthews Farm

7th. Councils.
AYH Hostel.
Matthews Farm