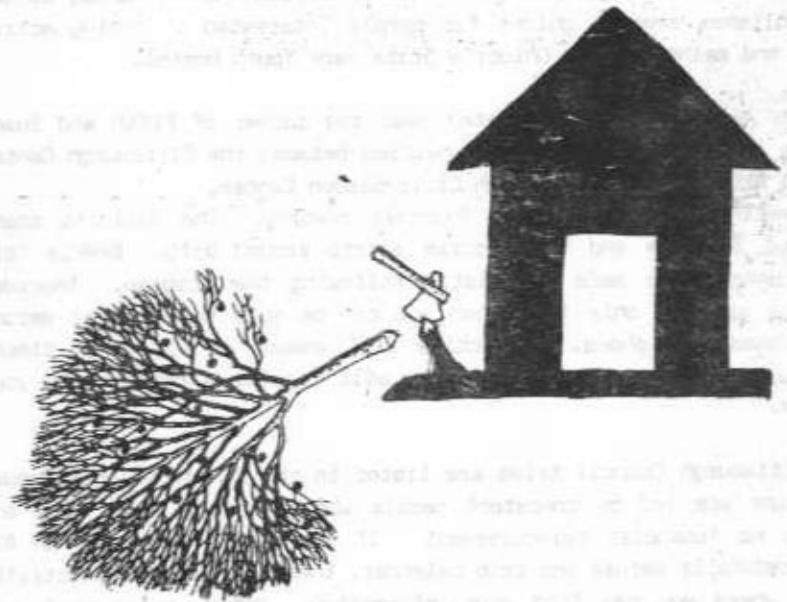


AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS

GOLDEN TRIANGLE

FEBRUARY



VOLUME 38 NUMBER 2

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL



AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS INC.
PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
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PGH, PA.15232

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PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS 6300 FIFTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA. 15232

Pittsburgh Council of American Youth Hostels is a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to hostelling, outdoor education and self-powered recreation. Our activities include hiking, backpacking, cycling, open and closed canoeing, climbing, caving, cross-country skiing and a few other forms of self-powered activities. The council has some rental equipment available for use on council trips. A full range of skill levels are offered, and we also offer courses in our activities so that you can upgrade your skills. Pittsburgh Council AYH maintains about 200 miles of trail in western Pennsylvania, writes and publishes several guides for people interested in outing activities, and maintains the Ohiopyle State Park Youth Hostel.

Our headquarters is located near the corner of Fifth and Shady Avenues in Mellon Park. We are nestled between the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts and the Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center.

Meetings are held every Thursday evening. The building opens at about 8:00 pm and the program starts around 8:15. Weekly trip announcements are made immediately following the program. Thursday evenings are the only time when you can be sure that a real person will answer the phone. A machine will answer at all other times; leave you name and address, and you will receive a response to your message.

Pittsburgh Council trips are listed in the center of this issue. AYH trips are led by competent people who volunteer their time and receive no financial reimbursement. If you'd like to go on an AYH trip, carefully peruse the trip calendar, then look under the activity notes, where you may find more information. After you've read over everything, call the trip leader to reserve space on a trip.

Talk things over with the trip leader. Find out what you need to bring. Ask where you'll be going. How late will you arrive home? What is all this going to cost you? AYH trip registration runs 75¢ per day for members, \$2.25 for non-members. You are expected to bring enough money with you to cover carpool, registration, equipment rental and any other expenses (we often stop at a restaurant on the way home)

Trips listed are open to the public, AYH members are given priority. Trip costs include transportation, rentals, and a 75¢ registration fee (50¢ per half day or evening). IN ADDITION non-members are charged \$1.50 per day, which may be deducted from the cost of membership when joined AYH. The cost of membership is \$10.00 for juniors, \$15.00 for seniors, and \$20.00 for life members.

AYH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

AYH memberships are available at Open House meetings on Thursday nights. If you cannot attend a meeting fill out the application below and send it along with \$1.00 to cover postage for each membership ordered and your check made payable to Pittsburgh Council, AYH, to:

AYH Membership
6300 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15232.

Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery of your hosteling pass. Membership also sells International Hostel Guide to Europe for \$8.00 by mail or \$7.00 at Headquarters.

Note: Memberships run from Oct. 1st to Dec. 31st of the following calendar year.

Amount and Membership Types Available (check one):

- ☐ \$10.00 Junior (17 years and under).
- ☐ \$10.00 Senior Citizen (60 years and over).
- ☐ \$20.00 Senior (18 years and over).
- ☐ \$50.00 3 year Senior (18 and over).
- ☐ \$30.00 Family (includes children under 18 yrs.)
- ☐ \$200.00 Life (Individual lifetime membership).
- ☐ \$18.00 Foreign Nationals (including Canadians).
- ☒ \$1.00 Postage (for each membership ordered).

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE () _____
BIRTHDATE Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
New/Renewal? _____

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

International Hostel Membership Card
USA Hostel Handbook
"The Knapsack", National AYH Travel Newsletter
"The Golden Triangle" Pittsburgh Council Monthly News
Open House every Thursday night at 8pm at Headquarters
Access to national programs and leadership training

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

March Issue Deadlines: February 12 all submissions
February 26 Production

The GOLDEN TRIANGLE is the monthly publication of the Pittsburgh Council of American Youth Hostels. Contents are at the discretion of the editor.

EDITOR Joy Layton 1048 Mirror St. Apt. 2, Pittsburgh PA 15217
(412)422-1995

LAYOUT Kim Metheny and Joy Layton

PRODUCTION Don Hoecker

MAILING Roy Weil

ADVERTISING Carol Burtt

HOSTEL REPORTER Cheryl Arnold

COVER Kim Metheny

WANTED:

One semi-feisty, yet amenable person to work closely with feisty editor as an assistant. Skills required: ability to learn how to use the AYH typewriter, draw a straight line with a ruler, leap tall buildings in a single bound, willingness to put up with feisty editor, and the ability not to take any hassle and to tell people what they can do with their late articles. No newsletter experience required. Some intelligence helpful. Tall, dark and handsome preferred by present editor, but she'll shut up and take any offers she gets.

Hostel Chores: A Dying Tradition?

During January I had the pleasant experience of staying at the Niagara Falls Hostel in Canada. Winter is a terrific time to go to Niagara Falls. While I was there, I had the opportunity to compare notes with some people from Australia and New Zealand about hostels. This may sound strange, but we all agreed on one thing - the importance of hostel chores. Now, I'm not talking slave labor here; it's one thing to clean the bathroom, it's another fumigate it! But chores are a basic element of the hosteling ethic - they help to keep the hostel clean and thereby keep costs low.

The other hostalers and I agreed though - hostel managers are very slipshod about chores. Some don't require any, some don't even know what they are, and some abuse the privilege. One New Zealander, a tiny woman, told of house painting in Los Angeles without the aid of a ladder. Let's get it together here managers and fellow hostalers! Managers: a chore system is very simple to implement. Hostalers: be sure to allow 20 minutes before you leave to run a sweeper, mop a floor, or explain chores to the manager!

AYH THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMS FOR FEBRUARY

- February 5: A Review of Cross-Country Skiing by Fran Klemencic
February 12: Historic Adventure Movie Tonight!
February 19: Tour the Confederate Air Force's Theatre of Action; the American Southwest. by Harry Bloomberg
February 26: Relive Years of AYH Up and Down Adventures with Barry Govenor

REMINDER: The next Pittsburgh AYH Annual Outdoor Gear Flea Market will be held on May 7th in Mellon Park.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES BOARD MEETING

The February Activities Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 8:00 pm at Dan Martt's home. All interested members are invited to attend. For directions to Dan's house, call 921-4638.

DISCOUNT TRAIL FEE FOR AYH MEMBERS

Mark Parke, the cross-country ski concessionaire at Laurel Ridge State Park and Hidden Valley, has agreed to give AYH members a \$2.00 trail fee discount. Your AYH membership card must be presented in order to receive this discount.

Laurel Ridge State Park has long been a cross-country ski mecca, but with few amenities. It can now boast of: 20 miles of groomed trails, a 3 mile trail lighted for night skiing, 50 sets of rental skis with step-in bindings, base lodge with snacks and heated bathrooms. Laurel Ridge is located on Route 653, which is off Route 381 at Normalville, PA. Get off the Turnpike at the Donegal exit.

Hidden Valley on Route 31, also the Donegal exit, has 50 km of groomed trails, 500 sets of rental skis, base lodge, snacks and restaurant.

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Butler, PA 16001

T.O.S.R.V.

No, this is not the latest vitamin recommended by midnight raiders of the refrigerator, but a two hundred mile weekend bike ride sponsored by Columbus AYH. One hundred miles down the river valley on Saturday and 100 miles back on Sunday. They even claim this can be fun on those years when it's not cold, windy and/or wet. However, fun might not be the main consideration clamoring for attention in your brain when you're climbing onto your bike Sunday morning for the 100 mile ride back. Although not held until May, a self addressed, stamped envelope should be sent immediately for a registration form if you don't want to miss out on the fun. Write to: TOSRV Communications, P.O. Box 23111, Columbus, OH 43223.

EASTER WEEKEND

The last few Easter weekends in Washington, D.C. have provided Pittsburgh AYH with sundrenched blue skies as a backdrop for the climbers scaling the cliffs along the Potomac and the bikers enjoying the many bikeways interlacing the D.C. area. There is no reason, except inertia, to keep the sea-kayakers from the Chesapeake, the canoers from the Potomac, Shenandoah, or Monocacy rivers, the mountain bikers from the Potomac tow path, or the hikers and backpackers from anywhere.

Easter isn't until April 19th this year. Let your activity chairperson know of your interest in going and helping plan for an Easter extravaganza. If you're not up to being an activity chairperson, the best way to avoid it is to make the life of your present chairperson easier: volunteer, initiate, stroke, pamper and let them find the first Easter egg even though you saw it first.

CANOE FOR SALE

The AYH has a canoe for sale to the highest bidder. It's a Chattooga two-person whitewater canoe, with very sturdy construction, and it's fully rigged for use, complete with airbag and heavy-duty grab loops and painter ropes. This boat has an ABS plastic hull, which is excellent for whitewater because it's more "slippery" than aluminum, and has a flat bottom which is good for easy maneuvering. It's several years old, in good condition, with many more years of lifetime. You can see the boat at AYH HQ during a Thursday meeting, or call Steve Shafer at 481-0507 for more information. To bid, send a sealed letter with your bid to the AYH Canoe Chairperson at AYH HQ, 6300 Fifth Ave., Pgh., PA 15232. We will accept bids until March 31 and select the winner on April 1. Minimum bid is \$250 (which would be a bargain basement price for this boat!).

REMINDER: THE ANNUAL BANQUET WILL BE MARCH 21 AT POLI'S RESTAURANT.

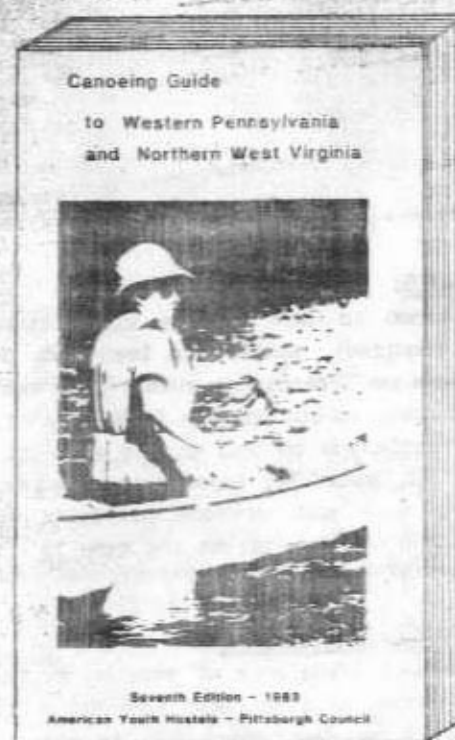
A NEW CANOEING GUIDE TO WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA & NORTHERN WEST VA.

EDITED BY MARY SHAW AND ROY WEIL, PUBLISHED BY PITTSBURGH COUNCIL, AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, 1983, 290 PAGES, 6" x 9" SOFT COVER, \$5.00/INDIVIDUAL COPY - A BARGAIN!



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NAME _____ QUANTITY AT \$5.00 EACH= _____

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NOTE: DEALERS/GROUP ORDERS OVER \$50.00 RECEIVE A 1/3 DISCOUNT AND WE PAY THE POSTAGE. PLEASE INQUIRE. *PA RESIDENTS ONLY

MAIL TO: A.Y.H. BOOKS, 7303 REYNOLDS STREET, PITTSBURGH, PA 15208.

THANK YOU.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The December Activities Board Meeting was uneventful except for a spirited discussion on the nature of slide shows at the open houses. Natural is great, but we have to keep in mind that we are essentially a family organization. At the January Activities Board Meeting, we discussed the pros and cons of operating our activities as a hostel club (a "Pittsburgh Outdoor Club") and other alternate ways of organizing the Council. I'll have more on that next month after the January Board of Directors meeting.

Thanks to everyone who made the Christmas Party a success this year, including such treats as magic and Middle Eastern dancing. I've been asked whether I mind having the party at my house. One of the reasons I don't is that I get my pick of the leftover cake and cookies. I and my son and daughter (who were here for Christmas this year) all thank you.

January and February will find the Council on three major weekend cross-country skiing trips to Blackwater Falls and Wilderness Lodge. These are a lot of fun, and I'd like to see more of them throughout the year (trips, that is; cross-country skiing in July is a challenge I think I can miss). What other trips would you like to have? We will consider almost any proposal, especially those visiting hostels. If you have an idea, let me know and we'll talk about it. If enough people go, we can rent a van or bus, and in most cases all the trip leader's expenses will be paid for.

On a more local note, the end of the holidays brings a fresh beginning to us at Pittsburgh Council as new people come to our Open House each Thursday. One thing I'd like to ask all of you to do is to help them feel at home. I'm sure you remember your first few meetings when you didn't know anybody and wondered if it was really all that great of an idea being there. If you see someone looking lost, take a few minutes to say hello and perhaps introduce them to some other people they might enjoy meeting. For those of you who are the new people, if you see someone looking "found", don't hesitate to step up and say hello. We'd like to get to know you. Larry Laude, Pittsburgh Council AYH President, (412) 665-9554.

ATTENTION ACTIVITY CHAIRPEOPLE

If you want to change any of your fees and charges for your activity, now is the time. Please let me know of any rental fee changes so that we can update the trip form. I need to know by the March Activities Board meeting. If I don't hear from you, no changes until next year. Thanks. Pat Tleman, Trips Coordinator.

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ATTENTION TRIP LEADERS!

If you are to lead a trip and it is cancelled, please fill out a trip report form anyway and write cancel on it. Give it to me or put it in my box. I need to know if trips are cancelled, as I try to account for all scheduled trips.

As activities have their planning meetings and your schedule of trips is made, please give me (and the feisty editor) your tentative plan of trips. This way we will know what trips are coming up and I can expect trip reports. Thanks for all your cooperation! Pat Tieman, Trips Coordinator.

NEW LIFE MEMBER

We welcome our most recent life member, Maryanne Frabotta. Happy to have you on our permanent roster!

1987 AYH HANDBOOKS

All members that joined prior to 12/15/86 will have their 1987 Handbooks mailed to them by our National Office. However, if by February 15th, you have not received your copy, please advise us by calling 362-8181 and leaving your name and address.



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- Meet travelers from all over the world at international nights, ethnic dinners and forums



The Washington International Hostel

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AYH trips feature a small group atmosphere, day-to-day flexibility, and overnight accommodations in the international framework of hostels.

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Drop by AYH HQ some Thursday evening or send 99¢ in stamps to Pittsburgh Council, AYH for a free copy of-

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ADVENTURE!**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15232
(412) 362-8181

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We will leave Pittsburgh on Friday evening, June 19 and return on Saturday, July 4, 1987. Should be inexpensive. Trip will be limited to eight hikers. Last year's roster filled up quickly, so sign up early. For info and reservation, call Glenn Oster at 364-



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VIDEO TV AUCTION

AYH has offered to participate with the VIDEO Auction on Tuesday April 28 from 7 pm to 12 midnight. We will be making confirmation calls and talking to many of the winners to confirm their bids. There will be interesting people, fattening snacks, and a TV appearance by all of our volunteers to show off our AYH t-shirts. Come join us! Old recruits and new recruits welcome. For more information, call Margie Abeles at 422-0584.



Winter Activities Brochure

A new brochure on winter activities in the Allegheny National Forest is available from Allegheny National Forest, Box 847, Warren, PA 16385.

The brochure lists off-road vehicle trails, snowmobile routes, cross-country ski trails, ice fishing areas, etc.

Cross-Country Ski Trails Open

Cross-country ski trails are open on the Erie National Wildlife Refuge near Guys Mills, Crawford County.

Thomas Mountain, refuge manager, said skiers have a choice of two trails, one covering 1½ miles starting at the headquarters building and the 3-mile Deer Run trail. Both trails pass through wildlife habitats ranging from hardwood forests to marshlands.

Parking for the Deer Run trail is located 1 mile south of Route 27 on Township Road 720 (Boland Road).

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ACTIVITY NOTES

BICYCLING

Bicycling Planning Meeting, February 23, 7:00 pm at Larry Laude's House. This meeting is open to all who are interested in bicycling. We will be outlining major events (and even minor events) for the coming cycling season. The topics to be discussed include: The Mon Valley Century, The Great Ride, Pymatuning weekend, beginner's trips, learn-to-rides, and any other topics you wish to discuss. This will be an important and productive meeting. We are interested in ideas on how to improve the program and provide the kinds of trips which you want. Please contact Judy (242-1573) or Chuck (458-6196) before the meeting (even if you cannot attend) so that we may solicit your input. (leave name, address and phone number if you should end up talking to either Chuck or Judy's answering machine). Refreshments will be provided, food contributions will be appreciated.

CLIMBING

Climbers are in hibernation now and are likely to be found in their favorite cave, the Evergreen Bar (on Penn Avenue near South Braddock), after the regular Thursday meeting.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

All cross-country ski trips are on a "no snow, no go" basis. Most trips leave AYH HQ at 8:30 am. Contact trip leaders for details and ski rentals. In addition to listed trips, there is Thursday evening skiing in Feltz Park from 6:30. Your XC leader may only be able to unlock the back door of HQ so walk around. Please bring wet ski in through the back door; don't drip them all over the carpets. Attention all XC leaders: there are first aid kits stored in the XC boot cabinet.

KAYAKING

A beginning kayaking course will be offered by the Community College of Allegheny County (North Side Campus - Ridge Ave.) beginning in February. Our Pat Votr will be instructing and all equipment and boats will be provided. The classes will be on Thursday evenings 8:30 to 9:30 and 9:30 to 10:30. The fee for the 12 week course is \$35.00. Register through the Continuing Education Dept. - Evening Division at Community College of Allegheny County - North Side. Call 237-2600.





PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AYH ACTIVITY CHAIRPEOPLE



BACKPACKING

Ben Brugmans
738-2751

BICYCLING

Chuck Ejzak
486-6196
Judy Menosky
242-1573

CANOEING

Bill Whitehead
363-0365
Rick Tomlinson
963-8910
Steve Shafer
481-0507

CAVING

John Popp
895-2126
Paul Herre
653-7934
Roy Provins
784-9127

CLIMBING

Dale Vilsack
343-8379
Gary Simmons
327-8338
Eric Bauer
687-0766

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Rick Ulaky
422-0849
Fred Parker
824-2638
Steve Tubbs
751-2158

HIKING

Kathy Pacacha
363-2228
Dan Martt
921-4638

KAYAKING

Lou Conley
661-8321
Ray Yutzy
341-5682

SEA-KAYAKING

Cathy Lynch
361-3707
Ted Self
795-6286

VOLLEYBALL

Jeff Marsh
466-7841

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Barbara Hanusa
441-7205

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Larry Laude
665-9554

VICE PRESIDENTS

Joe Hoechner
373-3403
Bill Johnston
687-4893

TREASURER

Fred Hull
242-5379

MEMBERSHIP

Blanche Asherman
828-8158

PROGRAM

Bob Goff
761-2837

Hosteling News

"I must go down to the seas again for the call of the running tide

Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied.

And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,

And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying."

from "Sea-Fever" by John Masfield

How the sea lures us - especially the tropical sea with a warm sun baking the beaches and gentle winds rustling through palm and orange trees. How wonderful it would be to escape the drudgery of shovelling driveways and the aggravation of the slippery ice, and for a week or so this winter to follow the beckoning "call of the running tide" and to escape to Florida's Key West Hostel!

Key West, also known as the "last resort" and the "Conch Republic", is located in the Florida Keys. It can be reached by car or Greyhound bus by travelling down U.S. 1, or by plane.

The hostel is air-conditioned with dorms housing from four to six people each with a private bath. There is no curfew (due to the active nightlife in town) but quiet hours and "lights-out" are observed after 11 pm in the dorms.

There are activities to meet every interest. Of course there's sun worshipping, swimming, fishing, and water-skiing (the water temperature is never below 68°, according to Bob Magill, hostel manager). But who would want to miss seeing the coral reef with its tropical fish and incredible formations? The coral reef also protects the ocean near the shore, keeping it calm so that conditions are perfect for windsurfing.

You can sightsee by bicycle (the hostel also runs a bike rental) or you can go by foot. Be sure to catch the Pelican Patch and the Hemingway House.

Because of the remoteness of Key West, Bob and Mary Magill have made an exception to the usual hostel limit of 3 days. They will allow you to stay a week to 10 days providing you book well in advance and include a deposit. For more information, contact Cheryl Arnold, c/o Pittsburgh AYH (home phone 422-8581) or Bob and Mary Magill, Key West Hostel/ Seashell Motel, 718 South St., P.O. Box 461, Key West, Florida 33041, (305) 296-5719.



PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS TRIPS



Go wild with us!

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL TRIPS FOR FEBRUARY 1987

DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY	LEVEL	LEADER	PHONE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
Jan. 31	Sat	XC Ski	All	Chuck and Lynn Ejzak	466-6196	8:30	
Feb. 1	Sun	XC Ski	All	Joel Platt	421-4446	8:30	
7	Sat	XC Ski	Int	Norm Snyder	351-4068	8:30	Ski until dark
7	Sat	XC Ski	All	Chuck Ejzak	466-6196		55 k Chautauqua Ski Marathon sold out - sign up in October
8	Sun	XC Ski	All				To be announced at Thursday night meeting. Volunteer needed to lead
13-15	FSS	XC Ski	All	Bill Johnston	687-4893		Wilderness Lodge Weekend. Sold Out. Drivers, check with Bill for directions.
14-16	SSM	Backpack	Int	Glenn Oster	364-2864h 234-3967w	7:30am	Take advantage of President's day for a 3-day weekend of hiking on the Baker Trail from Summerville through the beautiful Mill Creek area to Cook Forest (or hike part way if you can't go for three days). Call for info and reservations.
14	Sat	XC Ski		Steve Tubbs	751-2158	8:30	
15	Sun	SC Ski		Jack Batchelar	784-8276	8:30	
15	Sun	Hike	Easy	Dan Martt	921-4638		Winter hike with Dan - love the snow!
20	Fri	Ice Skate	All	Linda Grant Cathy Lynch	242-5026 361-3707	6:30	Ice skating and dinner. Join us for a covered-dish dinner at 6:30 followed by skating the late session (10:00 to 12:30) at Schenley Park. Reservations are necessary as space is limited. Cost: about \$2.00 for rink admission plus covered dish. Reserve before February 17.
21	Sat	XC Ski	All	Joe Hoechner	373-3403	9:15	
28	Sat	XC Ski	All	Jeff Marsh	466-7841	8:30	
28	Sat	Hike	Int	Glenn Oster	364-2864h 234-3967w	8:00	Hike from the iceskating rink in North Park to Hartwood Acres on the Rachel Carson Trail. Meet at either North Park or Hartwood Acres. Call for info and reservations.
Mar 1	Sun	XC Ski	All	Judy Flowers	826-0519	8:30	

BE SURE TO READ THE ACTIVITY NOTES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE!