



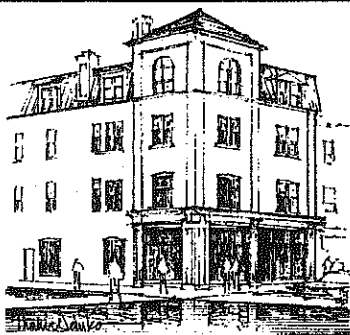
# GOLDEN TRIANGLE

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 48, NUMBER 7

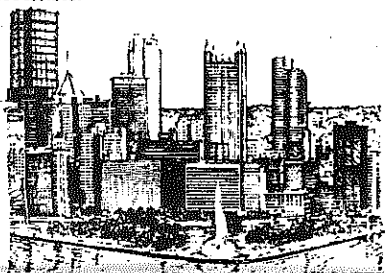
SEPTEMBER 1998



## Hostelling - International Pittsburgh PA

### NOW OPEN

A 60 bed full service hostel in a converted bank building. Free parking, travel store, handicapped accessible!



#### Be Sure To Visit:

- Andy Warhol Museum
- Station Square
- Nearby Southside
- The Downtown Cultural District
- Riverfront Bike Trails
- Nearby Universities
- The Carnegie Science Center
- The Zoo & National Aviary
- Phipps Conservatory
- Historic Point State Park
- Three Rivers Stadium

Hi-Pgh on the information super highway, point your browser to;  
<http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/> for the latest on activities, slide shows & local hostelling or you can email us at [ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)



## INSIDE

Activity Chairs; Page 2  
Slide Shows; Page 2  
Sailing/Bicycling; Page 3  
Hiking/Backpacking; Page 4  
Summer Idyll, a poem; Page 5  
Sea-Kayaking/ Rambles; Page 5  
Story by G Oster; Page 6  
Climbing/ Canoeing; Page 7  
Classified; Page 7  
Council Travel and Book Store;  
Back Cover

.....And MORE!!!

## Greetings to all and Happy End of Summer.

The Council has had a busy year. The Pittsburgh Hostel has had a good summer season which we hope will extend into Fall. It is still amazing to see all those people from so many places staying at the hostel. The Second Sunday Sundae events have been a modest success this summer. Holly describes them as "growing a new crop of hostellers". The hostel staff coordinated the volunteer effort on Mt. Washington for the City's Great Ride. The riders appreciated the support of the hostellers, staff and volunteers at the rest stop and on the course. As before, the Great Ride was a fundraiser for the Pittsburgh Hostel.

We have successfully re-negotiated the lease with the state for the Ohiopyle Hostel. This is very exciting news since we've had record numbers of overnights in June, July and August of this year. Marjorie has been a terrific manager but is really busy. Several volunteers have filled in over the summer to give Marjorie some well deserved time off. If you can help with this we'd all appreciate it. Please call me or Marjorie if you can spend a night or two taking care of the Ohiopyle Hostel. It looks like we will be busy in September and October too. The building has had some work done on it and more is coming. We will be spiffing up the place over the winter and the Park will make the building handicapped accessible in the near future.

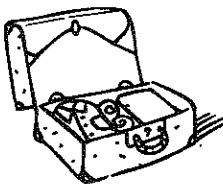
## Official Call for Nominations

If you are interested in seeing Pittsburgh AYH grow and succeed please consider volunteering to be an officer or board member. We especially need people with experience in accounting and law but we are happy to have people of any experience that have an interest in the future of the council. We are also seeking a new secretary for the council as well as anyone willing to coordinate the activities. Please call me or any member of the board if you are interested.

Marianne Kasica; President

## AYH Sheet Sleeping Sack....

**DON'T  
LEAVE  
HOME  
WITH-  
OUT 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.



**The Golden Triangle  
Email Account  
Has Changed  
Please Use  
[WRE66@CSI.COM](mailto:WRE66@CSI.COM)  
Thank-you...**

### HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL-AYH  
830 E. WARRINGTON AVE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15210

Dated material -please deliver promptly  
Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #127  
PITTSBURGH, PA

PASS# LIFE- 1910

LIFE 19

JOEL PLATT  
1632 DENNISTON AVE  
PITTSBURGH

PA 15217-1458

## HOSTELLING



Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.

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

The Golden Triangle is published monthly by the Pittsburgh Council of Hostelling International, American Youth Hostels. Contents are at the discretion of the editor. All Material within is Copyrighted by Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc. All Rights Reserved

## Triangle Staff

Managing Editor ... Wm. Eberle  
(412-310-7224)

Copy Editor ... VACANT  
Mailing Labels ... Roy Weil  
Production ... Don Hoecker  
Advertising ... Joe Hoechner

## Council Officers

President ... Marianne Kasica  
(412-665-9554)

Vice President ... Maribeth Hook  
Secretary ... Larry Laude  
Treasurer ... Roy Weil

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lou Conley (98)  
Wm. Eberle (99)  
Joe Hoechner (00)  
Maribeth Hook (98)  
Marianne Kasica (98)  
Larry Laude (98)  
Joel Platt (99)  
Marc Reisman (00)  
George Schmidt (00)  
Kevin Swenson (00)  
Roy Weil (99)  
Ray Yutzy (99)

Office Staff  
Donna Byerly  
(431-4910)

## Oops...

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

Mail regarding this Newsletter should be addressed to:

American Youth Hostels  
The Golden Triangle  
830 Warrington Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15210

Office: (412) 431-4910  
or

HI-Pgh on the information super highway,  
point your browser to:  
<http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/>  
or you can email us at  
[ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL  
ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Chairman of the  
Activities Committee  
Ray Yutzy ..... 341-5682  
Canoeing  
Paul Henry ..... 724-347-3282  
Brian McBane ..... 724-443-9872  
Cross Country Skiing  
Veronique Schreurs ..... 422-0358  
Cycling  
Wm Eberle ..... 310-7224  
Chuck Ejzak ..... ###-####  
Family Activities  
Barbara Hanusa ..... 441-7205  
Hiking / Backpacking  
Veronique Schreurs ..... 422-0358  
Kayaking  
Ray Yutzy ..... 341-5682  
Midweek Rambles  
Marilyn Ham ..... 687-4520  
Rafting  
John Orndorff ..... 741-2021  
Rock Climbing  
Woj ..... 322-4524  
Vernon Miller ..... 935-3434  
Sailing  
Bob Zavos ..... 241-0659  
Sea Kayaking  
Fran Fleming ..... 412-363-1221  
Vickie Gotaskie ..... 412-344-4929  
Trail Systems  
Jim Ritchie ..... 828-0210  
Headquarters Programs  
Luc Berger ..... 683-3131  
Storekeeper  
Steve Poprocky ..... 721-2429



Pittsburgh Hostel Manager  
Holly Ridenour  
(412-431-1267)

OhioPyle Hostel Manager  
Marjorie Paqualle  
(412-329-4476)

## NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for  
future issues of the  
GOLDEN TRIANGLE

OCTOBER  
All copy, Sept 3  
Binding/Mailing, Sept 24

NOVEMBER  
All copy, Oct 8  
Binding/Mailing, Oct 29

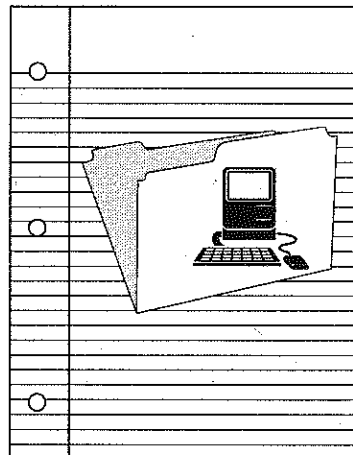
If your work is on computer,  
Please contact Bill Eberle  
on the "NET" at,  
[wre66@CSI.COM](mailto:wre66@CSI.COM)

## 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) 431-1267.

## 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. NO EXCEPTIONS. Call if you have questions.
- Submitted 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"

**Please note**, the Golden Triangle frequency of publication.

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:  
and Number 10 issue -> Dec. / January

Editor...

## Upcoming Slide Shows

- September 3:** We show the 16 mm film "Chesapeake Borne". The bay is a wildlife sanctuary, vacation playground, home to hard-working people.
- September 10:** Jim Hurst, "Sailing In The Windward Islands Of The Caribbeans". They rent a schooner, see Santa Lucia, Grenada, etc..
- September 17:** Ron Boone, "Rocky Mountain National Park And Glenwood Canyon Of Colorado". Hiking and biking. Walk the trail to Hanging Lake.
- September 24:** We show the video "Caracol: The Lost Maya City". Scientists uncover towering pyramids, mysterious hieroglyphs, and beautiful artifacts.
- October 1:** Annual Astro-Festival. See craters and mountains on the Moon. Moons and belts of Jupiter, rings of Saturn. Bring telescopes and bins. If cloudy, we show slides of planets and galaxies.
- October 8:** Cake and ice cream party.

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 412-683-3131.

## Pittsburgh Council Hostels

Ohiopyle AYH Hostel  
Ohiopyle State Park  
PO Box 99  
Ohiopyle, PA 15470  
(724) 329-4476

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

HI-Pittsburgh Hostel  
830 E. Warrington Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15210  
(412) 431-1267



## SAILING

The AYH owns Flying Juniors, Sunfish, and an International 470. Several members also use their own sailboats. Most day sails and classes will be on Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park near Butler, Pa. Additional weekend trips and extended trips are also planned.

All trips require previous sailing experience unless otherwise stated. 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. Individuals with their own sailboats are encouraged to join our program.

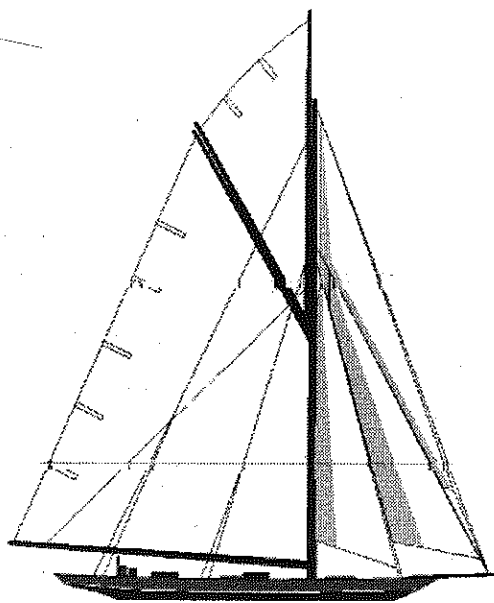
Individuals who wish to receive additional updated sailing program information via EMAIL should send a request to RZavos@worldnet.att.net

**Fees:** Day sail fee at Lake Arthur is \$14 plus the AYH activity fee of \$1 for members and \$3 non-members.

**September 5 Sat. Lake Arthur Bob Zavos 412-241-0659**  
**Day Sail/Racing.** Day Sailing is available in Flying Juniors or Sunfish for those who have completed our Basic Sailing Class and are completely self sufficient in rigging, sailing, and de-rigging. We can also take one or two people in a Flying Scot for the Moraine Sailing Club races. The first race starts around 9:30AM. Reserve by September 1st.

**September 19 Sat. Lake Arthur**  
**Bob Zavos 412-241-0659**  
**Day Sail/Racing.** Day Sailing is available in Flying Juniors or Sunfish for those who have completed our Basic Sailing Class and are completely self sufficient in rigging, sailing, and de-rigging. We will also join the Moraine Sailing Club for the End o' Summer Regatta. There will be three races and other activities. Reserve by September 15th.

**October 10&11 Annapolis, Maryland**  
**Bob Zavos 412-241-0659**  
**US SAILBOAT SHOW.** We leave very early Saturday morning and will stay at a campground in the Northern Chesapeake area. Optional day sailing may be available in a rented sailboat near Harve de Grace. Early Sunday we drive to Annapolis for the world's largest in-water sailboat show. Details are available on the web at: <http://usboat.com/shows/sbhomes.htm>. We return to Pittsburgh late Sunday. Exact itinerary is still flexible so call early. Basic fee is \$35/AYH members, \$40/non-members and includes show admission, overnight at a campground and breakfast. Outside meals and sailing fees are extra. Car pool fee will be \$20 per person. Reservations are required by September 24th.



## ADOPT THE BAKER TRAIL

The Rachel Carson Trail is fully-covered by volunteers who have adopted sections of the trail for trail maintenance. The Baker Trail is about two-thirds covered, so we need about a half-dozen people who are willing to donate one weekend a year to put fresh paint on the blazes, trim away a little vegetation, and pick up the trash left along the trail. Qualifications are: you must be outdoors-minded; responsible; shows initiative, and don't need a lot of supervision; not afraid to get your hands dirty and want to make a contribution to the world of hiking. We have a couple sections close to Pittsburgh, requiring less than a 1 hour drive from Pittsburgh, probably up PA Route 28 through Kittanning. It's possible to do all your work in one day each year. If you are interested, call me, Jim Ritchie, 828-0210, and I will send you a map; you can check out the trail on your own; if you are still interested, call me again, and I will arrange to meet you on the trail to give you some supplies and provide about one hour of on-the-job training. Take a look at these:

1. **Bethel Township Maintenance Building to Crooked Creek Visitor's Center.** Park at the Maintenance Building and descend Cook's Summit to Route 66, go past the Llama Farm and then along Crooked Creek all the way to the Visitor's Center. Mostly wooded, off road.
2. **Cochran's Mill to Idaho.** About 2 miles of wooded trail running parallel to Cherry Run, a trout-quality stream, followed by a stretch of easily-maintained, rural, dirt roads. I think there's a paw-paw tree along the way.
3. **Route 422 to Atwood.** This is all dirt-road trail. But it is very interesting to hike, or even to ride on a mountain bike. Life can be more than a series of backcountry trails—there is also the frontcountry. There are many Amish in this area and this section includes the Atwood Shelter.

Call Jim Ritchie, 828-0210.

## TOUR DE HARVEST WILDERNESS LODGE OCTOBER 9 - 11

Once more Don Hutchinson has agreed to lead us on an "easy to intermediate" ride on through vineyards, orchards and off roads in the scenic environs of North East, PA. Mountain or hybrid bike and a helmet are a must. A stop at a local winery (free samples!) and lunch on the shores of Lake Erie will also be featured. We will enjoy two overnights in the cozy comfort of Nansi Janes' Wilderness Lodge and dinner at one of the superb local eateries. There are many possibilities for an additional Sunday ride (on your own): Peek 'n' Peak, French Creek, and Findlay Lake. A road bike may be used on the trail at Presque Isle. **COST:** \$45 per person for AYH members, \$55 for non-members for bed in hostel-style room (3-6 persons). There are three private double rooms, two persons per room @ \$120 for members, \$140 for non-members. The cost includes Friday and Saturday night lodging. A varied breakfast menu is offered at extra cost. We usually enjoy a Singalong on Saturday night after dinner. Reserve early by calling the AYH office at 412-431-4910. 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 15 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, 335-5067.

### Wilderness Lodge Bicycle Touring Weekend October 10-11-12

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AYH Pass #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Add: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_ I am driving and 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 and 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, American Youth Hostels Inc, Wilderness Lodge, their activity leaders, and their respective agents, boards, commissions, and any other involved employees, representatives, and volunteers 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 participation in 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 services and is not a waiver of any of the said parties of any right hereunder.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hostelling North America 1998 Additions / Deletions as of 8/15/98

### Additions

HI-Madison Summer Hostel  
 126 Langdon St.  
 Madison, WI 53703  
 OPEN May 21-Aug. 18  
 608-285-8536

**NOTE!**  
 Off Season call the  
 Wisconsin Council  
 414-961-2525

HI-Middlebury, Covered  
 Bridge Home Hostel  
 62 Seymour St.  
 Middlebury, VT 05753  
 802-388-0401

HI-Northwest Portland  
 1818 NW Glisan Ave.  
 Portland OR 97209  
 503-241-2783

### Deletions

HI-Monroe & Isabel Smith  
 Hostel  
 Northfield, MA

HI-Peterborough Manor  
 Peterborough, NH

HI-Sleepers River Home  
 Hostel  
 St. Johnsbury, VT

HI-Greenmont Farms  
 Underhill Center, VT

HI-International House of  
 Chicago  
 Chicago, IL

HI-Sonora  
 Sonora, CA

## BICYCLING

**Sun, October 4 A/B/C/D Will Eberle**  
**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 (after Aug 1) for an application or get one at AYH. Discount for registrations received by Sept 15.

**Oct 11-12 A/B/C Pat Rossi**  
**Wilderness Lodge** Off road and On road riding near the New York / PA border. Stay overnight at the lodge. Contact Pat for more details.



**HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS****September 12****Saturday****Jim Ritchie 828-0210**  
**Trail Maintenance, Corsica to Mill Creek.**

I have never hiked this section of the Baker Trail (these are the only 4 miles I have not hiked). Here the trail first goes along a hard road for a two miles and then it follows a gas line right-of-way for 4 miles to a close encounter with Mill Creek. We may search for the site of the former Corsica Shelter. I need 5 good helpers. We may stop for ice cream in Shannondale on the way home.

**September 25-27 Friday-Sunday****Mildred Forrester 717-322-0293****Jim Ritchie 412-828-0210****KTA Annual Meeting and Fall Hiking Weekend, Crystal Lake, PA (Hughsville).**

Join the Keystone Trails Association at Crystal Lake, a few miles east of Williamsport, for their Annual Meeting and Fall Hiking Weekend. Slide show Friday night (byos), hiking on Saturday and Sunday or hang out at the meetin' hall. Usually a menu of 6-8 hikes on Saturday and 2-4 on Sunday to choose from. Lodging and meals available or stay in the campground and do it yourself. Call Jim for more info or call Mildred for a registration form-do it soon, time is limited. You can also request a registration form at [keyhike@earth.sunlink.net](mailto:keyhike@earth.sunlink.net).

**October 17****Saturday****Jim Ritchie 828-0210****Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail, Heathville and Cherry Run.**

First we drive to Heathville to finish up some work we began in the Spring, only an hour's work at this location. Then we will go to Cherry Run, near Cochran's Mill, and do some blazing, clearing, and trash pick up. We may split up in the morning, meet for lunch, and then finish up in the afternoon. On the way home, ice cream at the Dari Delite near Ford City.

**VOLUNTEERS**

Pittsburgh Council has just started publishing a volunteer newsletter to keep all of our volunteers up to date on all the things we need help with from time to time. To get on the mailing list, call the AYH office at 412-431-4910 or e-mail us at [ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org). Here's a list of some of the upcoming events:

August 30	Mon Valley Century	Registration, lunch and rest stops
October 4	SABRE	Registration, lunch, rest stops, marshals, course marking
Ongoing	Ohiopyle	Work parties, fill-in hostel managers
Ongoing	Pittsburgh Hostel	Work parties, administrative, hosteller relations

**1998 HI/AYH MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

HI/AYH members with valid membership cards are eligible for following discounts. Full details can be found in the FREE and just-published 1998 HI/AYH North American Hostel Handbook.

**ALAMO CAR RENTAL:** Various discounts. Request plan BY 1998 American Youth Hostels.

**ANDY WARHOL MUSEUM:** Buy one admission, get a second (of equal or lesser value) free.

**MATTRESS FACTORY ART MUSEUM:** \$1.00 off admission and 10% off merchandise in museum shop.

**PITTSBURGH ZOO:** \$1.00 off admission.

**CITY BOOKS (Southside):** 15% off all used books; 10% off most new books (some exceptions); 10% off all espresso bar items.

**ALLEGHENY VALLEYS BICYCLE TOURS:** 20% off the regularly advertised price of any bicycle tour granted to current HI members.

**DANNY K'S DINER (3 blocks from hostel):** 10% off final bill to all HI members.

**PGH INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL:** \$17.00/night for dormitory accommodation.

The deadline for the 1999 HI/AYH North American Hostel Handbook is rapidly approaching. Local area businesses receive free international promotion in this handbook simply by offering a discount to Hostelling International members. If you know of a business that would be interested in offering a discount or should be approached to offer one, please call Holly Ridenour at the Pittsburgh International Hostel.

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AT THE PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL TODAY!**

The Pittsburgh Hostel has 50 beds available. If you or someone you know would like to stay, we'd be happy to make a reservation for you.

Individual HI/AYH members pay \$17.00/person/night for dormitory beds. Non-members may stay for an additional \$3.00/night.

Individuals can make a reservation for dormitory bed(s) by providing the following information:

**Pittsburgh International Hostel Reservation Request Form**

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

Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Morning of Departure \_\_\_\_\_ # Nights \_\_\_\_\_

# Female Beds \_\_\_\_\_ # Male Beds \_\_\_\_\_

Include a check -OR-

VISA/MC/Discover # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

We have a 24-hour cancellation policy. You must cancel no later than 10 p.m. the night before your intended arrival date or your credit card will be billed for the first night's deposit. Government-issued photo ID required to check-in. Don't forget to bring your membership card!

Call the hostel directly for Family Rooms requests (limited availability). A surcharge and key deposit apply to these rooms.

Special Group Rate for 10 or more people. Please request a Group Inquiry Packet.

Need more information? We can send a copy of "Everything You Need to Know About Visiting Us" to you by email, fax or "snail" mail. Please call the hostel at 431-1267. You can send the reservation form above or request a copy of "Everything You Need to Know..." by fax or email. Our fax number is 431-2625. Email to [ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)

It doesn't get any bigger than 1998 for the Pittsburgh International Hostel. Lots and lots of Hostel Happenings. We plan on putting Pittsburgh and the Allentown area on the map with visitors from all over the world in the first full year of business. We look forward to seeing you here, especially if you can help us out in this exciting endeavor.

Holly Ridenour,  
Hostel Manager, Pittsburgh International Hostel

**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 Tax - Deductible donation of support for the Hostel in Pittsburgh in the amount of:

— \$2500

— \$1000

— \$500

— \$250

— \$100

— \$50

— Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Donations of goods, furnishings or services are also needed! Please drop us a note describing what you have available.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your Donation to:

AYH

Pittsburgh Hostel Fund

830 E Warrington AVE; Pittsburgh, PA 15210

412-431-4910

# 1998 EVENTS PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL

Meet other HI/AYH members, hostel guests, and the public, see the hostel, and learn more about hostelling at the following events, either as a volunteer or participant in the activities.

During our normal hostel hours of 8 - 10 a.m. and 5 - 10 p.m. (we are closed during the day) the hostel is in the business of providing accommodation to its guests. For that reason only the lobby is accessible to non-guests during open hours and tours are not available without prior arrangement.

Tours of the hostel will be available at all events listed below.

## VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED THIS SUMMER

Volunteers are needed for all the following events. Please call the Pittsburgh International Hostel at (412) 431-1267 to let us know how you can help make the 50th year of the Pittsburgh Council a great one!

## MON VALLEY CENTURY BENEFITS HOSTEL SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

To register for the ride: call our Hostel Office at (412) 431-4910-2493 or stop by the hostel for an entry form. Volunteers are especially needed to make this event a success. Call the hostel to volunteer.

## WORK PARTIES:

SATURDAYS - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

SEPT. 26, More Dates to be announced

Clean Team will help maintain the hostel and help the hostel staff with the extras we never seem to have the time for. Bring a broom and gloves if you have them. Refreshments will be served. Work Party originally scheduled for July 25 will not take place due to Allentown Community Day.

## SECOND SUNDAE SIDEWALK SOCIALS FROM 3-5 P.M.

What would summer be without ice cream? Hostel tours are free. Come and learn more about Hostelling International and the Pittsburgh International Hostel. Second "Sundae" Sidewalk Socials will continue on the second "Sundae" of each summer month through September. Next event: July 12 (Also August 9, and September 13)

Watch this space in 1998 or call the hostel at 431-1267 for more details on Hostel Events.

## SEA-KAYAKING

Sept. 4-8	Vickie Gotaskie	344-4929
Georgian Bay, Bruce Peninsula; Ontario		
Sept. 12-13	TBA	
Sept. 18-20	Fran Fleming	363-1221
	Russ Tague	331-2073
Pymatuning Lake & Conneaut Marsh; Car Camping		
Sept 24-Oct 5	Gary McCormick	885-0712
Lake Powell, Utah, Sea kayaking, canoeing, hiking, backpacking		
Sept. 26-27	Russ Tague	331-2073
Raystown Lake; Car Camping		
Oct. 3-4	Vickie Gotaskie	344-4929
Allegheny River, Franklin to Emlenton; Kayak Camping		
Oct 9-11	Fran Fleming	363-1221
	Barb Peterson	371-2506
Eddie's Kinzua Fall Foliage Trip. Allegheny Reservoir; Kayak camping Experienced beginners. CALL for info or fxfx@ibm.net		
Jan. 2 1999	Russ Tague	331-2073
Russ's New Years Paddle; Allegheny River or Non frozen alternate		

NOTE: Canoes are welcome on most sea kayak trips. Check with trip leader.

## Summer Idyll

by J. Porter Hall

*Inspired by a recent trip on the northern part of the Baker Trail.*

The days rushed by as we stepped through  
Forests green and grasses golden in  
The sunlight. By a stream a turtle  
Poised at the edge of its' shell; songs  
Chorused from the shadows and canopy.  
Around the night-fire words fluttered like  
Moths in the flame. A spark flew upward  
And blossomed into a full midnight moon,  
A rare flower. Looking out across a  
Thousand stars a reflection of dreams  
Was seen and a view of galaxies beyond.

## MID-WEEK RAMBLES

"Rambles" are casual Wednesday outings sponsored by the Pittsburgh Council of Hostelling International - American Youth Hostels. Most take place in and around the city of Pittsburgh.

The group meets at 10 a.m. (9:30 a.m. during the summer) in the upper parking lot of Mellon Park in Shadyside, off Shady Avenue near the intersection with Fifth Avenue. Remember to bring quarters for the parking meters.

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. For trips over 10 miles, please pay the driver \$2 per passenger.

Call the leaders listed below for information about a trip or to inform the leader that you plan to walk with the group (especially when reservations are requested or you plan to meet us at the trail head), but please call before 10 o'clock at night.

Sept 2	Rachel Carson Homestead and trail spur, Springdale		
	Bag Lunch	Luc Berger	683-3131
Sept 9	Hartwood Acres		
	Bag Lunch	Monica Vucic	380-8008
Sept 16	Beechwood Farm		
	Bag Lunch	Alex Federowicz & Margaret Laske	421-0922
Sept 23	North Point Breeze and Food Co-op		
		Marilyn Ham	687-4520
Sept 30	Youghiogheny River Trail beginning at Boston, PA		
		Dick Fischer	421-9215

## 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.





## Want a Bicycling Challenge? Try West Virginia's North Bend Rail Trail

by Glenn Oster

*You'll enjoy a remote, tree lined West Virginia mountain valley trail, but you'll pay a price when you bicycle the North Bend Rail Trail. The rail line was built in the mid-1850s and was operated by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad until very recently when a flood became the kiss of death. Shortly afterward the line was purchased from CSX, and work to convert it to a rail-trail began very soon thereafter. It opened in 1992 and has been improving ever since. Its latest claim to fame is that it has been designated a National Recreation Trail by the National Park Service and is a segment of the new American Discovery Trail that traverses the USA from coast to coast*

I rode this trail westward and back August 5 to 8, 1998 and carried all my food, clothing, tools and camping gear. It would be possible to find motels and restaurants along the route, but you might become very tired and hungry in the process. Facilities do not seem as close together on the trail as they would when bicycling paved highways. You have to be comfortable with "going" in the woods; there are no porta potties along the way. Admittedly, you pass through little towns about every five miles or so, but they might have only six buildings, all of them residences (usually with no one home at the time) and no easily obtainable restrooms. Water is available in the towns from businesses or from residences along the way. Of course, it would be possible to use a water purifier such as we use in backpack hiking, because the trail parallels many streams as it works its way through the mountains.

The trail extends from Wolf Summit, just west of Clarksburg and roughly follows US Route 50 for 71 miles to a point near I-77, close to Parkersburg. The final 11 miles of the western sector have just been opened and are not currently recommended unless one is a mountain bike addict or a masochist. They will continue to improve on it as money is available. Information about the trail, including a map and guide, can be obtained by phoning North Bend State Park at 1- (800) CALL WVA.

The trail is essentially flat, but leading up to its eight tunnels you experience modest elevation gradients that may extend over two or more miles at a time. Considering my heavily loaded bicycle, the climbs were foolers. They didn't look like climbs, but I was becoming tired for no apparent reason until I reached the other side of the tunnel and started to realize a descent. There are countless bridges, and all in good repair. As to the trail surface, the guide divides it into three categories, model, smooth and coarse. The trail guide, called "The Track Record Commercial Atlas" describes the trail surface from point to point. The total mileage of each category works out to be 19.3, model (smooth packed surface), 7.6, smooth (not as smooth as model and not as rough as coarse) and 43.2 coarse (gravel surface that is rideable, but slow going and hard on one's wrists and derriere (herein lies the price that I mentioned in the topic sentence.) The 19.3 miles of model trail includes two miles of a crushed surface material that was placed at the eastern end of the trail during the time between when I started my ride and my return four days later. I sometimes found that there were portions of the model sectors that weren't quite model and portions of the coarse sectors that weren't all that rough to ride.

The tunnels are intriguing. Some are as long as 3/10 and 4/10 miles. As I grew more tired and hot, I looked forward to the tunnels, which were refreshingly cool and too dark to ride in; so, I'd get off the bike and rest my back side and my wrists while pushing the bike through the darkness. You could usually see the distant end of the tunnel and sense your left or right position in the tunnel, but I recommend a strong headlamp or bicycle lamp to help in avoiding puddles. I stumbled into one over my shoetop. Most of the tunnels are damp, some of whose surfaces are a bit muddy, but usually they are covered with walnut sized limestone that is great for drainage, but difficult to push a loaded bike across.

At the beginning of my trip, I parked my van and began my ride at Wolf Summit mid-day. I rode through the village of Bristol and the city of Salem to the thriving metropolis of Smithburg that was composed of six residences, a service station, a general store/postoffice and a Methodist Church. It had a small park with a restored train station, two picnic tables and five pads for primitive camping. There was a stream behind the camping area with holes possibly deep enough to swim in, but the weather was extremely hot, and the stream was virtually stagnant from a long period with no rain. So, using it to cool off or to rinse off the perspiration wasn't appealing. I got water from Harry, the proprietor of the Exxon station, who, incidentally, is a good source of information about the trail. He likes to talk with trail users and gave me some valuable details. The general store was never open at the times I wanted to use it, but it is there if you get to it before 6:00 p.m. There are no sanitary facilities at this camping location, but about a half mile east on the highway and onto a spur to US Route 50, there is a convenience store

with restrooms as well as a telephone and a source of groceries, sandwiches, beer and liquor.

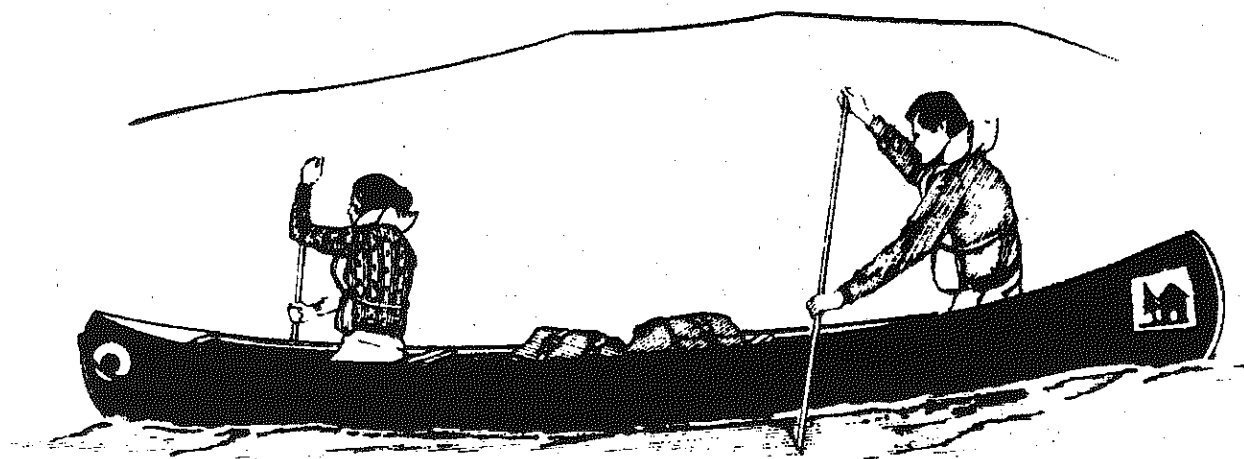
Next day, I loaded up my mechanical steed, a mountain bike with two inch wide tires and started west. By the way, don't try this trail without wide tires - the coarse sections would be too difficult with less than a one and three quarter inch tread. As it was, I took three tumbles when gravel jostled my bike this way and that, exaggerated, of course, by the weight of my camping gear. I traveled on from town to town without meeting anyone on the trail until mid-afternoon as I approached the town of Cairo. The owner of the local hardware store had taken time off to go for a ride on a model section of the trail. North Bend State Park, with camping and showers, is south of the trail between Ellenboro (where there is an air conditioned Dairy Queen) and Cairo (which has a bike shop, the hardware store owned by the sole rider that I had met, and a few other buildings connected by gravel streets.) The bike shop offers a rest room and drinking water, as well as biking supplies and repairs. It's a good source of info about the trail, as well. I continued to the village of Petroleum, where the trail guide tells of primitive camping. It exists, but without potable water (got water from another of the town's six residences) and without sanitary facilities. You set up your tent in the yard alongside two dilapidated structures that twenty years from now may become the Goose Creek Lodge. There is a very impressive sign ten feet or so high offering lodging and dining as well as primitive camping. However, Terry, its owner, despite good intentions, is a long way from having the lodge completed. He's a nice, friendly young man who works like a demon on the place, but it will take him a lifetime to complete, given his time and financial resources. It is great that he has this dream to keep him motivated. He did not charge to camp there, but I left a contribution to the cause when I broke camp in the morning. I had to help him a little to accomplish his dream.

As I approached Petroleum the evening before, there were signs informing trail users that the next section of the trail was closed because of severe flood damage. However, Terry had said that he rides the trail often and had no trouble with it. Armed with this assurance, I continued along the trail for another 4.4 miles, and there it was - a thirty foot deep gorge directly across the trail - completely washed out. The walls of the washout were perpendicular, offering me no hope of carrying my bicycle across. I reluctantly turned back - defeated by nature. As originally planned, I had only intended to ride as far as the town of Walker, an additional three miles beyond the washout. Admittedly, I didn't lose much, but I hate not to finish something I set out to do. No choice, except to backtrack for several miles and follow dirt roads for which I had no maps. On my way back, I left Terry a note telling him of the washout, which apparently is beyond the portion of the trail he rides. I decided to try to reach Smithburg this day and pushed hard. Had a sports drink at the bike shop in Cairo and a large soft serve at the Dairy Queen in Ellenboro. I was planning to stay at a motel in Greenwood if I became too tired and hot. However, I was still doing reasonably well at that point and pressed on to the town of West Union and a great hot and cold buffet at the Cottage Corner Restaurant. After that, I only had about three miles of model trail to take me to Smithburg and my campsite. It was great to eat in an air conditioned restaurant instead of cooking a campsite meal in the 93 F heat.

I got an eight o'clock start on the final morning of the ride and enjoyed a model section of the trail. It involved a long, gradual climb toward the eastern terminus, but the good riding surface helped a great deal. It was hot - all the days had been in the 90s F, but I felt good about the trail and was glad that I had done it.

If you are equipped with a wide tired bicycle and don't try to make time, the trail is a nice experience. I've been recovering from a total knee replacement earlier this year and don't have the steam that I once had. However, as I have related, I found the trail doable, nevertheless, and recommend it to you more hearty souls. I mentioned not making good time, especially considering the coarse sections and the many tunnels that must be walked. My daily mph averages were 7.3, except for one day when I managed a screaming 7.7 mph. Keep this trail in mind, but do it in cooler weather - October with changing leaves would be ideal. I mentioned the price one has to pay to do this trail, but it wasn't too great. As I write this, three days later, I can once again sit.

## CANOEING



**Basic Canoe School** was a resounding success. On May 26, the last class, the entire class, as a graduation exercise, paddled from Sylvan down river and around the back channel of the island on river right. There we observed the beaver lodge complete with views of the beaver and honed some basic maneuvering skills over a serpentine course of old pilings. We rounded the island to paddle upriver to further hone skills in dealing with waves from passing boats, and learn the proper way to land a canoe on a beach. Congratulations to all participants and their instructors.

**Informational Note:** There is a growing logistical problem with AYH canoeing caused by the inability of the newer cars to carry canoes. As the participants' cars become newer, they lack rain gutters and thus the capability to be fitted with a generic rack. This situation can severely limit the number of trip participants.

**Note: River Gages:** In addition to the river gage link to the army corps of engineers, the USGS has a site that provides this and other PA rivers including the popular West Branch Susquehanna and Pine Creek of the gorge fame. This link starts at [http://www.pah2o.er.usgs.gov/rt/rt\\_table.html](http://www.pah2o.er.usgs.gov/rt/rt_table.html)

## Upcoming Trips

Oct 25-26 Sat & Sun Jon Maiman 412-441-2306  
Class I-II canoe camping. The annual "leaf trip". Call for details.

## ROCK-CLIMBING

## Rock Out With AYH!

The AYH Rock Climbing program is a great way to experience the thrill of rock climbing. Our Beginner trips are focused on teaching "never evers" the basics of rock climbing. AYH supplies the climbing gear plus a group of experienced climbers to set up the climbs and teach the course. All you need to bring is a bag lunch, water, and a sunny disposition. Wear loose-fitting, comfortable clothes (shorts and T-shirts in the summer) and tennis shoes. It's not a bad idea to pack raingear in the event of a late-afternoon thunderstorm.

Beginner trips are held at Coopers Rocks State Forest, Exit 15 on Rt 68, east of Morgantown, WV. Trips leave from AYH headquarters at 7:30 am. We arrive at Coopers Rocks around 9:30 am and take a short walk to the climbing area. We are back at the cars by 4:30 or so. Many climbers stop at a local restaurant for dinner before driving back to Pittsburgh. We arrive back at AYH headquarters before 8 pm.

Cost is \$10 for AYH members (\$12 for non-members). Gas money (\$5, if you car pool from AYH Headquarters) and dinner are NOT included in the trip fees. Beginner trip fees break down as follows:

- \$3 activity fee, for first-timers only
- \$3 harness/helmet rental, if you don't own your own
- \$3 rope fee for periodic rope replacements
- \$1 AYH registration fee (\$3 for non members)

Experienced climbers are welcome on our "Beginner" trips since we top-rope climbs of varying difficulty (through 5.10). Seneca Prep trips teach seconding skills in preparation for a multi-pitch climbing trip to Seneca Rocks. The AYH climbers also make frequent "unofficial" trips to Seneca Rocks, New River Gorge, the Gunks, and local climbing areas. Several AYH climbers can be found hanging out (pun intended) at The Climbing Wall (in The Factory on Penn Avenue) on Thursday nights from 7 to 9:30 pm before retiring to the Evergreen pub (also on Penn Avenue) for a few cold ones and to make plans for the coming weekend.

To find out more about the AYH climbing program, call Jim "Woj" Wojciechowski @ 412-322-4524 or Vern Miller @ 724-935-3434. To sign up for a specific trip, call the Trip Leader listed in the table below. Trip size is limited. Call the Trip Leader (not the climbing chairmen) to sign up.

## 1998 AYH ROCK CLIMBING TRIPS

DATE/DAY	LEVEL	TRIP LEADERPHONE
August 29 Sat	Seneca Prep	Pat Holtzinger (412) 343-8379
Sept 11-13	Seneca Rocks	Jim "Woj" Wojciechowski (412) 322-4524
Sept 26 Sat	Beginner	Dave Hartman (412) 821-3796

**NOTE:** Saturday, June 27th and Sunday, August 30th are make-up dates in the event a Beginner trip is rained out

## 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.

**F**OR SALE: Thule car roof rack system. Rain gutter mounting feet w/ locks; 50" cross bars; two upright (front wheel on) bike racks; four vertical ski holders. Exc. condition. \$150 for everything. Call mike at 412-268-8830 (day) or [mkb@cs.cmu.edu](mailto:mkb@cs.cmu.edu) 7/98

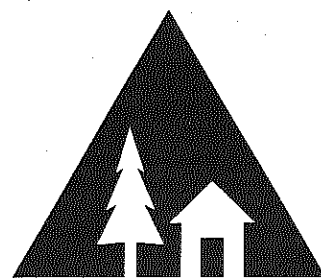
**F**OR SALE: PUR Pioneer Water Filter Small, light weight, and easy to operate. Used only once. Best Offer. Call Don at 412-824-3534 7/98

**F**or sale: Sailboat. American classic O'Day Widgeon 15 ft daysailer w/ trailer and 2 sails. Blue/white in good condition. Will deliver. \$975 or best offer. Call 800-813-6336.

**F**or Sale: North Face Back Magic, external frame backpack; flexhip joints, heavy duty, large capacity. Will deliver. \$75.00 obo. Call 304-233-5960.

**F**or Sale: Tent - Sierra Designs "Clip-Flashlight", 2 person, superlightweight, footprint, extra pole, excellent condition, \$125. Sleeping Bag - North Face Littlefoot, Polyester, child/small adult, 20 degrees, excellent condition, \$60. Call 724-337-1366.

Editor, The Golden Triangle  
830 Warrington AVE.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15210



**HOSTELLING  
INTERNATIONAL**

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, 830 Warrington AVE., Pittsburgh PA 15210

The Pittsburgh Council Travel Store is open Mon. 10 to 4, Wed. 11 to 6 and Fri. from 10 to 4. Hours are subject to change, so it's a good idea to call the office at 412-431-4910 before coming in. We're in the Pittsburgh Hostel at 830 E Warrington Avenue in Allentown. All passes, ID cards, rail passes, and books are available.