Hostelling, Travel and Outdoor Recreation From American Youth Hostels

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

Golden Triang

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.

JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2002 VOLUME 52, NUMBER 3



Hostelling -**International** Pittsburgh PA



A 50 bed full service hostel in a commercial bank building. Free parking, travel store, handicapped



- 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
- Heinz Field
- PNC Park

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....And MORE!!!

Happy Birthday HI-Pittsburgh!

This summer marks the fifth anniversary of the Pittsburgh International Hostel's opening, and the staff is busy at work planning a right proper birthday party to be held in July. A community potluck and an open house are some of the activities already on the agenda. For updated information call or email the hostel anytime in the month of June, (412) 431-1267, hipgh@sgi.net, or to donate food or your efforts, just call us anytime.

This past April saw the Pittsburgh hostel host the HI Eastern Regional meeting, with delegates present from all the Eastern Region councils—Delaware Valley, Eastern New England, Hudson Mohawk, Niagara Frontier, Potomac, Syracuse, Yankee, and of course, Pittsburgh. Discussions covered financial issues in the wake of September 11, the evolving role of hostelling as a means to promote understanding, and the specific concerns of individual councils.

In the month of April alone the Pittsburgh hostel saw guests from Brazil, Australia, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Canada, England, Belgium, Kenya, France, Spain, the Netherlands, Mexico, Korea, and all corners of the United States, from Alaska to Florida, from the Carolinas to California. Their reasons for visiting Pittsburgh ranged from studying fossils at the Carnegie Natural History Museum, to studying with the county coroner, to a school group playing in a local basketball tournament, to potential students visiting the universities, to an elderly French couple riding their bicycles through America. It is this diversity that lies at the heart of the mission of hostelling. We are very pleased to be able to provide a safe, attractive and comfortable facility for all the diverse people who want to visit Pittsburgh for all their diverse reasons. Moving forward from the Regional meeting we are anticipating increased community interaction to promote this facility and our mission. After five years and many thouands of guests from all parts of the world it's evident that the hostel performs a great service for all those who look to visit Pittsburgh. Please make plans to join us for our birthday celebration, to mark five successful years under our belt, and to welcome many more to come!

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

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

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

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Oops...

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

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NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for future issues of the GOLDEN TRIANGLE

June-July-August ISSUE All copy, August 1 Binding/Mailing, August 15

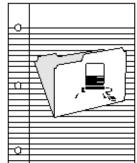
If your work is on computer, Please contact Joel Platt at golden_triangle@bigfoot.com

Moving?

If you move, or have any subscription problems, please notify us right away. Returned mail costs 42 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 nonprofit 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 Ads:

- Classified ads 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 ads for non-members.
- Free ads 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 pro
- All Articles are to be, non-political and non-religious
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

General rules for submission

- No handwritten submissions
- Submissions Can be;

On computer disk (IBM), E-mail (Internet/compuserve), 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 for 2002

Number 1 issue ->January/February / March: Number 2 issue ->April/May: Number 3 issue ->June/July/August: Number 4 issue ->September/October/November: Number 5 issue ->December/Janusry/February

Editor...

Editor...

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.

KAYAK for SALE

DAGGER - Two - seater
Color: yellowish/ green
Size: 14ft.3in. long, 29in. wide
Needs paddles and covers
Asking price \$450.00, or best offer
Call Bill Goodwin at (315) 437-3887
or the Syracuse Council office
at (315) 472-5788
if you are interested

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

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SEA-KAYAKING

 ${\tt Kelleys\ Island,\ Cape\ Henlopen\ and\ Presque\ Isle\ are} \\ {\tt just\ a\ few\ of\ the\ interesting\ and\ exciting\ places\ we\ visited\ last} \\$

summer. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced paddler, we have a trip for you. So grab your paddle and sunscreen and we will see you on the water.

May 25,26,27 BOC Extrvaganza. Don't make any other plans for this holiday weekend. The extravaganza will have something for everyone. On Sat. we'll do a kayak trip on Pymatuming Creek. Possible trip on the 26 or 27. Call to reserve a kayak. Vickie 412-344-4929 or Russ 412-331-2073

June 5 Monthly Dinner at the Sports Rock Cafe. Come talk, eat, and rock the evening away. Call Dana 412-798-4816

June 7 Arts Festival Evening Paddle. Russ 412 331-2073

June 8 or 9 Shenango. Paddle a winding stream, and see lots of birds. Call Jean 412-854-1248

July 13, 14 Juniata River. Dana and Scott 412 798-4816

June 15 Mid Yough. Our first paddle/pedal trip of the sesaon. Enjoy kayaking the rapids of the Yough, then bike back to the putin. We have extra kayaks, but you need a bike of your own. Call Eileen 412-884-3951 or Terry 412-321-2382

June 21, 22, 23 Lake Erie. Don't miss the "First Annual Summer Solstice Super Sea Kayak Weekend". We'll paddle, bike, hike, and who knows what else! Call Marcy and Bill 724-657-8192

July 20 Lake Erie. Jean 412 854-1248

July 27,28 Allegheny River, Emlenton to Catfish Run Russ 412 331-2073

August 3 Pymatuning Reservoir Jim 412 236-6376

August 10 Allegheny River, Rimer to Templeton Vickie 412 344-4929

August 24 Allegheny River, Lock 6 Jean 412 854-1248

Sept. 28 Monongahela River, Pickett's Creek to Uffington WV Russ 412 331-2073

UPCOMING SLIDE SHOWS

May 23: We show the 16 mm film "Johnny Cash: Riding The Rails". The musical story of railroad's contribution to America. Historic sites and museums, including Promontory, Utah, Chattanooga and Stone Mountain. Cash sings famous railroad songs.

May 30: Tim Manka, "Slime And Scales: Reptiles And Amphibians". Tim gave this ranger program in several national parks. The pictures were taken at Shenandoah, Mount Rainier, Everglades, and Grand Canyon.

June 6: Annual celebration of the long days of summer solstice. We meet at Headquarters at 8:30 pm for a 20-minute walk to Aladdin's Eatery on Forbes Avenue near Shady. Menu is partly Middle Eastern. The place is open until 10:30 pm.

June 13: Joyce Appel, "Canoeing In The Adirondacks, Biking On Erie Canal". She follows the canal tow path between Rome and Syracuse. Also hiking the North Country Trail near the Finger Lakes.

June 20: Cake and ice cream party, if possible out of doors.

June 27: We show the 16 mm film "Jonathan Miller's London". A highly personalized tour that includes the streets and crescents in the area where he grew up and where his family lived for almost 100 years.

July 4: Closed for Independence Day.

July 11: Kevin Swenson and Steve Poprocky, "Hiking The Inca Trail". They return to Machu Picchu after 38 years, see the sunrise through the Sun Gate on the day of summer solstice. Also, hiking the 14,000-feet Dead Women's Pass. Four days in Cuzco.

July 18: Pizza and soft drinks, if possible out of doors.

July 25: We use the long daylight for a visit of the newly restored botanical and herb gardens in nearby Mellon Park. Meet at Headquarters at 8:30 PM.

August 1: Vickie Gotaskie, "Sea Kayaking, Hiking And Rafting In Belize". They raft through caves, see mayan ruins and snorkel through a barrier reef.

August 8: We show the 16 mm film "Confessions Of A Train Spotter". Michael Palin of Monty Python and Travel Channel fames journeys from Euston, London, to Kyle Of Lochalsh in Northern Scotland. He rides aboard the Flying Scotsman steam locomotive as well as the Inter-City 125, trains that span the history of railway engines. Produced for the BBC.

August 15: Cookies, crackers and Juicy Juice, if possible out of doors.

August 22: Jack Rearick, "Bicycling In England's Moors". They start in the city of York, ride through Scarborough and Helmsley. They reach the shore of the North Sea, and complete a loop back to York.

August 29: We show the 16 mm film "Lake Titicaca". Exploration by divers and oceanographers of the highest navigable body of water, at 12,500 feet above sea level. Expedition in search of Inca treasure discovers new facts of biology, geology and archeology. Traces of five different civilizations.

September 5: Mike Fialkovich, "Seeing Washington State". He visits the Olympic Peninsula, including a national park. Fir trees, asters, elks. Reflection Lake. The Blue Grouse. Mount Saint Helen, Mount Rainier, the Sitka Spruce. Also Seattle and sea anemones.

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.

ROCK CLIMBING

Rock Out with AYH!

The Pittsburgh 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.

To find out more about the AYH climbing program, call Chuck Jones at (412)766-4036. Please call before 10 o'clock at night.

Sunday, June 9

Top roping w/beginner class

@ Cooper's Rock Trip Leader: Jim Wojchiechowski (412) 322-4524

Saturday, June 22 Multi Pitch Prep class

@ Cooper's Rock Trip Leader: Patty Holtzinger (412) 343-8379

Friday, July 12 - Sunday, July 14

Multi Pitch Climbing

@ Seneca Rocks Trip Leader: Chuck Jones (412) 766-4036

Saturday, July 27

Top roping w/beginner class

@ Cooper's Rock Trip Leader: Kathrin Probst (412) 421-2795

Sunday, August 11

Top roping w/beginner class

@ Cooper's Rock Trip Leader: Brian Schwadron (412) 734-1379

Saturday, August 24

Top roping w/beginner class

@ Cooper's Rock

(Rain Date) Trip Leader: Barb Homistek (412) 687-7328

Sunday, August 25

Multi Pitch Prep class

@ Cooper's Rock Trip Leader: Bob Dodson (412) 243-4558

Rambles For Spring 2002

June 2002

June 5 Bear Run Nature reserve. Bag lunch. \$4.00 trip. Earl McCabe. 761-1844 **PLEASE NOTE:** We will leave the Arts Center at 9:30 AM.

June 12 Saxonburg. \$4.00 trip. Sally Schnorr. 828-1472

June 19 Montour Trail starting at Beaver Grade Road. Bag lunch. Bill Phoenik. 279-5411

June 25 Meadowcroft. \$4.00 trip. Billie Woodland. 886-1603

July 2002

July 3. No ramble. Happy 4th. of July.

July 10. Round Hill Farm. Bag lunch. \$4.00 trip. Billie Woodland. 886-1603

July 17. Montour Trail - new section from Boggs Station to Quicksilver. Bag lunch. Bill Phoennik. 279-5411

July 24. Cedar Creek Park. Bag lunch. \$4.00 trip. Alex Federowicz. 421-0922

July 31. Sewickly. Bag lunch. Marty Brigham. 521-1913

August 2002

Aug 7. North Park. Bag Lunch. Earl McCabe. 761-1844

Aug 14. Dark Hollow Park (Oakmont). Bag lunch. Marilyn Ham. 687-4520

Aug 21. White Oak Park and Angora Garden. Bag lunch. \$3.00 trip. Joan Roolf 351-2061

Aug 28. Laurel Highlands hiking trail (near Rte. 31 at Firetower Rd. trail head). All day outing. 4-mile hike--somewhat strenuous. Bag lunch. \$4.00 trip. Jim Hurst. 276-0447

Summer rambles will begin at 9:30 AM. Meet in Mellon Park, upper parking lot at Fifth and Shady Avenues. Carpooling is encouraged. Transportation fees for passengers will range from \$1 to \$4 depending on length of trip.

Call trip leader for more information, (especially with regard to strenuous walks), or if you plan to meet us at the trail head. Rambles are subject to change due to weather or other circumstances.



HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS

Ambles for June, July and August, 2002

Ambles are 5-6 mile brisk walks, usually followed by a late lunch in a local restaurant. We meet at 10 am on Sunday in the lower parking lot of the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts at 5th and Shady. Occasionally a leader will expect to meet somewhere else so watch for the meeting spot. (We try to meet where people without cars can meet us.) From here we car pool to the beginning of the walk. **BE SURE TO CALL THE LEADER TO CONFIRM THE WALK.** There will be a car pool fee.

Sunday, May 26th No walk. Enjoy a walk at Butler Outdoor Club's Extravaganza.

Sunday, June 2nd Walk a flat 7 miles on the Bethel Park trail Bring a bag lunch. Call Lorraine Johnson at 412-561-2786.

Sunday, June 9th Hike an easy 6 miles from Slickville to Saltsburg. Meet at Monroeville park and ride lot beside Good Shepard Lutheran Church at <u>11AM</u> (NOTE DIFFERENT TIME AND PLACE) Call Ed Divers at 412-828-5154

AMBLES ARE SUSPENDED FOR JULY AND AUGUST. THEY WILL BEGIN AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER. PLEASE THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEAD AN AMBLE THEN. THANK YOU, JOAN ROOLF. (412)351-2061

Sunday, July 28 Annual Youghiogheny River innertube hike from Johnson's Run to Camp Carmel (3 miles on foot, 3 miles via inner tube). Must be hot and sunny or trip will be postponed. Limit: 18. \$7.00 carpool, 54 miles. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

NORTH DAKOTA AND SOUTH DAKOTA TRIP along with NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL CONFERENCE HIKING TRIP -

Friday evening, Aug. 9 to Mon., Aug. 19.

Plan is to rent one or two vans. I have a scenic route planned through western South Dakota and up into western North Dakota and then end up at the western end of the North Country Trail. Each day you will have a choice to sightsee, canoe, hike, bike, or horseback ride, depending on what there is to do when we stop. You may bring easy packed food or buy breakfast, lunch and evening meal. We will probably stay at motels for part of the trip so we can see and do as much as we can. Its hard to get a large group moving when camping. To save money, you may share a room with one, two, three, four or more people: whatever we can get away with. (Bring a sleeping bag and sleeping mat.) Lots of neat things planned for us to see and do. From Thurs.,Aug. 15 - 18, we will be at Valley City, North Dakota for NCT hiking conference. While we are there, you may camp or stay in a dorm style building. You may cook your own food or buy the conference's food. If interested, call me and I will send you details on the itinerary and cost. A lot of people are showing an interest in this trip. Call now. Reserve as soon as possible. When the van or vans are full, that's it! NO MORE ROOM AND YOU WILL BE LEFT OUT OF A GREAT TRIP.

Joyce Appel - (724)526-5407 or email - joyceappel@nb.net

ALLEGHENY GROUP -- SIERRA CLUB -- OUTINGS THRU AUG.31, 2002

For more up-to-date listings, visit http://www.alleghenysc.org/ Hardcopy subscriptions to this list are \$2.50/year ** (4-5 issues). Make check payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club; mail to Janine Hauck, 723 Lincoln Highlands Dr., Coraopolis, PA 15108 ** E-mail subscriptions are free. J9hauck@stargate.net

EVENING CONDITIONING WALKS

(Call leader for meeting time and place)

East Suburbs (during EDST) Tues. & Thurs. evenings in Duff Park near Murrysville. Call Nick Broskovich, 724-863-6707

East End (during EDST) Wed. evenings, 6 to 8 PM, to Frick, Schenley or Highland Park. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

Setters Cabin Park (during EDST) Tues. evenings, 6:30 PM. Call Janine Hauck, 412-788-9247

South Park (year-around). Thurs. evenings, $6{:}15$ PM. Locations vary, call Bonnie Thomas, 412-833-1068

DAY AND WEEKEND TRIPS

Sat.-Sun.June 1-2 Backpacking in Allegheny National Forest-North Country Trail and Tionesta Scenic Area (7 miles/day). Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196

Sat.May 18 Moderate, dry 7-mile nature hike at Hartstown Swamp near Conneaut. Meet at Cranberry K-Mart at 10 AM. \$8.75 carpool-87 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sat.May 18 Canoe-hike on the Monongahela River. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866

Sun.May 19 Repeat of Diane and Terry Neely's April 13 hike. Call Diane or Terry Neely, 724-459-3012

Sat.-Mon.May 25-27 Backpacking in northern Dolly Sods, the higher, more open, more scenic, less visited part of Dolly Sods. Prior backpacking experience required. \$20 carpool-165 miles. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737 bsundquist1@juno.com

Sun.May 26 Hike an intermediate 10 miles on Baker Trail from Crooked Creek Lake to Cochran's Mill near Brick Church. \$5 carpool-50 miles. Call John Dern, 412-856-4642

Sun.May 26 Hike, strenuous and exploratory, in the Greenbrier and Upper Bruner areas of Ohiopyle State Park, the least developed parts of the park. Rock formations and wild stream valleys, farm sites, and an old cemetery enveloped by woods on the high ground. \$7.25 carpool-65 miles. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sun. June 2 Hike a fast-paced 7.5 miles on a loop in Deer Creek Park (about 4 miles from Harmarville). Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519

Sun. June 2 Bicycle an easy 20 miles (round trip) on the Youghiogheny River Trail from Boston to Sutersville and back. Meet at the Boston trailhead at 10 AM. Call Barry Tunick, 412-653-6584

Sun.June 9 Loop hike around Crooked Creek Reservoir. Strenuous and exploratory, full day. Includes sections on Baker Trail and on shoreline riding trails. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sun.June 9 Easy 6-mile hike from Slickville to Saltsburg. Meet in Monroeville at 11 AM. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sat.June 15 Hike 12-13 moderately strenuous miles on the north loop in Oil Creek State Park, starting at Drake Well Museum. Call Mike Robertson, 412-678-4039

Sat.June 15 (8 AM to Noon) Join the 12th annual "River Sweep" and help 17,000 others clean up shore-line along the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers. Free Tee Shirt and refreshments. To work near the mouth of Nine-Mile Run on the Monongahela River call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737. For other areas call Betsy Mallison (DEP) at 412-442-4182

Sat.June 22 Visit Barton's Cave, intermediate. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sat. or Sun. June 22 or 23 (depending on weather) Hike 12 miles (intermediate) above the Linn Run Area on Laurel Ridge south of US30. Start on Wolf Rocks Trail. Visit Spruce Flats Bog, Wolf Rocks, and a seldom-seen rock city. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

Sun.June 23 Hike 20.5 miles in Moraine State Park - From the bicycle concession to the lookout on the other side of PA 528 and return. Trails are well developed. Hills are moderate. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582 dmottorn@alltel.net

Sat.June 29 Hike 10 miles on Baker Trail, 4th of 7 hikes to cover the trail. From Langville to Summerville Shelter. moderately difficult. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210.

Sat.June 29 Hike 4-6 miles (easy) with llamas in the Laurel Highlands in Forbes State Forest off US30 past Ligonier. Bring lunch. Call Diane Neely 724-459-3012.

Sat.-Sun.July 6-7 Backpacking in Allegheny National Forest. Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196

Sun.July 7 Loop hike along Laurel Hill Creek from Laurel Hill State Park to the Blue Hole, up Grindle Ridge and past Lake Tahoe. Strenuous and exploratory, full day. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat.July 13 Hike about 10 miles on Baker Trail, from Corsica to Sigel; one wet crossing, moderately difficult. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210.

Sat.July 13 Caving in Casparis Cave near Connellsville. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sun.July 14 Hike 13 strenuous miles in Oil Creek State Park. Passes an abandoned town and cemetery. Scenic. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582 dmottorn@alltel.net

Sat.July 20 Canoe and Snorkel on the Youghiogheny River. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866

Sun.July 21 Hike 4-6 miles (easy) with llamas on Laurel Ridge in Forbes State Forest off US30. Bring lunch. Call Diane Neely 724-459-3012.

Sat.July 27 Bicycle an easy 25 miles along Allegheny River Trail and Sandy Creek Trail starting at Franklin. Call Mike Robertson, 412-678-4039

Sun.July 28 Umteenth Annual Youghiogheny River Valley inner-tube hike from Johnson's Run to Camp Carmel (3 miles on foot; 3 miles in inner-tubes) Must be hot and sunny, or trip will be postponed. Limit: 18. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Sat. or Sun. Aug.3 or 4 (depending on weather) Hike, exploratory, 10+miles, in Lower Indian Creek Valley from Rt.381-Mill Run Reservoir to the Youghiogheny River. See what's left of the 1850 ghost town of Hampton and the big blue holes. Creek crossing and swimming depending on temp. and water levels. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

Sat.-Sun.Aug.3-4 Backpacking in Allegheny National Forest. Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196

Sat.Aug.10 Hike about 10 miles on the Baker Trail from Sigel to Cook Forest; moderately difficult. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210

Sat.Aug.10 Visit Harlansburg Cave, easy. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

(Continued on page 5)

Other Outdoors Clubs

Butler Outdoors Club

BOC runs the same sorts of trips as Allegheny Group. Contact Dave Adams, 724-453-1685 DaveEAdams@aol.com or Bob Tait, 724-287-3382 by BOC and North Country Trails Assn. (NCTA) are listed below.

Sat.May 18 Venture Outdoors Festival (VO2). Last year's event had close to 2000 people trying out canoeing, biking, listening to speakers and enjoying music on Washington's Landing. This year's event will be bigger and more elaborate. (NCTA) Call Western Pa Field Institute for info at 412.255.0564 or Joyce Appel 724.526.5407

May 24-27 Butler Outdoor Club annual Outdoor's Extravaganza weekend full of outings, catered food, evening programs, camping, etc. Joyce Appel 724.526.5407

Wissahickon Nature Club

If you enjoy nature lore, look into the meetings and field trips of Wissahickon Nature Club. They meet every other Saturday at 6 PM (except June-August) at Community Presbyterian Church, 7501 Church Av., Ben Avon. Contact Chuck Tague, 412-488-8760 or 432 Olympia Rd, Pgh. 15219

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

BSWP offers field trips in spring, summer and fall to look at and learn about the enormous variety of plant life that western Pa. offers. Everyone is welcome on field trips; amateurs, professionals, non-members, and anyone who is curious about the natural world. Trips are often at a leisurely pace, but may require hiking and traveling through wet/muddy areas. For information, e-mail your address for sample newsletter and membership information to yoree@sgi.net, or call Loree at 724-872-5232.

WPW (Western Pennsylvania Wheelmen) Bicycle Club

Home Page: http://wpwbikeclub.org

Ride Hotline: 412-422-2234

Various length and difficulty rides scheduled each weekend and some during the week. Monthly meeting usually the 2nd Monday at 8pm at the Frick Environmental center on Beechwood Blvd in Squirrel Hill. See home page for details.

Moraine Sailing Club

MSC offers sailing opportunities for new and experienced sailors at Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park. They have an active education program for all ages, numerous sailing related social events, Day Sailing at Lake Arthur, and a very active sailboat racing program. For more information see the MSC Web Page at www.morainesailingclub.org or contact Cindy Phillips, (412-741-5346, email to: widgeons@aol.com)

BACKPACKING IN NEW YORK STATE

--- Hike the North Country National Scenic Trail - Join Glenn Oster for all or part of a 286 mile backpacking hike across New York State on the Finger Lakes Trail. This will become the route of the North Country National Scenic Trail. Glenn will leave Pittsburgh on June 30 and return on August 1, 2002. If we have a second vehicle, we will hike six days to the waiting vehicle and leap frog vehicles across the trail each week. For information contact Glenn at (412) 364-2864 or e-mail him at glennoster@attbi.com.

(Continued from page 4)

Sun.Aug.11 Hike a strenuous 12-15 miles in Roaring Run Natural Area on Laurel Ridge. Well developed trails but hilly. The trail is in the woods the whole time. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582 dmottorn@alltel.net

Sun.Aug.11 Hike 4-6 miles with llamas in the Laurel Highlands in Forbes State Forest off US30 past Ligonier. Bring lunch. Call Diane Neely 724-459-3012.

Sat.Aug.17 Snorkeling in the Youghiogheny River near Connellsville. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866

Sun.Aug.18 Hike an intermediate 8 miles in Roaring Run Natural Area of Forbes State Forest. Roaring Run Trail and South Loop Trail. Call John Dern, 412-856-4642

Sat.Aug.24 Canoe-Kayak flatwater instruction on Nicholson Island in the Allegheny River near Lock 6. Rentals \$10. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sun.Aug.25 Loop hike in the Maple Summit - Cranberry Glade Lake areas above Laurel Hill Creek. Strenuous and exploratory, full day. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat.Aug.31-Mon.Sept.2 Backpacking (2 days) on the southern half of North Fork Mountain Trail in Monongahela National Forest, rated the best foot trail in West Va. by Outside Magazine. Countless spectacular views. Carry your own water (9#) and be able to do a steep 2300' elevation drop to Seneca Rocks. Monday is optional-exploring nearby northern Dolly Sods. Prior backpacking experience required. Limit: 20. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

foot notes news on the baker trail and the rachel carson trail april, 2002

- "Schlimmer" aka "Limited Visibility" is writing a guidebook to 24 longdistance hiking trails in the US and is including the Baker Trail as one of the three trails presented for Pennsylvania.
- Bill Grove and Liz Taylor continue in 2002 to maintain the section of the Baker Trail from Bethlehem Chapel to Summersville. This, I believe, is their 3^{ra} year painting those blazes.
- Keystone Trails Association (KTA), the Pennsylvania statewide hiking trails advocacy organization intends to name the Baker Trail one of 5 "endangered hiking trails" on the basis of nearly 20 miles of private (land) ownership without written easement agreements, subject to landowners hospitality, and many miles of road walking. Watch for this in the newspapers.
- The Reverand Wayne Peel and his family completed their goal of sectionhiking the Baker Trail end-to-end, the last section being from Forks Church to Elderton. He did so in spite of Spike the dog, a recent logging cut through which Patty Brunner ran out and flagged the trail, a twisted ankle and the first day of trout season. Congratulations!!
- Bob Derry and friends from the Indiana area have taken a special interest over the past couple of years in putting up fresh paint on some of the road sections in Indiana and Armstrong Counties. He went out again in the middle part of April to check things out.
- Volunteer work on the Baker Trail and the Rachel Carson Trail for the year 2001 (ending March 30, 2002) totaled 966 hours of labor directly on the trails, 143 travel hours, all by a core of 28 volunteer workers. Thanks to all. Unlike state or federally-managed trails, the BT and RCT are 100% volunteer-supported. Without these contributions, our two trails would not
- Sierra Club conducted two group hikes on the Baker Trail so far this year, one in March and one in April. Five more Baker Trail hikes are planned.

SAILING

Experienced sailors or novices who would like to go for a sail at Lake Arthur can contact Bob Zavos at 412-241-0659. Bob usually sails with the Moraine Sailing Club on weekends. There are sailboat races on most Saturdays and Open Sailing on Sundays.

This is very bad news for all friends of the environment. The PA DCNR (State Parks) is raising the horsepower limit at Lake Arthur. This is bad news for Sailors, Sea Kayakers, White Water canoers, and even bikers and hikers. The Sailing club learned of this last Fall and mounted a strong letter writing campaign. The reasons for keeping the limits at 9.9 seemed so strong we didn't believe they would do it. But they did! So now we need more help and need to publicize this.

PA DCNR Raises Motor Limit

In a surprise move the PA DCNR has increased the horsepower limits at Lake Arthur and six other PA state park lakes from 10 hp to 18 hp. We heard of this proposal last Fall and ran an article in the Sep/Oct 2001 Batten the Breeze. The March 14th Press release gave the reason for the increase as "seeking better enforcement and better protection of the environment."

DCNR and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) hosted a public meeting on the issue in Harrisburg last Fall. "The Fish and Boat Commission defers to DCNR with respect to horsepower regulations on state parks lakes, and we support the proposed pilot program," said PFBC Executive Director Peter Colangelo."

The pilot program is effective immediately at the following six state park lakes: Lake Marburg, York County; Lake Wilhelm, Mercer County; Lake Arthur, Butler County; Lake Nockamixon, Bucks County; Glendale Lake, Cambria County; and Yellow Creek Lake, Indiana County.

Lake Pymatuning, Crawford County, also is targeted for the-horsepower increase, but not before the needed approval in joint legislative action by Pennsylvania and neighbor-

"It is important to keep in mind that these changes may not be permanent," State Secretary John C. Oliver said. "Managers at each of the affected parks will closely monitor their lakes for signs of increased shoreline erosion or other adverse effects. There will be no personal watercraft allowed, nor water skiing or recreational towing of any type."

Park officials at the affected lakes say boaters routinely circumvented posted 10horsepower limits by altering carburetion systems, or displaying 10-horsepower motor covers on motors that actually were more powerful. Outboard motors larger than 18 horsepower may be attached to boats used in all state park lakes, but they can be operated only in those lakes approved for unlimited horsepower.

"The 'status quo' at these lakes is not changing," Secretary Oliver said. "Now we will have the capability to enforce the posted horsepower limit on motors being used to propel watercraft. Because of their noticeably larger size, motors exceeding 18 horsepower can be spotted more easily by law enforcement officers."

Written comment on the horsepower pilot program can be sent to Gary Smith, Chief, Park Operations and Maintenance, Bureau of State Parks, Rachel Carson State Office Building, P.O. Box 8551, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8551.

Pennsylvania State Web Sites

Moraine State Park www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/morain.htm PA DCNR Contacts www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/keycont.htm PA DCNR Press Releases http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/polycomm/pressrel PA Fish & Boat Commission: www.fish.state.pa.us Commonwealth of PA: http://www.state.pa.us/PAPower/ PA Governor: sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/Governor/organization.

The Sixth Annual Rachel Carson Trail Challenge "34 Miles in One Day" June 22, 2002

Once again it's time for the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge, a 34-mile one-day endurance hiking event, held in the spirit of the Alaskan Iditarod, the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Trail Run, and the many Ironman Triathlons held across the country each year. Sponsored by Hostelling International Pittsburgh/AYH, the Challenge will be held this year on June 22 (taking advantage of the summer solstice), starting at the crack of dawn, and will extend through the 34-mile roller coaster of hills, hollows, and bluffs between North Park and Harrison Hills in Allegheny County, ending as the sun sets below the horizon. The "Challenge" is to endure, to finish the hike in one day, rather than to "come in first" or "win".

Located in Allegheny County just northeast of Pittsburgh, The Rachel Carson Trail is characterized by its roller coaster hills and is often said to be one of the most difficult hiking trails in the United States. The hike will begin, rain or shine, at sunrise and will officially end at sunset, 5:50 A.M. to 8:54 P.M., giving Challengers a total of 15 hours and 4 minutes to complete the 34-mile route. A typical hiking pace on most trails is 2 miles per hour.

The Challenge has two dimensions: the first is to endure 34 miles of tortuous hill climbing and descent in unpredictable weather conditions; the second is your ability to stay on the trail without getting lost. Obviously, those who have hiked the trail before will have some advantage in maintaining the proper route. (Four training hikes covering the entire trail will be held in June; visit the Trail web site, below, for more information.)

Finishing is atypical. In fact, not once in the history of the event have even half of the participants completed it. Of the 270 people who started the 1996 and 1997 Challenges, only 32 finished the 34-mile event. The Trail takes its toll.

The Rachel Carson Trail is a "primitive" trail in the sense that no special grading or surfacing materials are used. While the trail is blazed with yellow blazes, there will be an occasional missing blaze where a tree has fallen or when you are following a logging road, a power line or gas line; there will be blow downs, washouts, poison ivy, nettles, bugs, loose gravel and rocks, steep inclines, gullies, and wet stream crossings. You must be prepared to expect the unexpected and think the unthinkable. The better hiker you are, the better you will do on the Challenge.

All hikers will be given a trail guide to assist them on their journey. There will be four checkpoints throughout the hike, offering minimal support. Hikers are expected to carry all their own gear and necessities, including food, water, snacks, first aid equipment and raingear.

The Challenge entry fee includes a t-shirt, shuttle bus, cookout, and a one-year (four issue) subscription to the *AYH Golden Triangle* newsletter. The shuttle bus is available to take participants from North Park to the Harrison Hills check-in just before sunrise, and again after 4 P.M. to take those Challengers who parked at Harrison Hills back to their vehicles. The cookout is available at the finish in North Park, from 2 P.M. until 9 P.M., serving up hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, and plenty of sympathy.

For more information see the Trail web site at http://www.rachelcarsontrail.com, email challenge@rachelcarsontrail.com or call (412) 512-4544. Learn more about Hostelling International Pittsburgh/AYH, the organization that built the Rachel Carson Trail at http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh.

! CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

The Challenge cannot happen without volunteers. We urgently need people to help at check-in, at each checkpoint and various other spots, and at the finish. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer, please email challenge@rachelcarsontrail.com or call (412)512-4544. All volunteers will earn a Marshal t-shirt, admission to the cookout, and the gratitude of hundreds of their neighbors!

Trail Maintenance Volunteer Opportunities

June 15 Saturday Baker Trail. This will be an all-day work project on the Baker Trail in the vicinity of Mahoning Reservoir. We need people to paint blazes, remove vegetation and fallen branches from the trail, collect any trash in a plastic garbage bag, and trim branches and leaves away from blazes. This is a good opportunity to get out, see the trail, doing short hikes in and out from the road, and help take care of one of Pennsylvania's endangered trails. Call Jim at 412-828-0210 for questions and to make arrangements.

July 20 Saturday Baker Trail, Jefferson County. The agenda for this day of trail work will be much the same as that for June 15. Call Jim at 412-828-0210 for questions and to make arrangements.

August 3 Saturday Baker, vicinity of Crooked Creek. The agenda for this day of trail maintenance will be much the same as that for June 15. Call Jim at 412-828-0210 for questions and to make arrangements.

Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers needed. We also need volunteers to become trail stewards who are willing to adopt a 3-5 mile long section of the Baker Trail. Trail stewards will be independently responsible to work on their section of the trail on their own schedule. Responsibilities include painting yellow blazes on the trail once a year, picking up debris and trash off the treadway, and trimming vegetation away from blazes. Optional skills include chain saw work, shelter repair (we have 10 overnight shelters on the trail that require yearly maintenance—adopt a shelter as your own personal project) and/or you can build bridges, sidehill supports, benches, and other trail amenities. Regardless of the level of your effort, you would be expected to walk your trail section twice a year, preferably once in the spring (April, May) and once in the fall (September, October). All expenses for supplies-paint, brushes, etc.-are reimbursed.

6

Training Hikes

Rachel Carson Trail Challenge 2002

On these four training hikes we will prepare for the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge by tracing the same route as on Challenge Day. Everyone is welcome on these hikes; you do not need to be entered into the Challenge to participate. Be sure to let the indicated leader know you'll be attending a particular hike at least twelve (12) hours in advance! For each hike there is a \$3 activity fee per person (\$1 for Hostelling International/AYH members). This fee will be collected by the leader on the day of the hike. Please bring *at least* a quart of water (more if the temperature will be warm) and some energy snacks (e.g. Powerbar).

Saturday, June 1 Leader: Barb Peterson (412) 371-2506 Approx. 7 miles Difficulty level (1-10): 5

This hike begins at Harrison Hills Park, skirting the bluffs over the Allegheny River, covering some easy and pleasant terrain. Then we hit Burtner Hill, one of the biggest and toughest hills on the Trail. The last 1.4 miles to Bull Creek Road consists of quick-paced road-walking. Meet at the parking area at the intersection of Bull Creek Road and Ridge Road at 8 AM. Directions: Take Route 28 to Exit #14 (Tarentum). Turn north on Bull Creek Road for a very short distance, turn right on Ridge Road, then immediately turn into the parking area on the right.

Sunday, June 2 Leader: Barb Peterson (412) 371-2506 Approx. 8.5 miles Difficulty level (1-10): 6

This hike starts on Bull Creek Road near Tarentum and hits Bakerstown Hill, Bailey's Hill, Creighton Hill, and Murray Hill in short order. We will hike along the bluffs over the Allegheny River across from New Kensington and finish in Springdale. Meet at the VFW Hall parking lot in Springdale at 8 AM. Directions: Take Route 28 to Exit #11 (Harmarville). After exiting head towards Harmarville, turn left at the second traffic light, travel about 4 miles through 9 more traffic lights. The VFW Hall entrance will be on your left just past the last light. Park on the far side of the lot.

Saturday, June 8 Leader: Barb Peterson (412) 371-2506 Approx. 9.5 miles Difficulty level (1-10): 8

This hike begins in Springdale and immediately tackles the "roller coaster", followed by the hill of Mile 14, LaFever Hill, down Rich Hill, and then up to Emmerling Park and Myers Hill. Lots of hills on this one. Meet in the Glazing Systems of Pennsylvania parking lot at the intersection of Route 910 and Cedar Run Road at 8 AM. Directions: Follow Route 910 along the Yellow Belt to 0.5 miles west of Saxonburg Blvd. intersection, opposite Sunflower Valley Market.

Sunday, June 9 Leader: Barb Peterson (412) 371-2506 Approx. 8.5 miles Difficulty level (1-10): 4

This hike begins at the Cedar Run Road in Dorseyville and starts with some spirited (dirt) road-walking for about a mile, passes Hidden Pond, climbs to the roof of Allegheny County, into the Hampton Nature Reserve, Crouse Run Valley, and finally enters North Park, ending at the Beaver Shelter. This is the easiest of the four sections of the Trail. Meet at the Beaver Shelter in North Park at 8 AM. Directions: Take I279 north to the McKnight Road exit and travel 6.4 miles north. Take the North Park/Ingomar Rd. exit east and turn left at the second traffic light. There is a parking lot on the left at the next intersection with Pearce Mill Road, and the Beaver Shelter is at the far end of the lot.

Baker Trail/Rachel Carson Trail Resources

Rachel Carson Trail website: www.rachelcarsontrail.com this website has information about the Rachel Carson Trail, the Baker Trail, and the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge.

Baker Trail website: www.geocities.com/bakertrailpa this website has some abbreviated information concerning the Baker Trail.

Hostellling International website: http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/ general information about the BT/RCT sponsor organization.

<u>Keystone Trails Association</u>: http://www.kta-hike.org/ has information about all Pennsylvania hiking trails

"Guide to the Rachel Carson Trail" this is a trail guide, with topographic maps, and some interpretive information about the 34-mile long trail, available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.

"Baker Trail Guide Book" a trail guide with topographic maps, and interpretive information about the 141-mile long Baker Trail. Available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.

More About the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge

DETAILS

- START: The Challenge will begin at 5:50 AM at the Ox Roast Shelter in Harrison Hills Park. Take the left fork on the Park entrance road and follow it to the end to get to the Ox Roast Shelter. Do not park at the Shelter; see below for instructions. Registration opens at 5:15 AM and closes at 6:30 AM.
- SHUTTLE: Shuttle bus service will be available to bring participants from North Park to the Harrison Hills Park check-in before dawn, and later, for those participants who parked at Harrison Hills, from the North Park finish back to their vehicles.
- PARKING: There is adequate parking in the vicinity of North Park's Beaver Shelter, but participants are not permitted to park next to Harrison Hill's Ox Roast Shelter. The nearest parking lot is about ½ mile from the Shelter. Car-pooling is strongly encouraged.
- **WATER:** Checkpoints will be located about every 7 miles with water and light snacks available for participants. Marshals will have cell phones for communications.
- FINISH: The Challenge will end at precisely 8:54 PM (official sunset time) at the Beaver Shelter in North Park, 100 yards north on Babcock Blvd. from the Pearce Mill Road intersection. North Park is located on the "Yellow Belt" between Route 19 (McKnight Road) and Route 8.
- REWARD: All finishers will be entered into a raffle. Ten names will be drawn with each winner receiving a \$25 Dick's Sporting Goods gift certificate or a hydration pack from EMS. The first two names drawn will also receive an overnight stay for two at either the Pittsburgh International Youth Hostel or the Ohiopyle Youth Hostel.

"HOW DO I COMPETE?"

You are expected to be entirely self-contained. This is an endurance hike, not a race. Weight, up to 10 pounds in your pack will not be a significant factor. Be able to carry NO LESS THAN two quarts of water; sports drinks are recommended; carry plenty of high-energy snack foods, raingear, dry socks, first aid gear-especially moleskin or band-aids for blisters; you may want to carry a pair of sandals or surf shoes for wet stream crossings; wear sturdy, well broken-in footgear preferably with good ankle support and a lugged sole for gripping loose gravel and rocks; wear thick wool, wool blend or synthetic fiber socks; wear a hat to keep your head out of the sun; wear sunglasses; carry a pack towel to soak in streams and wrap over your head to cool down. Salty snacks such as pretzels, peanuts and potato chips are recommended to avoid salt depletion.

Please note that in June, some sections of the Rachel Carson Trail will have brambles and nettles as well as poison ivy. Consider wearing long pants made of lightweight material.

While the organizers recommend you outfit yourself as a "hiker", participants in past Challenges had success participating in "runner mode" wearing light low-top trail running shoes, and carrying only water and a small waist pack for gear instead of a day backpack (rucksack/knapsack).

TRAIL RUNNER ADVISORY

Although all participants are welcome, the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge is not race, it is an endurance-hiking event and the checkpoints are staffed accordingly. This means that runners may reach checkpoints before the scheduled setup time, so water and supplies may not be available when expected. If you intend to run, you are strongly advised to be entirely self-sufficient.

Official Entry Form Rachel Carson Trail Challenge June 22, 2002

"34 Miles in One Day"

Please provide the following information and return this form with a check or money order for the proper amount. **Each participant must complete and sign a separate form.** Make check or money order payable to "Hostelling International Pittsburgh".

Mail to: Rachel Carson Trail Challenge c/o H.I. – Pittsburgh 830 E. Warrington Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15210

Name: First, Middle, Last	Age: As of June 22, 2002
Street Address	City, State, Zip code
Email Address: For registration confirmation	Telephone: Daytime and evening
Registration Fee	
☐ My entry is postmarked June 8 or before\$25	
☐ My entry is postmarked after June 8\$40	
☐ I want registration confirmation by U.S. mail\$3	
Total enclosed	
Fee includes t-shirt, shuttle, cookout, trail guide, and Golden Triangle so	subscription. No refunds after June 8.
T-Shirt Size ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ Extra Large	
Shuttle ☐ I will park at North Park and use the early morning shuttle ☐ I will park at Harrison Hills Park and use the afternoon shuttle	
Signature I have read, understood and agree to the Liability Waiver below. All un	unsigned entries will be returned.
Participant's Signature Date	
Parent or Guardian's Signature if participant is under 18	Date

Liability Waiver

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

I acknowledge that there are inherent risks and dangers that may arise at any time during the Challenge. 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 in the Challenge. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the completion of this event. I understand and agree that medical or other services rendered to me by or at the insistence of any of the above parties is not an admission of liability to provide or to continue to provide any such service and is not a waiver of any of said parties of any right hereunder. I understand that serious accidents occasionally occur during hiking and that participants in the Challenge may sustain mortal or serious injury as a consequence thereof. Nevertheless, I agree to assume those risks and to release and indemnify and hold harmless all the persons mentioned above who might otherwise be liable to me (or my heirs or assigns) for damages, of whasoever kind or nature.

I attest that the equipment and clothing I will use in this activity is in good condition, and that I have the experience and ability to complete the activity safely. I UNDERSTAND THAT PROPER EQUIPMENT IN GOOD CONDITION CAN PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY. I agree to abide by the rules of this event as established by Hostelling International Pittsburgh and to obey the directions of the event officials. I hereby grant full permission to the trip leaders, Hostelling International Pittsburgh and their respective agents, boards, commissions, and any other involved parties of the foregoing to use photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, or any other record of this event, including my name, likeness and/or voice for any legitimate purpose.

Proceeds from the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge are used to fund Hostelling International Pittsburgh/AYH trail maintenance activities on the Rachel Carson Trail and the Baker Trail.



BICYCLING

IMPROMPTU BICYCLE RIDES EMAIL LIST

Our bicycle email list is up and running. We have been enjoying some good rides. The biggest need now is for people to announce rides.

If you would like to get on our bike email list our address is: letsbikenow-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL. YOU RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Glenn Oster continues to ride and report on various trails across the USA. Visit his website at http://www.intellweb.com/trails/oster.htm

Golden Triangle Articles Junejulyaugust 2002 George Schmidt

WHY SUPPORT THE RACHEL CARSON CHALLENGE, GREAT RIDE AND MON VALLEY CENTURY?

These events directly benefit the Pittsburgh Council to support hostelling and outdoor recreation. For the past 30 years Pittsburgh Council members have also advocated environmental conservation and improved outdoor recreation facilities. When the City of Pittsburgh wanted to develop a bicycle plan they dusted off the plan authored by the Pittsburgh Council and the Western Pennsylvania Wheelmen back in 1972. We have history in the community and respect that was developed by years of commitment by Pittsburgh Council members.

Many of the new directors of the Pittsburgh Council were recruited for their skills to manage and promote our hostels. Once they join the organization and understand that we are more than a couple of nice buildings they become very committed to promoting all aspects of the Pittsburgh Council. We have commitments to the national AYH organization to promote the mission of hostelling. We have commitments to the City of Pittsburgh and the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to maintain our hostels. We have commitments to support the staffs that do an excellent job of operating our hostels. We have commitments to maintain and improve our standing in the outdoor recreation and conservation community.

When you volunteer to support Pittsburgh Council events you are making a statement about supporting international understanding. You are also demonstrating your commitment to people-powered outdoor recreation and conservation of our natural environment. That's a lot to brag about for giving up a few hours of your time.

JOIN US ON THE GREAT RIDE JULY 28!

The GREAT RIDE is the original recreational bicycling tour of Pittsburgh, taking cyclists through three regional parks, across four city bridges, and through twelve city neighborhoods, each with its own distinctive personality. Cyclists of all ages and abilities gather at the Pittsburgh Technology Center, off Second Avenue, to witness the revival of the riverfronts and benefit the Pittsburgh International Youth Hostel. Departure Times: Registration Opens 7:00 a.m.; 50 Mile Ride, 8:00 a.m.; 30 Mile Ride, 8:30 a.m.; 20 Mile Ride, 9:00 a.m.; Family Trail Ride, 9:30 a.m. Any Questions? Call (412) 255-2493 http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/greatride/html/application.html

WE NEED YOUR HELP ON THE GREAT RIDE!

The Pittsburgh Council receives \$2.00 for every rider that participates in the Great Ride. All we have to do is provide a minimum of 26 volunteers. Here's what we need:

- Course Marshals- Minimum of 20 volunteers.
- AYH Rest Stop- Minimum of 3 volunteers to run rest stop.
- Packet Pick-Up and Kick-Off Celebration- Minimum of 3 volunteers (to attend a party!).

In return for you giving up a few hours of your time the Pittsburgh Council receives:

- \$2.00 per Great Ride registrant.
- Logo visibility in 30,000 Great Ride applications.
- Promotion of the Pittsburgh Council on the City of Pittsburgh Great Ride website.
- Recognition as the official beneficiary of the Great Ride in all news releases.

This is a generous deal by the City of Pittsburgh to support the Pittsburgh Council and we need you to take advantage of it. To volunteer to support the Great Ride contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538 or twoschmidts@peoplepc.com.

MON VALLEY CENTURY AUGUST 18, Elizabeth, PA

Bicyclists all over the region truly missed the Mon Valley Century last year. For that reason, and the fact that the Pittsburgh Council needs the money, we are bringing the MVC back this year. Once again we are asking for your help to pull it off. A few hours of your time will bring thousands of dollars to support the Pittsburgh Council and put bugs on the teeth of a lot of bicyclists. To volunteer contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538 or twoschmidts@peoplepc.com.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

At the recent Northeast Regional AYH meeting held at the Pittsburgh Hostel, everyone raved about how nice the Pittsburgh Hostel is laid out and maintained. They lay out was the result of the vision of Marianne Kasica and the directors in her administration. The day-to-day maintenance and cleanliness of the hostel is the result of hard work by an outstanding staff. The only complaint was about the long walk up Mt. Washington after touring the bars on Carson Street.

We are continuing improvements at the Ohiopyle Hostel. Kelly and Steve have done more painting. Kelly's parents should be made a official Pittsburgh Council members as they paint and do repairs every time they visit from Minnesota.

This winter we installed unvented gas logs in the common room. They give off a nice amount of heat and a warm glow. The best part is that Kelly and Steve can control when it is used and they don't have to worry about chopping wood and taking out ashes. It runs off the big propane tank we use for our big hot water heater. Kevin Swenson discovered a deal at Home Depot where we got the logs for about a third of the regular price.

Anne-Marie Lubenau has produced existing condition drawings of the hostel and is working with other architects to develop a plan for improving the hostel with more bathrooms, a new kitchen and perhaps putting on an addition for a new apartment for the managers.

We need people to help with maintenance and improvements at both hostels. If you can spare some time contact Kelly and Steve at Ohiopyle or Mark at Pittsburgh. The Facilities Committee is always open to people who would like to have a serious roll in taking care of our hostels. Contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538 or twoschmidts@peoplepc.com if you are interested.

Wabash Tunnel & Bridge Update

On May 1, 2002 a public meeting was held at the Downtown YMCA regarding opening the Wabash Tunnel in Mt. Washington to bus and HOV traffic and connecting it downtown with a bridge across the Monongahela River. A number of different configurations for the bridge were presented. Traffic would come from PA Rt. 51 through the Wabash Tunnel and across a high bridge over Station Square and the Parkway East and connect with Stanwix Street in downtown Pittsburgh. The drawings show stair towers and an elevator rising from Station Square to 10-foot wide sidewalks leading to the downtown area.

The rationale for the project is the increase in traffic from downtown Pittsburgh to the airport area over the next 20 years and to alleviate congestion at the Ft. Pitt Tunnel and Greentree Hill.

THE KEYSTONE RIDE IS BACK!

The hot news is Keystone 2002 will be lead by Gov. Schweiker on October 3 & 4. This year it will run through the Delaware Valley to Philadelphia. Gov. Ridge started doing the annual ride the first year after he was elected. On Keystone 2000 his cabinet, including Lt. Gov. Schweiker rode in the event. 800 bicyclists attended Keystone 2000. The event is open to the public.

At that time, most people assumed then that Gov. Ridge would be the next Vice-President if "W" was elected and wondered if Schweiker would continue to support bicycling in PA in the manor of Gov. Ridge. Keystone 2001 was canceled days before the event when Governor Ridge accepted the homeland defense job for President Bush. This year Gov. Schweiker announced that the state was having serious budget issues and money for rail-trail projects has been gutted from programs like "Growing Greener". One would hope that Gov. Schweiker's attention to other bicycling and pedestrian issues will continue to be an example in planning PennDot projects and tourism promotion with future administrations.

To receive a registration packet for Keystone Ride 2002 call 717-5314 or email keyride@state.pa.us- please include your name and full mailing address.

This is an update of the WPW Bicycling Calendar 2002. It has been put on our web site and in our monthly newsletter. http://wpwbikeclub.org/

THE LATEST

July 26-28, Laurel Mountain Bike Festival, Laurel Mountain Ski Resort, Laurel Mountain State Park. The first annual Laurel Mountain Bike Festival has received the final green light to take place July 26-28. This fat tire fest will be centered at the Laurel Mountain Ski Resort, in Laurel Mountain State Park just east of Pittsburgh, PA. The deliciously rocky terrain of this trail system will knock your socks off while demonstrating the fantastic possibilities when state agencies, conservation groups, public and private interests work together. In addition to group rides all weekend on Forbes State Forest trails, you can look forward to great seminars, workshops, clinics and presentations of all sorts. Have a look at the attached festival planning document and spread the word!

If your club or organization would like to help with preparation or execution of the festival, or if you would like to register as an exhibitor, presenter, activity leader, or sponsor, just say the word and we'll send you information on being listed in the festival literature. The attached document will spawn a brochure and flyer for newsletters and other publications, so please let us know if we can send you copies for publication or posting in your bike shop. Festival Prices are being determined and will be distributed as well. Western Pennsylvania Field Institute, www.wpfi.org; Pittsburgh Trails Advocacy Group (PTAG); Pittsburgh Off Road Cyclists (PORC); Laurel Highland Off Road Cyclists (LHORBA); Contact: mtbikefestinfo@yahoo.com

August 4 WPW August Picnic, South Park, Allegheny County Joe and Barb Rudolph; jprud1950@hotmail.com

September 7-8 Fourth Annual That Dam Ride to Confluence. An overnight ride from either Boston, PA. or Connellsville to Confluence and return. Check the website at www.thatdamride.org or call 412-462-5328.

THE EVENTS* THE EVENTS* THE EVENTS*

MAY- NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

The year 2002 marks the 46th consecutive year that the League of American Bicyclists will declare May to be National Bike Month.

May 19 Pedal Pittsburgh, Station Square, Pittsburgh. \$25individual, \$50 family after May 1. Rides of 15,25,35,50,and 60 miles around the city highlighting Pittsburgh neighborhoods and architecture. To ride or volunteer: 412.232.3545 or www.pedalpittsburgh.org.

May 30, 2002 PA Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – Lehigh Valley June 2nd MYTC's, Yough-n-Roll, (1st Sunday in June) Non-competitive 15 & 40 mile bike tours on Youghiogheny River Trail, North Section. Starts in "little" Boston, PA. A -Tee-shirt Ride that supports trail maintenance in Allegheny County

June The 11th Annual Indiana Five Points Classic Road Races & Criterium. http://indianacyclingclub.homestead.com for more information

JUNE 08 WHEELMEN'S ANNUAL GATHERING (WAG 33), Latrobe, PA Rides of 33k, 33 miles, 66K, and 66 miles. Contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538 or email twoschmidts@peoplepc.com

June 8-9 MS150, Cranberry

June 8 to 16 Fourth Annual Yokatomac Trek, Washington, DC to McKeesport A fully supported bicycle ride from Washington DC to Pittsburgh via the C&O Canal and the Great Allegheny Passage, Organized by the Allegheny Trail Alliance volunteers.

For general information see http://atatrail.org/yoktrek/y02trek.htm
For the Itinerary see http://atatrail.org/yoktrek/2002itinerary.htm
For Registration form see http://atatrail.org/yoktrek/2002registration.htm
For Release form see http://atatrail.org/yoktrek/2002registration.htm
To receive additional e-mailings send e-mail to
mailto://join-2002trek@listserver.atatrail.org

June 16th - Saturday, June 22nd ,RTC's River Sojourn, (3rd week in June) One week on the Youghiogheny River. Fully supported river awareness adventure . You will bike, canoe, duckie and white water the windy Yough from Confluence to McKeesport, a total of 70 miles. Come for the week, or just a day or two

June 21-22 3rd Annual "Western Edge" Ride. Mt. Morris to Presque Isle. The dates are set for Friday/Saturday June 21-22, 2002. We will leave from Mt. Morris on Friday morning around 7:00 AM. We will stay overnight at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, PA on Friday night. We will go on to the Perry monument in Presque Isle State Park (Erie, PA) on Saturday.

Transportation and overnight accommodation arrangements will be similar to last year's event. Benefits Greene County Habitat for Humanity, Inc. (or another Habitat for Humanity affiliate of the rider's choice)

Registration information for this year's event is as follows:

Registration Deadline: June 1, 2002.

Standard Registration Fee: \$100.00 (\$50.00 with \$200 minimum sponsorship) "Early Bird" Registration Deadline: April 15, 2002.

"Early Bird" Registration Beatame: 74pm 15, 2002.

"Early Bird" Registration Fee: \$75.00 (\$40.00 with \$200 minimum sponsorship)

Persons wanting more information about this ride should contact Roger and/or

Beverly Saunders, Event Coordinators, by phone at (724) 966-5113 or by e-mail at bfr641@helicon.net. www.gchfh-teamhabitat.org

JUNE 30 Tour de Sewickley http://trfn.clpgh.org/teli

JULY 14 Alcoa Pittsburgh Triathlon

JULY 14 Tour De Cure, Seneca Valley High School

July 20th - Sunday July 21st, RTC's M&M Century, (3rd weekend in July) 100 miles over two days of biking through the beautiful Laurel Highlands from Meyersdale to McKeesport. Fully supported T-shirt ride.

July 26,27 & 28 The International Bicycle Race begins in Pittsburgh.

July 26-28, Laurel Mountain Bike Festival, Laurel Mountain Ski Resort, Laurel Mountain State Park. The first annual Laurel Mountain Bike Festival has received the final green light to take place July 26-28. This fat tire fest will be centered at the Laurel Mountain Ski Resort, in Laurel Mountain State Park just east of Pittsburgh, PA. Contact: mtbikefestinfo@yahoo.com

July 27-28 Keystone MS150 from Hollidaysburg to State College and back.

July 28 The GREAT RIDE is the original recreational bicycling tour of Pittsburgh, taking cyclists through three regional parks, across four city bridges, and through twelve city neighborhoods, each with its own distinctive personality. Cyclists of all ages and abilities gather at the Pittsburgh Technology Center, off Second Avenue, to witness the revival of the riverfronts and benefit the Pittsburgh International Youth Hostel.

Departure Times: Registration Opens 7:00 a.m.; 50 Mile Ride, 8:00 a.m.; 30 Mile Ride, 8:30 a.m.; 20 Mile Ride, 9:00 a.m.; Family Trail Ride, 9:30 a.m. Any Questions? Call (412) 255-2493

http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/greatride/html/application.html

July 26th through August 4th, The International, nee Tour de Toona, 301 Union Ave, PO Box 324, Altoona, PA 16602, 814-949-7223 Fax814-943-3680 theinternational@charterpa.com 780 total miles

AUGUST 4 WPW PICNIC, South Park, Allegheny County. Road rides and trail rides and dedication of a new section of the Montour Trail. Contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538 or twoschmidts@peoplepc.com.

AUGUST 2-4, BIKEFEST 2002, Amherst, MA.

BikeFest 2002, the League's National Rally will be held at UMass-Amherst, August 2-4 in scenic, rural western Mass. at the site of the League's Great Eastern Area Rally in 1995. BikeFest 2002 will offer fantastic cycling for all levels of ability on low-traffic roads and mountain bike trails. Plenty of flat road rides along the Connecticut River valley, plus both rolling and challenging hilly rides in the foothills of the Berkshires. Family-oriented and technical mountain biking will be offered at Mt. Toby and Amethyst Brook, just ten miles from campus.

July 30 PA Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee - Johnstown August 12 The 5th Annual Pedal n' Party will be held Sunday, August 12th at VALHALLA Microbrewery and Restaurant in the Strip District - 1150 Smallman Street. There are 12, 27, and 62-Mile routes. After the ride there is a complementary bar-be-que and free BEER! Please call Lyn Weimer Huffman at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at 412.321.4422 or email at lhuffman@cff.org for more information.

SEPTEMBER WPW Fall Rally

Sept 2nd (Labor Day), WYTC's Poker Ride

Non-competitive bike ride and walk. Loads of door prizes. Supports maintenance of the Yough River Trail north in Westmoreland County.

Sept 7 - Sunday Sept 8, MYTC's Dam Ride, (2nd weekend in September) Two-day fully supported ride from McKeesport to the Yough Lake Dam at Confluence and back. Tee-shirt ride supports both the Steel Valley Trail and the Yough River Trail.

September 7-8 Fourth Annual That Dam Ride to Confluence. An overnight ride from either Boston, PA. or Connellsville to Confluence and return. Check the website at www.thatdamride.org or call 412-462-5328.

Sept. 14 (Sat.) - "Covered Bridge Ride" Greene County.

September 15 NEOC, North East Ohio Century, will be Sunday Sep. 15 (we schedule the third Sunday in Sep). Starting again in Newton Falls, Ohio. Contact Eugenia Pierce, 231 Upland Ave,

Youngstown, OH 44504, (330) 746 4157, e-mail capierce@cc.ysu.edu , web site www.cboss.com/osw

September 28, Over the Falls Race, Ohiopyle, PA Multi-sport event featuring a kayak race that includes going over the falls at Ohiopyle.

OCTOBER

Oct 2 -Sunday, Oct 3, MYTC's YoughtoberFest, (1st weekend in October) Two days of fun, food, music and celebration of the fall season. Located along the Youghiogheny River Trail in "little" Boston, PA.

OTHER MEETINGS

02-July 28, 2002 Pennsylvania Greenway Sojourn

White Haven to Washington Crossing The Pennsylvania Greenway Sojourn, July 25-28, is a family-oriented, off-road tour averaging three 30-mile days on bicycle and one 10-mile raft trip. Using flat, wide and smooth abandoned railroad beds and canal towpaths, the excursion will travel 100 miles from

White Haven in the Pocono Mountains to Washington's Crossing on the Delaware River north of Philadelphia. Stopping overnight in historic Jim Thorpe and Bethlehem, this Thursday to Sunday event is meant for average adults and their children who seek an attainable challenge, but also would like to leisurely and safely tour the countryside. Each night, participants will camp at beautiful sites that offer educational, historical and recreational activities for the family. Three meals per day are included in the price of \$250.00. Camping gear, etc. is transported ahead to each campsite. Bus travel back to the starting point and bicycle rentals are available for an extra fee. Contact Information Phone 717-238-1717; Email: rtcofpa@transact.org

6th Annual Outdoor Extravaganza May 24 - 27, 2002

Rose Point Park Campground near Moraine and McConnells Mill State Parks and Slippery Rock Creek, I79, exit Route 422 west 1 mile.

We have a weekend full of various outdoor activities:

road bike trips, bike trail trips, mountain biking, canoeing on Lake Arthur, canoeing in streams, kayaking, caving, sailing on Lake Arthur, rock climbing at Mc-Connell's Mill, horseback riding and hiking, from easy to advanced.

We use Rose Point Park for our base camp. Leaders meet you here and take you to where each trip begins. Delicious breakfasts, bag lunches and evening meals are catered to the campground by Fairground Market who also does the Pig Roast Sat. night. All meals are optional.

We provide speakers and a presentation Fri. Sat. and Sun. evenings and a weiner roast after the Friday eve speaker.

This weekend is a must! For detailed information contact:

For more information call Joyce Appel, 724-526-5407

Mail form to Joyce Appel, Box 204D, RD#1, East Brady, Pa. 16028

Sponsored by the Butler Outdoor Club

Club website: www.butleroutdoorclub.org

Name(s):	
Address:	
Phone:	Fax or Email:
Total No. Adults:	Total Number of Children under age 12:

^{*} No daily activity fee or camping fee for children
* Half price meals for children under 12.

	Fees:	Fri 5/24	Sat 5/25	Sun 5/26	Mon 5/27	Totals
Activity Fee	\$ 5/day/adult or					
	\$15/weekend					
Parking (if not camping)	\$2/day					
Breakfast	\$ 5/day *					
Bag Lunch	\$ 5/day *					
Dinner	\$ 9/Sat \$8/Sun. *					
Pontoon Boat Tour	\$ 6.25 Adult					
	\$ 3.50 Child					
Kayak (per person)	\$15 rental					
Canoe (per canoe)	\$25 rental					
Camping 3 nights = \$30	per adult kids free					
2 nights = \$25 1 = \$15	Totals:					
* Select 1	st & 2 nd choice activ	ities each day	(Shaded da	ays not availal	ble) *	
	Trail o	r Road Biking				
	Mo	ountain Biking				
(at nearby stables	s \$16 1 st hr.) Hors	seBack Riding				
(rentals available) (14 mile) Bike Nor	rth Shore Trail				
		Hiking	,			
Rapeling & R	tock Climbing at Mc	Connell's Mill		Raindate	Raindate	
	Pontoon Boat Tour	of Lake Arthur				
(rentals available)	Canoeing/Kayaking	stream or river				
(rentals available)Canoeing/Kayaking on Lake						
Beginning Sailing by Moraine Sailing Club						

^{**} caving planned Sun.,but will be Sat or Mon if rockclimbing is postponed to Sun. or Mon.

Beginning Caving

Sat., July 20



CANOEING

(724) 347-3282 Activity Co-chairs: Paul Henry

Brian McBane (724) 443-8972

AYH Canoe Calendar June-August 2002

May 24-27 Jon and Becky Maiman (412-242-7179)

Annual Memorial Day Weekend Canoe Camp—river to

be determined.

Saturday, June 1 Brian McBane 724-443-8972

Moving Water School

Fri.-Sun., June7-9 Joyce Appel 724-526-5407

Canoe Camping

TRPC sponsored Slippery Rock Clinic Sat., Sun., June 8, 9

Sat., June 15 River Sweep in Western PA

Brian McBane 724-443-8972 Sat., June 15

Beginner Trip

Wed.-Sun. July 4-7 Shelley/Eric Nilson 412-487-3255

\$1 OFF ANY ADMISSION

Canoe Camping 4th July Trip

Rich Gemeinhart 412-462-1876

Moving Water School

Kate Fissell 412-683-2157 Sat., July 27

Kate is negotiating a release for the Mahoning,

Class I

TRPC sponsored Turkey Bash Clinic Sat., Sun., Aug 3, 4

Sat., Aug. 10 Janet Supowitz 412-247-4016

Janet's Pot Luck Paddle is returning after several

In lieu of an individual lunch, participants are asked to bring a dish to share. Call for reserva-

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Pittsburgh Council has a weekly Open House every Thursday evening from 8 pm to 10 pm at Fifth and Shady Avenues in Shadyside. Look for us next to Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. A slide show at 8:30 pm is followed by announcements of the weekend's trips. Hostel Passes, guide books and more available.

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The Pittsburgh Council Travel Store is open every day from 8am to 10am and 5 pm to 10pm. 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.