

golden triangle ayh

pittsburgh council, american youth hostels, inc.

Volume 24 Number 1 January 1973

OPEN HOUSE

8:30 pm Thursdays

Jan. 4

Mountains, Villages and Antiquities
Joe Levine will show slides from his
recent trip to Europe, taken on hikes
in the Alps and Dolomites; plus
unusual scenes of Italy and Yugoslavia.

Jan. 11

Rich Bartoo takes us on a tour of
U.S. and Canadian National Parks.
The great national parks of Canada,
with glaciers and wildlife, will be
the highlight. Chasing buffalo through
Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial
Park, and feeding the prairie dogs.

Jan. 18

Jay and Margaret Angel show a
potpourri of cycling slides including
the national AYH trip which Jay led
in New England.

Jan. 25

The great backpacker, Henry Pollock,
has returned from his travels! Tonight,
if he's still here, he and/or Helen
McGinnis will show slides of a backpack
trip to the Marshall Wilderness.

"Beauty is in the eye of the
beholder..."

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On the Slopes:

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Skiing in Peril?

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by Jack Kowalski

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* Due to legislation still pending,
* skiing may be curtailed. Many of
* our ski areas are in State or
* Federally regulated parks. With
* the explosion of skiing, a number
* of these areas are asking permits
* to expand. However, this per-
* mission is being held up in
* court by the action of ecology-
* minded clubs.

*

* Yes, we should keep the forests
* as natural areas, but many of the
* ski areas are in recreational
* areas that have ski trails and
* roads which were built years ago.
* These ecology clubs should attempt
* to restrict the nemesis of the
* winter forest: the snowmobile.

*

* Due to the snowmobile manufacturers'
* big lobby power, they are making
* inroads to good hiking and ski
* touring trails. You must hike on
* these trails immediately after the
* snow melts to see the garbage and
* damage these noismakers leave
* behind.

*

SUPPORT WHITE SNOW!!

*

On the snowy Trails:

*

A note regarding Ski Tours:

*

by Charles Ralph

*

* Two kinds of SKI TOURING (cross
* country) outings will be available
* this year. (continued on next page)

1. One-day trips, of specified class of difficulty (see below), led by experienced skiers. Contact the leader listed to find out about snow conditions, where to meet, where the skiing will be done, and what to bring along.
2. Weekend ski and training gatherings at a state park on the eastern slope of Laurel Hill where primitive, overnight cabin space will be available by reservation. These trips are for persons properly equipped with cross-country and ski-touring gear who wish to improve their skiing and stamina. George Romavacek will be the head instructor. About 16 spaces will be available each weekend. Call Charles Ralph at 361-7663 to reserve space. You may reserve now for any weekend in January.

Skiers (and the difficulty of trips) will be classified according to these SKI TOURING ASSOCIATION categories:

- Beginner--a person who has never skied before or who has no knowledge of waxing technique for touring or who has never done overland skiing.
 Novice--a skier who can ski under good control with a good snowplow turn and be able to safely descend a trail of up to 10% slope.
 Intermediate--an experienced skier who can negotiate most all trails and has good control on descents up to 20%.
 Expert--the very hardy skier who can take any trail at reasonable speed and bushwhack through rough country.

HOWEVER YOU SEE THE SNOW, GOOD SKIING TO YOU THIS SEASON!!

SKI NOTES:

SKI TOURING seminars are being offered by the Ligonier Mountain Outfitters every Saturday. Phone (238-6246) or write for Reservations. Cost: Cost: \$1 per seminar.

Toboggan Rental: 50¢ per evening, \$1 per day. (AYH)

Snow Shoe Rental: 50¢ per pair, per day. (AYH)

Downhill Ski trips will be announced at Thursday night meetings, due to the unpredictability of Pittsburgh Snow.

ADVANCE NOTICE: FUTURE ACTIVITIES...

Anyone interested in Cross-Country Ski Time Trials and/or racing? Call John Edwards 833-2682.

Anyone interested in going to the Montreal-to-Ottawa Cross Country Ski Marathon? The trail is 100 miles, but it is divided into 10 mile sections and you can ski as far as you like. Last year it was held February 26 & 27. I don't know when it will be this year, but expect it to be about the same time. I will probably drive. Call me if you are interested. John Edwards (833-2682).

March 4-7 is the scene for the League of American Wheelmen Winter Rendezvous in Homestead, Fla. (about 30 miles south of Miami). There are bicycle trips and tours to places such as the Everglades National Park. Bicycling is very fine in this area. Also, there is good skin diving. There is a \$9 registration for this which includes a banquet dinner. March 9-11 is a Bicycle/Boat tour from Miami to Freeport and Nassau. Call John Edwards (833-2682) for more info.

Want Ads

3

KAYAK MOLD PROJECT

We need people to help build AYH's new super-kajak mold so that we will have a new K-1 mold to use before next spring. All those helping to build the mold will have priority for its use. Please contact PHIL MASON (521-6477) if you can help.

Also, if you are interested in building a new boat for the spring water canoeing season, contact PHIL. If enough people are interested, a group project could be arranged. It cuts the cost DRASTICALLY!! There are several molds available--SL-6 (or R-2 if you prefer), Prijon kayaks and the new J-1 hopefully; Yugo-2 and Bonet C-1's and the Femat C-2. There is also a Hahn mold in the area.

Choose your style and let's get going before the spring water catches up!!

SHOOTING FOR ALL CAMERA BUFFS

The TRIANGLE needs a front cover.

Whenever you shoot black and white, please send a copy of one of your best to the editor to use on the cover. If someone in each activity would deliberately shoot b&w one day, we would have enough pictures for a year of covers!!

NEW HOME NEEDED:

for the Multilith machine.
South Hills area preferable.

Contact Bruce Sundquist 327-8737

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* publication of the Pittsburgh Council
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* 6300 Fifth Ave., Pgh., Pa. 15232
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* Editor: Katherine Spindt 364-2447
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instruction

New Winter Hours

11-5 weekdays 7-9 Thur. & Fri.

TRUTH, BEAUTY AND RULE 17.35 FROM THE OFFICIAL HOSTEL HIKING MANUAL

by An Observer

The legendary Harvey Shapiro is alive and well and wandering over the countryside -- but he doesn't obey rule 17.35 or even hike. What he does is canoe some of the most difficult rivers in the country -- at times putting his life in danger -- but always surviving (so far). Probably much of the stuff Harvey canoes is not even covered by rule 17.35 or any rule like it. This doesn't bother Harvey too much since he seldom canoes with the hostel.

So what?! Well, the thing is this; Why go on a hostel trip at all -- and if you do go, under what set of rules should the trip operate? Or take the larger question -- Under what set of rules should the whole group operate? You take it and think about it because I'm not going to try to discuss it here, only make a few observations.

I have hiked in the winter and been awed by the magnificent desolation, excited by the sensation of walking through snowy forest, and at the same time, pleased by good company. This sense of joy at being out in nature with a few hearty comrades is a good reason for a hostel trip. The simple pleasure of pedaling a bicycle through a scenic countryside, surrounded by fresh air is another good reason and one can think of many other examples. But none of this is really 'logical'. If it is cold outside, it is 'logical' to stay in your nice warm house and watch a football game. To understand why people hike in the winter, one must understand the spirit of man.

I sometimes go on a trip lead by someone who knows a great deal more about the particular activity than I do. When this occurs, I am grateful that someone would take the time and trouble to lead such a trip -- and since the leader gets essentially no financial reward, I can only consider that he does it because of the satisfaction gained by introducing others to the joys of that activity.

Such people are usually experts in their particular area and can engage in their chosen activities with a few other experts. They do not need to lead trips, nor even to tell stories about them. But the presence of such people infuse a spirit of excitement into an organization. They are probably the people most easily irritated by petty rules and most quick to respond by simply ignoring those who make the rules. In short they leave the organization, and take with them the spirit of excitement that makes the organization a living thing. The trips and the organization go on -- at least for a while -- but the spirit departs.

I don't think this has happened to the hostel. We are active in many areas and are a viable organization. I think some rules are necessary for any organization and I don't really think we have too many -- yet. But every once in a while I see a 'rule maker' arise with all kinds of new rules to make and I worry a little and perhaps you should too. Organizational spirit can be a very tough thing, but sometimes it can be surprisingly frail.

January Trips and Trails

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The trips listed below are open to the public, on a first come, first served basis, with AYH members having priority. Call the trip leader, if one is listed, to make reservations and to find out more about the trip: experience required, equipment needed, etc. Cost of a trip includes equipment rental (if any), transportation, 30¢ for AYH registration and 10¢ for insurance. Each tripper is insured up to \$500 for medical expenses. One last thing: If you should decide to cancel your reservation for a trip, please call the trip leader and let him know.

- Sat. 29 NEW YEAR'S BACKPACK--Cranberry Backcountry. AYH leaders only.
to C.Ham, leader.
Mon. 1
- Fri. 5 CAVING--or hiking? A one day, one night hike in West Virginia
to with Norm Snyder, one of our resident cavers. Call Norm for
Sat. 6 details at 371-2371.
- Sun. 7 SKI TOURING--for Beginners and Novices. Contact leader Charles
Ralph for details. (361-7663).
- Sat. 13 HIKING--Beginners 5 mile hike in Settler's Cabin Park. Leave
AYH 12:00 noon. Cost about \$1. Contact Eb Moll (441-0226).
- Sat. 13 HIKING--Joint hike with Boondockers, probably in North Park.
Meet at 8:00 a.m. Call Cliff Ham (687-4960) for additional info.
- Sun. 14 SKI TOURING--for Beginners and Novices. Contact the leader,
Margaret Angel (362-5282) for details.
- Fri. 19 CAVING--Join Norm on a cave trip to West Virginia to escape the
to cold! Remember that the temperature of a cave is about 49 degrees
Sat. 20 all year round! Call Norm for details. (371-2371)
- Sat. 20 SKI TOURING--for Beginners and Novices. Contact leader Mike Weir
(371-6668) for details.
- Sun. 21 HIKING--Hike Section 2 of the Baker Trail, 8 miles from Clark's
farm to Crooked Creek Shelter and Route 66. Meet at AYH 8:00 a.m.
Leaders Cliff and Marilyn Ham. (687-4960). Cost about \$2.
- Sun. 21 HIKING--Laurel Highlands hike, snow shoeing or ski touring,
depending on contitions. Leave AYH at 8:00 a.m. Contact Larry
Giventer (422-9282) for details.
- Sun. 28 SKI TOURING--for Intermediates and Experts. Meet at Ligonier
Mountain Outfitters in Laughlintown on Route 30 at 10:00 a.m.
Bring lunch and day pack. Contact leader, Jamie Myers (238-6246)
if additional information is needed.
- Sun. 28 HIKING--Exploration for Baker Trail extension; Springdale to
Natrona, about 8 miles including Bouquet Bluffs Park. Cliff
Ham, chief explorer (687-4960). Cost about \$1.50.



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4 OPEN HOUSE 8:30 pm Joe Lavine Europe	5 Hiking - W.Va. Ice Skating 10-1 North Park	6 Hiking - W.Va.	7 Ski Tour - beg.
8	9 activities Board 8:00pm	10	11 OPEN HOUSE 8:30 pm Rich Bartoo US + Can. Nat. Parks	12 Ice Skating 10-1 North Park	13 Hike <u>5mi</u> Hike with Boondockers	14 Ski Tour - beg.
15	16	17	18 OPEN HOUSE 8:30 pm J. + M. Angel cycling &	19 Caving - W.Va. Ice Skating 10-1 North Park	20 Hiking - W.Va. Ski Tour - beg.	21 Hiking - Laurel Highlands
22	23	24	25 OPEN HOUSE 8:30 pm. Henry Pollock Marshall Wilderness	26 Ice Skating 10-1 North Park	27	28 Ski Tour - Int. Hike - B.Tr. exploration
29	30	31	January '73			



Pittsburgh Council
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THINK WHITE SNOW!!