

# The Golden Triangle

Pittsburgh Council

American Youth Hostels

Volume 41 Number 9

September 1990

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## Slide Programs for September

September 6  
Alaska  
Fred & Eileen Hull

September 13  
Art of Italy  
Albert Labriola

September 20  
Colorado  
Pete Srin

September 27  
AYH Sailing on Lake Arthor  
Bob Zavos

Slide shows begin at 8:15 pm  
Headquarters opens at 8:00 pm

We need shows. To volunteer call  
Rodney Horner (339-0944)

## World Traveler - African Adventures

by Jerry Stagle

### Part III

Next, we crossed over the river by ferry to Zongo, Zaire. Here the customs officials wanted small gifts. At many border posts, we had to unload the whole truck for inspection. This took hours. At this border, one official wanted all my disposable razors. He was like a child on Christmas, opening presents while inspecting our luggage. I gave him one razor and he then wanted shaving cream!

I didn't have any shaving cream and stated so and he said, "Oh! Okay." He didn't inspect the rest of my luggage and continued to look for gifts in other passengers' luggage.

Later this night after we drove far from the border and we were sleeping at our jungle campsite we had visitors. They sneaked into our camp and with razor blades cut into the tents of people who were snoring. The visitors stuck their hands inside the tents and felt around for any cameras, wallets or other things of value. They even came on the back of the truck while two people were sleeping on the seats and went through the hand luggage in the overhead rack. Surprisingly, they did not touch my bags, so I did not lose anything. They were discovered when someone in the tent woke up after being bitten by mosquitoes coming in through the cuts. He gave the alarm and the burglars took off into the jungle dropping items here and there. This is one reason I do not take expensive cameras or gear along.

Zaire is also where the truck was stuck in the mud for five days. Our driver was trying to avoid a small puddle in the middle of the road, so he went too far to the right. The right wheels went off the hard pack road surface and onto the soft mud. It sounds

strange now, but we could not get those wheels back up on the hard road surface. We tried jacking up the side of the truck and placing boards underneath, but the jack just sunk into the mud. The ground was not stable enough to support the wheels, so we had to wait for a big truck to come by and pull us out using a chain. During this wait, our truck leaned over its right side at a dangerous angle, so we used trees to brace the truck. Locals helped us in the digging. They used a farm tractor and ropes to try to pull the truck out. After a few days, they wanted to be paid for their labor, but our driver didn't think they were worth paying. We were still stuck in the mud when we discovered that they were going to raid the truck that night when we were asleep and steal everything they could. We had a local man traveling with us to the next town that had a bank who informed us of the raid. We owed his boss money for diesel, but had travelers checks and no bank was open that weekend. So the employee was sent along with us to the next town and would return by boat after we paid him.

After we were informed about the raid, we began a twenty-four hour security guard over the truck. We were not armed, and I don't know what would happen if they did attack. They didn't, but later when the truck was being pulled out by a six wheel drive truck, some locals made a rush for the equipment while the others helped push the truck out of the mud. They grabbed the jerry cans and other equipment and tossed them into the jungle alongside the road. It took us awhile to recover the equipment because of the dense jungle, so we did loose a few things.

Every time the truck broke down, which was often, I would go for a walk in the vicin-

continued on page 12



## COUNCIL NEWS

### Annual Meeting and Elections

The annual meeting of Pittsburgh Council will be held on FRIDAY evening October 19th. The actual location has not been determined yet but will be announced in the October newsletter. As in the past, the meeting will be preceded by a dinner. The business of the meeting will be to elect officers and committee chairs for the Council's 1990/1991 business year, to hear reports of this year's operations from the current officers and chairs, and to conduct other business as may be brought before the membership. Only persons with current Pittsburgh Council memberships as of the night of the meeting will be permitted to vote, but everyone is welcome to attend the dinner and meeting. The slate of recommended candidates will be published in the October newsletter as will the text of any resolutions that are known at that time. In the meantime, check the nominating committee's announcement for positions that will be available this year. In addition to the recommendations of the committee, members of the Council may be nominated directly for any elected position.

**Candidates Sought for Council Offices.** The Nominating Committee, chaired by Linda Smithyman, has the responsibility for recommending to the membership at the annual meeting a slate of qualified candidates for the positions that will be available. The committee will be contacting current office holders and other qualified candidates this month. If you are interested in serving your Council in one of these capacities or in serving on one of the committees, please speak to Linda. There are also a number of appointed versus elected positions as well that are filled by the President or committee chair with the concurrence of the Board. There will be 5 members of the Board of Directors who will be up for re-election this year, and there are still 4 additional seats that need to be filled. Please contact Linda or Larry Laude for additional information on requirements. The President, Treasurer, and Secretary will also be elected and will serve ex officio on the Board of Directors. (The vice presidents are elected by the activities board from its membership.) The following standing committee chairs will be elected: Membership, Hostel Development, Pittsburgh Hostel, Hostel Operations, Headquarters Maintenance, Headquarters Operations, Newsletter Editor, Marketing, Publications, Trails Coordinator, Environmental Service, Special Events, World Adventure, Trips Coordinator, Canoeing, Caving, Climbing, Cross-Country Skiing, Cycling, Hiking & Backpacking, Kayaking, Sailing, Sea-Kayaking, Rafting, Volleyball, Families. Candidates for the following positions are especially needed: Hostel Operations, Ohiopyle Coordinator, Special Events, Headquarters Operations, and Storekeeper. *Larry Laude* ➡

### BRING A HOSTELER HOME

From time to time we get calls from international hostellers who have arrived in Pittsburgh during the school year when our Supplemental Accommodation at Point Park College is not open and find themselves without any place to stay.

If you would be willing to open up your home to international visitors for one or two nights, please call Larry Laude at 412-665-9554 or Marianne Kasica at 412-921-5272.

If you would be interested in doing this regularly, another possibility for you to consider is to be chartered as a Home Hostel. Home Hostels would be welcome not only in Pittsburgh but in all parts of our jurisdiction, such as Erie, State College, Greensburgh, Morgantown, and the Allegheny National Forest.

### THE PITTSBURGH HOSTEL STORY

by Linda Smithyman

Well we've had another setback but the committee continues to seek a hostel site for our city. Does anybody read this anyway? We will meet on Monday, September 10th at 7:30 pm. Call Linda for where and how to get there at 531-1868.

### Renewals

Please check your label to find out if your membership will be renewing soon. As a matter of fact, memberships sold in September of 1989 will be expiring this month. Renewal reminders will be mailed directly from the National office, although we understand that the September reminders may not actually come out until October. But that shouldn't create any problems, because you can always renew directly through Pittsburgh Council, either at an Open House meeting or through the mail. The rates are listed on the application at the back of the newsletter. Remember that for adult and family members there is a \$10 discount for renewing members. (Youth and senior citizen members already receive a discount.) The Membership Committee. ➡

### Deadlines for the October Issue

Copy  
September 6

Binding and Mailing  
September 27

## Ray Yutzy Elected to Board of Directors

At the August 15th Board of Directors meeting, Ray Yutzy of Mount Lebanon was elected to fill a vacant position on the Board. Ray brings a continuing interest in the Council Activities Program as well as a strong commitment to the Pittsburgh Hostel. Ray may be most familiar to many of you as Kayaking Co-chair, a position he's held since the program was started over ten years ago. When he's not involved with AYH, he teaches social studies at Baldwin High School and is also very active in the Greater Pittsburgh Aquarium Society. Ray is 41 and is married to Jane Swanson. ➡

## BUDGETS

At the October activities board meeting on October 3, the budgets for fiscal 1991 will be reviewed. In order to prepare the council budget, Fred Hull needs the input from each committee chairperson by September 20. Items needed are registration fees, rentals, capital equipment purchases, supplies, and sale of used equipment. *Fred Hull* ➡

## Board of Directors

At a special meeting on August 15th, the Board approved making an offer for a building on the South Side for the Pittsburgh International Hostel. (Unfortunately, as of this writing, it is our understanding that the building is under agreement to another buyer. We will continue our search for other buildings.) The Board also elected Ray Yutzy to fill a vacant position on the Board and approved submitting a charter extension for the Ohiopele hostel to the National office. ➡

# THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Last September I was writing about all the changes in AYH membership. After a year of working with the new system, I think I can report a qualified success. Our new members have seemed to accept the needed increase in the cost of an AYH pass and certainly have welcomed the 12 month membership — members joining in August will get a full twelve months of membership instead of expiring in December at the end of the calendar year. The change in expiration date also will spread out the renewals over 12 calendar months instead of worrying about the renewal crush over the year end holidays. The two new categories of Sustaining and Supporting memberships were not well received; I suspect that many people preferred to make a straight donation rather than joining at these higher levels. I don't have any statistics on this yet, but judging by the sales of passes over the last few months, overall membership should be up significantly over last year.

All these changes were accompanied by a completely new computer system at the National office as well. The transition has gone reasonably well but there are still a lot of the inevitable "bugs" to be worked out yet. At the local level, we owe a lot to the four people who keep our membership sales running: Joe Levine, who handles mail sales and reports to National; Royanne Mac, who handles our pass selling agencies; Steve Poprocky, who sells memberships at the Front Desk at Headquarters every Thursday; and Joel Platt, who keeps all of our membership files up to date on his computer. Larry Laude 412-665-9554. ➡

## Activities Board Meeting ....

At its August meeting, the Activities Board approved the standing committees for 1991; changes consisted of deleting Service as a separate committee, renaming Extended Trips as World Adventure, and creating a new Headquarters Operations Committee that have overall responsibility for day to day operations at headquarters and would incorporate the existing positions of Program Chair and Storekeeper. The existing Headquarters Committee would become Headquarters Maintenance, responsible for major repairs and renovations. A nominating committee is being formed to locate candidates for vacancies on the Board. Renewal of membership in GRIP, the Pittsburgh Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Rails to Trails Conservancy and Laurel Highlands, Inc. was approved. A donation of \$100 toward the Syracuse hostel was approved. The Treasurer was authorized to obtain improved insurance coverage at Headquarters and Ohiopele. Finally, the date for the annual Christmas party was set for December 20th.

The September meeting of the Activities Board will be held at Rodney Homer's home at 203 Rampart Boulevard in Plum Borough. Check the mailed agenda for the meeting for directions or call Rodney at 339-0944 (h). The agenda will include preparations for the annual meeting and preliminary discussions of the annual budget. ➡



## Trips in September

### **BICYCLING**

**General Information:** It is best to call the trip leader before the ride to tell him or her that you are coming and to see if there are any changes. Make sure that your bike works properly and bring a spare inner tube, at least one water bottle, and if the weather looks threatening, a rain jacket or rain suit. AYH bicycle rentals must be arranged with the trip leader one week in advance. Bicycle helmets (ANSI or Snell approved) are required on all AYH cycling trips.

9/1-3 Fri- Mon All Bill Eberle 833-9732

PA Wine Country, xxx miles Camping near Northeast PA (about 15 miles from Erie). A variety of riding is available ranging from flat riding along Lake Erie to the hills near Lake Chataqua. This trip may also be attractive to non-cyclists as well. Reserve by August 16.

9/8 Sat A-C George Schmidt 521-1538

**Meet at North Park.** 100-25 miles. Western Pa Wheelmen's Century Saturday, Celebrate National Century Month on one of these rides. There is a 100 mile (7:00 a.m.), 65 mile (8:00 a.m.), and a 25 mile (9:00 a.m.). All rides leave from Olympia Grove in North Park. Expect to pay some nominal fee (about \$1) and you are invited to bring some home baked goodies for apres ride munching. Note that this is not an Pittsburgh AYH Ride, but they are worth going on.

9/16 Sun C Jeff Weiss 661-8831

25 miles Probably a ride near HQ, but if you have a better suggestion call Jeff.

9/23 Sun B Jeff Marsh 384-7827

**Meet at Elizabeth.** Mon Valley, 50 miles A scenic excursion in the Mon Valley. The terrain is relatively flat.

9/28-30 Fri-Sun All Joe and Cheryl Hoechner 242-0781

**Stanford House Hostel.** xxx miles, Join Joe and Cheryl on yet another excursion to a very nice hostel. The hostel is located in the Cuyahoga National Recreation Area. It is between Cleveland and Akron and is located along the string of parks which comprise Cleveland's Emerald Necklace. The area is great for riding or even hiking if you prefer. Space is limited, so contact Joe or Cheryl early.

### **Pittsburgh Council Activity Chairs**

#### **Bicycling**

Chuck Ejzak 466-6196  
Dino Angelici 931-6651

#### **Canoeing**

Clare Bunker 244-9788

#### **Caving**

Dan Mart 921-4638

#### **Climbing**

Eric Bauer 687-0766  
Rich Rosenberger 355-4058

#### **Family Activities**

Barbara Hanusa 441-7205

#### **Hiking & Backpacking**

Ben Brugmans 736-2751  
Pat Tieman 561-3286

#### **Kayaking**

Ray Yutzy 341-5682  
John Gayler 421-1307

#### **Mid-Week Trips**

Cliff Ham 687-4520

#### **Rafting**

Jon Maiman 441-2306  
Linda Smithyman 531-1868

#### **Sailing**

Bob Zavos 325-2175

#### **Sea Kayaking**

Mark Mistrik 441-8293  
Ted Self 795-6286

#### **Volleyball**

Joel Platt 521-5244

#### **X-C Skiing**

Fred Parker 856-4713  
Rick Ulaky 422-0849

## ATTENTION VOLLEYBALLERS!

### VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball will continue in Mellon Park on Mondays for at least two Mondays, Sept 10 and 17. Where we will play indoors and when will not be resolved until the end of August. Call Joel Platt at 521-5244(H) or 421-4446(W).

### YEAR OF THE SWEET-SMELLING LATRINE (?)

A career U.S. Forest Service employee, at the agency's Technology and Development Center in San Dimas, Calif., has designed a better toilet, according to a recent Los Angeles Times article.

It's so good, in fact that Forest Service administrators in Washington, D.C. have declared 1990 "The Year of the Sweet-smelling Toilet" and vowed to retro fit all 12,000 privies on national forest lands over the next three years.

The new toilets, designed by Brian Cook, feature a wider vent stack that stretches much higher above the roof line and solar-powered fans to increase ventilation.

"The public today expects a higher level of service and more amenities and part of that is a good smelling toilet," said Richard Woodrow, the Forest Service's acting director of recreation.

Within three years, officials pledge Americans won't find a single smelly latrine in any of their 134 national forests. Cook hopes to share his design with the National Park Service, the Army Corps of Engineers, and other public lands managers. — Reprinted from *Appalachian Trailway News*, May/June 1990 — (Ed's note: AMEN!)

**AYH HOT LINE**  
**(412) 362-8181**

## Trips in September

### CANOEING

**General Information:** Bring these items on most trips: Lunch, water, change of clothes, sun hat, knee pads, suntan lotion, waterproof bag, strap for glasses, raincoat. Wear old sneakers and clothes that dry quickly or retain body heat when wet - wool or polypropylene clothes when it's cold, synthetics when it's warm. The stream we choose for a trip depends on the water level, which varies widely from week to week. We usually decide where to go a day before the trip - sometimes on the same day of the trip, so we don't publish an itinerary in advance. We often stop for dinner on the way back to HQ.

Unless otherwise stated, meet at HQ at 8:00 am to load boats and gear.

9/8 Sat All Jim Porcelli 271-4776(H)

Anyone interested in paddling a flat-flowing stream.

9/16 Sun WW I Clare Bunker 244-9788(H)

9/29 Sat WW I-II Bob Buck 793-1480(H)

### KAYAKING

9/8-9 Sat-Sun Sch/W I Ray Yutzy 341-5682(H)

9/22 Sat WW II-III John Gayler 366-4062(H) 772-5277(W)

### FAMILY ACTIVITIES

9/1-3 Sat-Mon Fam Isobel Storch 362-1550(H)

Overnight Cabin Camping (Labor Day Weekend). Laurel Hill State Park.

9/22 Sat Fam Barbara Hanusa 441-7205(H)

Hike and picnic at Linn Run State Park.

## ***Trips in September***

### **HIKING/BACKPACKING**

9/2      Sun      All      Glenn Oster      234-3967(W)

Selfguided. Hike the beautiful trails of Cook Forest in Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the North Country Trail that follows AYH's Baker Trail through Cook Forest. Meet at any time at the visitors center (Cooksburg/Vowinkle Road) between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. No fee. Call Glenn or Pat Tieman 561-3286 or Helen Clyne 776-0678.

9/2      Sun      All      Linda Smithyman 531-1868(H)

In order to participate in the North Country Trail celebration closer to home we will be hiking at McConnell's Mill. The Alpha Pass and Kildoo Trails are relatively easy and runs a total of 3 miles. Slippery Rock Creek provides the scenic beauty including adjacent waterfalls and plant life and maybe some humans on the water too. We'll meet at headquarters at 9:00 am and hope to be back by 3:00 pm.

9/15      Sat      All      Peter Srini      921-1238(H)

Maintenance hike on the Baker Trail (no fees charged)

9/16      Sun      Beg      Ben Brugmans      736-0103(H)

8:00 am at headquarters. 6 1/2 miles at Ohiopyle

9/22      Sat      Int      Jim Ritchie      828-0210(H) 624-1220(W)

8:00 am at HQ. Circuit hike in Laurel Hill State Park, 8 miles. Highlights include Jones Mill Run Dam, the Bobcat Trail and the Hemlock Trail, and wading in Laurel Hill Lake at the end of our hike. Call for information and reservations.

### **SEA-KAYAKING**

9/11      Tues      All      Mark Mistrik      441-8293(H) 647-7609  
Cindy Weinstein

Sea-Kayaking smorgasbord. Come have dinner with a couple of Sea-Kayakers. The ultimate sea-kayaking trip ever planned - no paddling! Call for restaurant information and to let us know you're coming. Everyone welcome.

9/14-16      Fri-Sun      Mark Mistrik      441-8293(H) 647-7609(W)

6:00 pm at HQ. Chautauqua Sea-Kayaking trip. Traditional sea-kayaking and luxury camping weekend at Chautauqua, NY. Scenic area, beautiful lake, and food like you wouldn't believe. Call for more information and to reserve ASAP.

9/18      Tues      All      Mark Mistrik      441-8293(H) 647-7609(W)

Evening Sea-Kayaking. Last introductory evening paddling trip of the year, at either Glade Run or North Park lakes. Rescue or paddling technique demonstrated upon request or just come out and enjoy the evening. This is a good idea if you are interested in one of the longer trips. Beginners welcome. Reservations essential.

### ***Pittsburgh Council Hostels***

Ohiopyle AYH Hostel  
Ohiopyle State Park  
P.O. Box 99  
Ohiopyle, PA 15470  
(412) 329-4476

Charleroi Youth Hostel (S.A.)  
Rego's Hotel & Restaurant  
601 McKean Ave.  
Charleroi, PA 15022  
(412) 483-6200

Living Waters AYH-Hostel  
RD# 1 (1 mile west on Route 30)  
Schellsburg, PA 15559  
(814) 733-7607

Point Park College Youth Hostel (S.A.)  
201 Wood Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
(412) 392-3824  
(after 4 pm: (412) 391-4100)  
(summer only)

### **MID-WEEK RAMBLES**

Every Wednesday. Meet at 10:00 am in the upper parking lot at Fifth and Shady Avenues. We generally take a 3 to 4 mile "ramble" at a slow pace. Call for more information on current activities or to make arrangements to meet the group.  
Cliff or Marilyn Ham 687-4520(H)

# WORLD ADVENTURE!

LOW COST TRAVEL—AYH  
STYLE

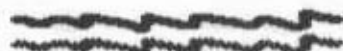
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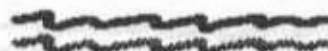
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American Youth Hostels  
6300 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232  
(412) 362-8181

## Trips in September



### RAFTING



**General Information: What to Bring:** Suggested attire for raft trips includes old sneakers, bathing suits, T-shirt (optional), sunscreen, bandana, glasses strap and a towel. You'll need a full set of dry clothes to change into after the trip. Wool clothing and/or rain gear are needed for cool or rainy days. Bring your own bag lunch to eat on the river. Most trips take a full day and a stop for ice cream or dinner on the way back. **Impromptu Trips:** When river water levels cooperate, we frequently organize impromptu trips, usually on rivers other than the Lower Yough. They're announced at the Thursday evening open houses.

9/3 Mon Beg Linda Smithyman 531-1868 (H)

7:15 AM at HQ. Lower Youghiogheny River trip. Everyone is welcome including first time rafters. Approximate cost of this trip is \$16-\$18 for AYH members.

9/9 Sun Beg Jon Maiman 441-2306 (H)

8:15 AM at HQ. Lower Youghiogheny River trip. Everyone is welcome including first time rafters. Approximate cost of this trip is \$16-\$18 for AYH members. We will probably stop for dinner on the way back.

9/8-9 or 9/15-16 Sat-Sun Adv Linda Smithyman 531-1868(H)

Possible dates for advanced paddling on the wonderful whitewater that West Virginia has to offer. Potential rivers include the Gauley and the New. Definite dates and times are not confirmed but please call for more information. This trip is not for beginners.

## AYH MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Dear AYH Member:

I'd like to ask you for something that money can't buy - the names of your friends. Hostellers like you tend to know other, like-minded people, and we've found that friends of present AYH members make by far the best prospects for new memberships.

Your holiday card list or address book are good sources of names. But we're also interested in other group, club, company and organization lists. If you would prefer that we not use your name, simply jot a note to that effect at the top of the list. But I have to tell you, results have shown that we sign up 50% more members if we use your name in our mailing.

All new AYH members will receive their International Hostel Pass, 12 issues of the "Golden Triangle" our council newsletter, the latest Hostel Handbook, quarterly issues of "The Knapsack" the National AYH travel newsletter and access to the weekly Open House meetings at our council headquarters.

I hope you will take a moment to help in this important new member campaign. Please print or type names and addresses on a sheet of paper and mail them to AYH Membership Drive, 6300 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15232. Thank You. Joe Hoechner, Vice President, Pittsburgh AYH. ♦♦



## ***Trips in September***

### **SAILING**

The inaugural year for the Pittsburgh Council AYH sailing program is now half over and we are looking forward to further opportunities during the remainder of the year. The unusually wet weather - especially on weekends and other factors have caused participation to be less than expected, but we expect better sailing ahead.

Our armada consists of three 15' Flying Junior Centerboard sloops stored on a three tier trailer a few miles from the Watt Bay boat launch area at Lake Arthur. At the July meeting the AYH Council voted to reimburse half the cost of hitches to qualified AYH members who will lead trips and haul the boats. We have money for two more hitches so please contact Bob Zavos if you are interested for further details.

We are also offering additional incentives to those who wish to sail by lowering the daily sailing fee to \$15 per person. And for those who want to join us for half a day the fee is \$10. In this case you could bring your bathing suit for some swimming at the nearby sandy beach or your bike for a leisurely ride on the Moraine State Park bike path. We will also offer the Sail Pass program (see the May, 1990 Golden Triangle) for half price (\$50) for the last half of the year. This is a potential tremendous savings since the Lake Arthur concession charges this for one day's sailing. Sail Pass holders get first priority on reserving the boats (at least 1 day each weekend and anytime during the week) and pay no additional fees.

For all trips listed below you must have completed the Red Cross Basic Sailing Class (or equivalent):

**9/1-3 Sat-Mon Int/Adv Bob Zavos 325-2175(H)**

Each day during the Labor Day weekend we will meet at Lake Arthur. Half day sailing will be especially encouraged so that you can get in other activities on this long weekend.

**9/9 Sun Int/Adv Bob Zavos 325-2175(H)**

**9/15-16 Sat-Sun Int/Adv TBA**

We will reserve this weekend for a trip away from our home base. Pymatuning may be our choice for an overnight trip that would include camping in the State Park near Jamestown.

**9/23 Sun Int/Adv TBA**

The first day of Autumn will hopefully find us sailing Lake Arthur with cool breezes and warm waters.

**9/28 Sat Int/Adv Bob Zavos 325-2175(H)**

If you're running the Great Race tomorrow this would be an ideal day to rest your feet and relax at Lake Arthur.

Additional trips during the week or on other days not scheduled above can be made depending on our success in getting additional trip leaders/ boat haulers. If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to call.

**The  
Forest Service  
would like  
to ask you  
for a little help  
with its  
paperwork.**



**We're getting  
buried with litter  
and pollution.**

**Give your country  
a little pick-up.  
It'll help us all get  
out from under.**





## EXCESSIVE NOISE

During many recent slide presentations there has been excessive noise (TALKING) in the back of the headquarters building. Persons presenting their shows have had difficulty concentrating.

Speakers for our group put significant effort into the preparation of their shows. The following illustrates the work a speaker must do before stepping up to the microphone: There is the selection of a subject, the organizing and selection of slides, the preparation of a script which highlights the theme, the rehearsals at home, the fine tuning of the narrative, presentation and, some times, music. A speaker expects that after putting in the effort that there will be an attentive audience. Please be considerate. There is ample time for socializing before and after the show or go outside. **\_\_\_GARY, WHERE ARE YOU?\_\_\_** and your flashlight to bang on the heater.

For about a month, the shows have been starting at 8:15 with completion times of no later than 9:15. Let me know your thoughts on the new times. *Rodney Horner* ♦♦

**AYH HOT LINE  
(412) 326-8181**

## CHARLEROI HOSTEL BROCHURE AVAILABLE

The Pittsburgh Council of the American Youth Hostels has recently chartered Rego's Hotel in Charleroi, PA as a supplemental Accommodation Youth Hostel.

Rego's Hotel is an historic building, built about 1897, in downtown Charleroi 27 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. For its first year with AYH, Rego's has space for four hostellers with the potential to expand for small groups. A free brochure is available by writing to: Pittsburgh AYH, Charleroi Youth Hostel, 6300 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232. Please include a first class stamp. AYH phone: (412) 362-8181.

## THE EDITOR'S FANCY

On most canoe trips someone is asked to run "sweep". We bring up the rear or rather paddle behind everyone else and sort of keep an eye on the less experienced paddler, keeping them ahead of us in case they have any problems.

Quite often Bob Buck and I are poking along acting as sweep and of course talking. As most folks know, Bob is not all that talkative but we cover a great many subjects (and people if they warrant it). We have touched lightly on his early canoeing adventures so I was surprised when he wrote this short article for me. I consider it mine but I want to share it with all of you. Bob calls it simply, A Dream. This guy is a doer so I am sure it is only one of many dreams he has made come to pass in his long and productive life. From all your canoeing Buddies, Bravo, Bob!

### A DREAM

Years ago, 1942, I made my first canoe trip to the middle Ontario lake country. We had built our first canoe which was a cross between a duck hunters blind and a canoe and for our first trip we went to the Timagami lake country without a tent or life vest. I had always wished to paddle on the Northern Rivers. We made two more trips to the same lakes in 1945 and 1946. That seemed to fulfill our early dreams at my young age.

Things died down on the outdoors as life went on until 1977 when I was invited to help fill in on a two week canoe trip in the Adirondack with the Sussex Country, New Jersey Y.M.C.A. Then I was hooked. I came home, bought an Old Town 15 foot canoe, joined AYH and four other canoe clubs. I took the canoe schools AYH offered and became a fair paddler. As I was nearing retirement I was very happy that my search had ended. I had bought a bicycle (10 speed), hiking shoes, backpacks (both for day and overnight), X-country skis, and a canoe. I expected I would have to use all of them to keep busy. Well they are now all gathering dust except the canoe. Though I sometimes upset and fall behind, I have learned that just being out on the water is what I like best. **RAIN OR SHINE!**

My many canoeing friends have forgiven or overlooked the mistakes or short comings of the old man and have allowed him to tag along knowing that this is my life. for that I am thankful. I feel I owe AYH more than I can ever repay.

It is through them, since my retirement in 1980, that my Teen-age dream of paddling the white water rivers of Canada and the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon have been fulfilled. I have paddled over 800 miles on Canadian Rivers and paddled Pine Creek 15 times; three times for the full 75 mile length.

I have paddled the Rouge, Magnetewan, Jacque Cartier, Missinabi (upper and lower), River of the Bank, Miedeis, Malibie, and Batiscan Rivers. There isn't much more that a teen-ager could dream of if he knew he would someday paddle the above mentioned rivers. Yes, this has far surpassed my youthful dreams. Thanks to AYH and it Canoeing members. *Bob Buck* ♦♦

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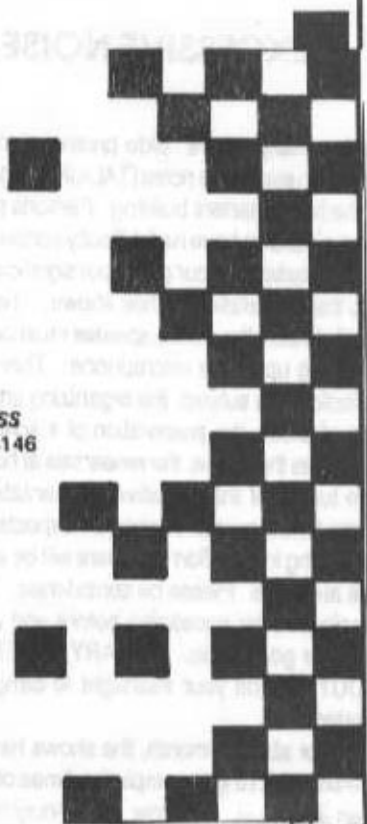
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## GRAND CANYON OF PENNSYLVANIA - PINE CREEK

by Bob Buck

Every year for the past 12 years I have paddled Pine Creek in Tioga and Lycoming Counties at least once. No place in PA is quite like it, especially the 17 miles section of the main canyon from Ansonia to Blackwell with its near vertical tree covered walls rising 1800 feet. At times as you paddle along you are too busy to notice the beauty of your surroundings.

This year I decided I had enough leadership experience to take my turn at leading the AYH group on the 28 mile section from Ansonia to Slate Run.

I had planned to leave Friday evening 25th of May and camp at a State Park on Little Pine Creek. As this was Memorial day week end I found all camps were filled. (tried to make reservations a month in advance, was told at State Park that I couldn't until one week before event. Tried again then, was told they were already filled up ???). So that plan was out. Plan #2 went well. We met at AYH headquarters at 5:30 am Saturday May 26th, loaded up and left at 6:00 am.

There were nine AYH members including myself making the trip; Karen Lukas, Royann Mac, George Schnackenberg, Kathy Ezar, Janet Supowitz, Jon Maiman and Julie and Millard Underwood.

I had laid out the route with pit and gas stops so we convoyed the whole day to Slate Run parking and ramp facilities where we dropped off one car. We continued the rest of the way to Ansonia where there are a large parking lot, water, toilets facilities and launch area.

The official gauge reading at Cedar Run can be had by calling either Harrisburg or Williamsport, PA. My call gave the reading of 2.6 feet which is a good level. We packed the canoes (tying in all equipment) and launched into the canyon at 1:00 pm in a light rain. With the start of the trip in the beautiful canyon no one seemed to notice the rain because 1.7 miles down stream was the only large class II rapid on the stream.

As the stream quickened we noticed a sign on the right, DANGER, so we stopped at an island on the left to scout the rapid - Owasssee. I described the best and safest way to run this rapid with all our gear in the canoes, then as they watched, I ran the rapid. I then set up the safety rope and they all ran it very well.

As we had gotten a late start I decided to shorten the first day's run and picked out a camp site 7 miles down stream from Ansonia. It was a nice clean campsite in the trees. Soon tents were up and supper cooking. We had a nice evening by the camp fire but it wasn't long before we went to our tents. It had been a long day.

Sunday 27th dawned clear and sunny and about 8:45 we put on the stream. We had a nice day paddle with no hurry. This day we met lots of other canoeists on the river so we started looking for a campsite early (4:00 pm). We looked at a lot of potential campsites but since they weren't agreeable to all we moved on. Finally at 5:30 we found a suitable campsite that pleased everyone. It was a beauty, in a grove of Hemlock trees and near the stream. That was a lucky

pick because we had only two miles to go to the take out at Slate Run. We had paddled about 19 miles that day. The campfire again felt good. It had been a great day.

Monday 28th, we were packed and on the way by 9:00 am. We paddled 2 miles to the take out, arriving at 10:00 am. We ran the 40 mile shuttle (each way) to Ansonia to pick up the cars while the others rested or had coffee at Slate Run Manor Inn.

At 1:00 pm we headed home stopping 18 miles down the road at the Waterville Hotel where, in the restaurant, I got the biggest "Hunters Hamburger" I have ever eaten. It was delicious about 3/4 pound of meat which made the \$3.65 cost seem reasonable. I always try to stop here.

Six weeks previously Dave Marschik and I paddled the whole 75 miles of this stream and I had the same hamburger with French fries for lunch. I had forgotten the size of the burger and had to leave the French fries.

So, on home we go again with the scheduled pit stops. We got back to AYH headquarters about 8:00 pm. After all equipment was returned and locked up, we parted. It was an enjoyable trip. We all had a good time and if we get the interest in 1991, we will do it again. The round trip was 510 miles. Transportation cost, \$30.00 each. Rental of a canoe is \$8.00 (+ \$1.50 trip fee) per day. Not bad for a three day vacation. I plan on doing it again next year with likely the additional 15 miles above Ansonia from Galeton (43 miles). Come join me and have some fun again on the Grand Canyon of PA. See you on the water. *Bob Buck* ♦

### Dateline:

San Diego

July, 1990

**News from Mike and Marta Hurwitz!**  
**We've bought a house in the Scripps Ranch area of San Diego and moved in last week.**

**Michael and Marta Hurwitz**  
**12038 Eastglen Street**  
**San Diego, CA 92131**  
**Phone: (619) 689-8407**

### **Mike at work:**

**Gamma-Metrics**  
**5788 Pacific Center Blvd.**  
**San Diego, CA 92121**



ity. If we were in a village, the truck would be fixed quickly, but if it was out in nowhere, it might be days before the truck would be fixed. After awhile, others in the group would come along on these walks. We would try to walk to the next village and then walk back. I think we experienced more of Africa because of these breakdowns, than other passengers on the better organized overland trips. We saw silverback gorillas in a national park overlooking Lake Kivu in eastern Zaire. We were on a day trip to the park and after a few hours hike in the jungle, the guide spotted a family of gorillas. We were told to stand and not move if the male gorilla charged us to defend his family. The gorilla challenged us by charging but a heavy-set passenger took off up the hill like a bullet. I have never seen her move that fast! Observing the animals in the wild was not like going to a zoo to see the animals in cages; there we were in their habitat and we had no protection.

After camping near the national park, we found out later that swimming in Lake Kivu was dangerous because of volcanic gases seeping up from beneath the lake. A year before a passenger on an overland truck drowned while swimming there. I remember the odd looking red misty sunrises at our campsite. At the time, we did not know it was dangerous to swim there.

The next country we visited was Rwanda, a small mountainous country. The road passed through many tea plantations on the hillsides. We were riding on a new road still under construction by the Chinese government. Our truck ran out of fuel along this road and the Chinese engineers gave us enough diesel to continue our journey. It was a nice friendly gesture by them.

We came down from the mountains of Rwanda and crossed over into Tanzania. This part of Tanzania was infested with the Tsetse fly, which is one of the causes of sleeping sickness. The other cause is from a small snail found in stagnant water. At roadblocks our truck was checked for the flies. We kept a sharp look out for flies, so we had no problem. This part of Tanzania was very poor and I saw numerous people clothed in ragged blankets.

We were now on the plains of east Africa, where we saw large herds of wild animals. We visited both Serengeti and Ngorongond

Crater Parks. Both parks are worth a visit, especially during the migration season. I'm not a wild animal enthusiast, but when I saw these animals in the wild, I am glad I got a chance to see them.

After visiting these parks, we headed to Nairobi, Kenya, for a rest stop and major truck overhaul. If you are interested in visiting game parks in Kenya and Tanzania, I suggest when you are in Nairobi, to check with the numerous safari companies in town. There are lots of competition for customers, so check around for the best deal. Mrs. Roach's Campground usually has one or two small safari outfits that are looking for customers. At the campground there are usually people selling and buying vehicles to use in safaris. They are always looking for people to share with the cost of going on a safari. This is a good place for information and an interesting place to stay.

While waiting for the truck to be overhauled a friend talked me into climbing Mt. Kenya (17,000 feet). We were told the Mt. Kenya Youth Hostel would have all the information needed to climb the mountain. So we went up country by using the local transportation and stayed at the hostel near the mountain's base.

The staff of the hostel helped us hire a guide and porters to carry out backpacks, food and cooking supplies. There were a number of people at the hostel who gave us information on the climb. It took us more than three days to climb to the top and then to come down again. I wasn't in shape after sitting on the back of the truck for six months, so the climb seemed hard to me. We went straight up the mountain, not zigzagging up. The visibility was low, and at the very top there was snow. But, we couldn't see that far. Coming down the path was slow, because it was muddy and we did not want to slip and fall and injure ourselves. Some of our fellow hikers were suffering from high altitude sickness because they ascended the mountain too fast. The guides advise you to go slowly in Swahili "Pole, pole" (slowly, slowly).

When we finished the hike, we returned to Nairobi and found that the truck was not even worked on. So we decided to go down to Tanzania to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro and later rendezvous with the group in Dar-Es-Salaam. We discussed this with the driver and got his agreement. Off we went to Tanzania stopping

off in Arusha for information. Nobody had that much information on climbing Kili unless we went on a tour. We wanted to do it on our own, which was cheaper. We took a couple of buses up to the park gate where we found we could climb the mountain, but they recommended a guide and porters. This cost each of us \$75 but was well worth the cost. We stayed at a hostel (not a youth hostel) near the gate and prepared for our climb. It would take five days to go up and back down. We could go up and down in a shorter period, but the government was worried about climbers getting high altitude sickness. It wasn't a hard climb until the final climb to reach the top. The guide helped by pushing me up from behind over some rough sections. Most climbers go to Guillaman's Peak, this is not the top. We reached this spot before sunrise and continued on towards the top at over 19,000 feet. We did not need ropes to climb this mountain. Many tourists try climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro, so it's almost like being on a crowded highway.

I did have a slight headache and was out of breath all during the final climb, but the view from the top is rewarding. We were far above the crowds, like riding in an airplane, and we could look down at the clouds and see the sun rise from them. After a short rest, we quickly descended the mountain. It felt good going down the mountain, breathing more oxygen and relishing our accomplishments.

At the park gate, we received a certificate attesting to our successful climb, and we also bought tee shirts of Mt. Kili as souvenirs.

We decided to fly to Dar-Es-Salaam instead of taking the unreliable long distance bus. When purchasing the tickets, we decided to visit Zanzibar Island off the coast, near Dar-Es-Salaam. Shortly thereafter we were in Zanzibar. Finding an inexpensive place to stay there was beginning to be difficult, but after awhile, we met some Germans who insisted we share their large room at a guest house in the old quarter of town.

The older part of the town was built in the Arab fashion with winding streets to confuse invaders. Well, it confused us but we had fun exploring all those interesting streets. On the sidewalks of the markets, the merchants place clothes to dry in the sun. We had to be careful where we walked.

to be continued

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## GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

All articles of interest to our members are welcomed - subjects relating to our trips and activities, the environment, the outdoors, etc. Articles to be submitted should be:

- Neatly typed and double spaced (at least a 12 point font so we can digitize the copy using a scanner. Dot matrix output does not scan well).
- On a 3.5" IBM or Macintosh disk with files formatted as text. The disk will be returned to you.

- Sent to the editor via modem when prior arrangements are made.

Sorry I cannot accept more than one or two short paragraphs of hand-written copy. The use of material will be limited to available space. Place articles in the Editor's box at AYH Headquarters or mail to The Golden Triangle, 6300 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15232. Jan Bugby, Editor

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 and National Office. AYH is the U.S. affiliate of the International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF) which coordinates more than 5,400 hostels worldwide - the largest network of



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# The Golden Triangle

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