



Golden Triangle

American Youth Hostels, Pittsburgh Council

Hostelling International, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping all people, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling.

VOLUME 51, NUMBER 6

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2001



Hostelling - International Pittsburgh PA



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



Be Sure To Visit:

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

INSIDE

Council Elections: Page 1
Hostelling International News: Page 1
Activity Chairs: Page 2
Holiday Party: Page 2
Hostel Happenings: Page 3
Bicycling: Page 4
Ohiopyle Hostel Happenings: Page 4
Hiking/Backpacking/Trails: Page 5
Hiker Alerts: Page 5
Slide Shows and Programs: Page 6
Rambles: Page 6
Canoeing: Page 6
Sea-Kayaking: Page 6
Sailing: Page 6
Rock Climbing: Page 6
Member Equipment Ads: Page 6
Other Outdoor Clubs: Page 7
PA State Parks Info: Page 7
Trip Report by Alexis Rzewski: Page 7
Council Memberships: Back Cover

....And MORE!!!

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

DATE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2001 8:00 P.M.
HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, MELLON PARK

The Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels, Pittsburgh Council Annual Meeting will be held at the Pittsburgh Council Headquarters Building, in Mellon Park, Shadyside. The meeting begins at 8:00 p.m. Officers for the 2001-2002 term will be elected. The current officers and committee chairs will present an update on the state of the Pittsburgh Council. All Pittsburgh Council members are welcome to attend and vote. Refreshments will be served.

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL-AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS OPENS NEW SAN FRANCISCO HOSTEL

Washington, DC -- Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels (HI-AYH) and its Golden Gate Council Office announce the opening of the new Hostelling International-San Francisco/City Center Hostel (HI-SF/City Center).

Located in the heart of San Francisco at 685 Ellis Street, HI-SF/City Center is a beautifully restored seven-floor historic hotel that has been converted into an extraordinary 272-bed hostel. The new hostel has secure 24-hour check-in and access, a fully equipped kitchen and common area, Internet kiosks, and 76 rooms, each with two to four beds and private in-suite baths.

With rates starting as low as \$22.00 per person, HI-SF/City Center offers a bargain in one of the world's most expensive cities. The hostel is close to public transportation and within walking distance of cable cars, Union Square shopping, and countless restaurants and multicultural attractions.

Online reservations can be made at www.hiayh.org.

The hostel is the third HI-AYH San Francisco hostel location, joining the busy Downtown and Fort Mason hostels. "This new hostel will allow us to welcome and serve even more travelers to this extremely popular destination. Our three San Francisco hostels will jointly meet the needs of our San Francisco marketplace," said Russ Hedge, executive director of HI-AYH's national office.

"People know that hostels are more than just an affordable way to travel, they're excited about the unique experience they get from staying in a hostel -- from our daily organized programs to the friendly community atmosphere," said Keith Lubow, General Manager at HI-SF/City Center.

Hostel information:
Hostelling International-San Francisco/City Center
685 Ellis Street (between Larkin & Hyde Streets)

(Continued on page 2)

Use Your Membership Card to receive Discounts at these Locations in 2001:

Andy Warhol Museum: \$1 off admission when you show your HI card. Not valid with any other discounts.

Bar 11- 50 cents off Well drinks, 50 cents off Domestic Bottles: 1101 Bradish Street (Southside), 15203 Tel: (412) 381-0899 Email: rgrentz2@hotmail.com

Website: www.bar11.com

Bloomfield Bridge Tavern- Buy one "Polish Platter" get one FREE! NO TAKE OUT (includes Kluski, Haluski, Golumpki, Pierogi & Kielbasa) 4412 Liberty Ave. (Bloomfield), 15224, Tel: (412) 682-8611

Canton Gourmet- We give 20% dis-

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

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

Dated material- please deliver promptly
Change Service Requested

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

(Continued on page 8)

HOSTELLING



Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.

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

The Golden Triangle is published monthly by the Pittsburgh Council of Hostelling International, American Youth Hostels. Contents are at the discretion of the editor.

**All Material within is Copyrighted by Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.
All Rights Reserved**

Triangle Staff

Managing Editor ... **Joel Platt**
412-521-5244
golden_triangle@bigfoot.com

Copy Editor ... **VACANT**
Mailing Labels ... **Larry Laude**
Production ... **Don Hoecker**
Advertising ... **VACANT**

Council Officers

President ... **Kyra Straussman**
(412-521-3641)

Vice-President ... **Tom Hardy**
Secretary ... **George Schmidt**
Treasurer ... **Jeff Krainess**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harold Behar
Ben Brugmans
Bernie Colligan
M. Rosalind Eannarino
Tom Hardy
Maureen Hogan
Jeff Krainess
Larry Laude
Anne-Marie Lubenau
Daniel J. McNulty, Esq.
George Schmidt
Kyra Straussman
Kevin Swenson
Ray Yutzy

Office Staff
Jessica Carpenter
(431-4910)

**PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
ACTIVITY CHAIRS**

Chairman of the
Activities Committee
Ben Brugmans.....361-3623
Canoeing
Paul Henry 724-347-3282
Brian McBane..... 724-443-8972
Cross Country Skiing
Vacant

Cycling

OPEN

Family Activities
Barbara Hanusa 441-7205
Hiking/Backpacking
Ben Brugmans 361-3623
Kayaking
Ray Yutzy724-926-4646
Midweek Rambles
Dick Fisher 421-9215
Rafting
John Orndorff 741-2021
Rock Climbing
Ann Minard.....766-4036
Chuck Jones.....766-4036
Sailing
Bob Zavos 241-0659
Sea Kayaking
Fran Fleming 363-1221
Vickie Gotaskie 344-4929
Trail Systems
VACANT
Headquarters Programs
Luc Berger 683-3131
Storekeeper
Steve Poprocky 731-2429



**HOSTELLING
INTERNATIONAL**

Pittsburgh Hostel Manager
Jessica Carpenter
(412-431-1267)

Ohiopyle Hostel Manager
Kelly and Steve Miller
(724-329-4476)

NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for
future issues of the
GOLDEN TRIANGLE

**October-November-December
ISSUE**
All copy, December 6
Binding/Mailing, December 20

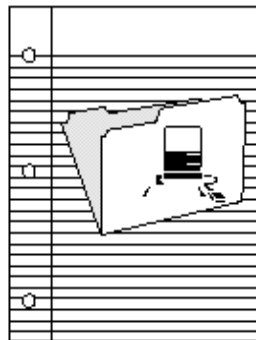
If your work is on computer,
Please contact Joel Platt at
golden_triangle@bigfoot.com

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 non-profit organization which promotes international understanding, educational and recreational travel, good citizenship and an appreciation of America. AYH does this by bringing travelers of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities together in hostels and by providing low-cost travel programs. AYH is the US affiliate of Hostelling International (HI), (formerly named International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF), which coordinates more than 5,400 hostels worldwide- the largest network of accommodations in the world.



**Submissions Policy:
Golden Triangle**

Classified 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 program
- 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 2001.

Number 1 issue ->February / March: **Number 2** issue ->April: **Number 3** issue ->May:
Number 4 issue ->June: **Number 5** issue ->July-August-September:
and Number 6 issue ->October-November-December

Editor...

(Continued from page 1)

San Francisco, CA 94109
Phone: (415) 474-5721
Fax: (415) 776-0755
Email: sfcitycenter@norcalhostels.org
Reservations: www.hiayh.org or (800) 909-4776

Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is "to help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling." HI-AYH is part of the Hostelling International network of nearly 4,500 hostels in over 70 countries that promote international understanding and appreciation of other cultures and the environment through quality, low-cost accommodations and educational travel programs.

December 6 AYH SPECIAL HOLIDAY PARTY

A Holiday Get together at the Allentown Hostel prepared by Luc and Bob.

Starting at 6:30. No reservations necessary.

Delicious egg-nog - teas from around the world and coffee from Hawaii.

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

Ohiopyle AYH Hostel

Ohiopyle State Park
PO Box 99

Ohiopyle, PA 15470
(724) 329-4476

HIOhiopyle@stargate.net

HI-Pittsburgh Hostel

830 E. Warrington Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15210

(412) 431-1267
hipgh@sgi.net



Oops...

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

Mail regarding the Newsletter should be addressed to:

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

Office: (412) 431-4910
or

HI-Pgh on the information super Highway. Point your browser to :
http://

trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/
or you can email us
at
ayh@trfn.clpgh.org



HOSTEL HAPPENINGS

George Washington University students practice responsible travel in Germany

On August 4, 2001 a group of nine students from the graduate school for Tourism Administration at The George Washington University departed for a two-week study tour of Germany. In partnership with DJH, the German Youth Hostel Association and accompanied by Travis Major, Outbound Travel Education Manager and Stacy Angarola, Program Director at HI-New York, the group will visit three different regions while staying in a variety of DJH hostels.

The theme for the 2001 study tour, "Using Travel to Build Responsible Global Citizenship" includes an itinerary focusing on essential elements of the German culture, history, people as well as programs and activities in Berlin, Dresden, Freiberg, and Potsdam. A special field trip includes a visit to see the new Mirow hostel in action, an innovative sustainable living and learning center for groups.

GWU students in Cultural Heritage Tourism, Ecotourism, Hotel Management, Event Planning, and Tourism Development are participating. The faculty of GWU agrees, as we do, that the hostelling experience, sense of place education, and intercultural connections offered as part of this exchange offers a unique learning experience for these students. Faculty have been instrumental in selecting students, planning orientation sessions, and in creating evaluations measuring the life changing impact of exchanges like this one and those in the future. We also hope to have many of these locally based students continue their connection to HI-AYH as volunteer leaders and future staff.

Look for the full story in the September issue of the Travel Bytes newsletter.

Program Participants Are Satisfied Customers

Ten Gateway hostels participating in the Program Director Initiative ask for program participant feedback as part of an effort to evaluate the hostelling experience. Hostellers are encouraged to fill out a Program Comment Card to share their views on the program experience and assess the program leader. Cards are collected on a weekly basis and sent to the national Programs and Education department where they are compiled into monthly reports. From April through June, scores of all ten hostels averaged 4.57 (out of a high score of 5.0) with the highest ratings coming from hostellers at HI-San Diego Downtown (4.79) and HI San Francisco-Downtown (4.67). Hostel program participants for the same period (April-June) totaled 10,621 domestic and international travelers.

Councils and Hostels can expand volunteer opportunities through Travel Education Programs

A primary means by which our councils and hostels can deliver the HI-AYH mission, travel education programs empower volunteers to actively promote hostelling and responsible, independent travel within their local communities. The bulk of travel programming work being done today in HI-AYH consists of educational workshops that are provided in a wide variety of public venues - everywhere from our hostels and travel centers to community libraries, bookstores and college campuses. While staff members sometimes take an active role in providing travel education programs, volunteers continue to present the majority of the workshops.

Workshops topics vary. Half of all workshops presented in the past two years have been our signature "World Travel 101" program. This 90-minute workshop provides the novice traveler with the basics: hostels, travel skills, and responsible traveler philosophy. Other workshops tend to be on more specific topics based on the presenter's unique experiences and qualifications - everything from "Tips for Women Traveling Solo" to "Getting the Most Out of a Railpass" to "Hostelling Across Australia." Some councils and hostels also sponsor presentations by local travel authors and authors from major guidebook publishers such as Moon/Avalon, Rough Guides and Lonely Planet.

Most councils and hostels start out by providing "World Travel 101" workshops in their community. During the fall and spring months, the National Office conducts a series of full-day training sessions on Saturdays at different locations around the country. The first step is to either host one of these sessions or send a few volunteers to the one scheduled nearest you.

There are two critical success factors that will absolutely make or break your travel education programming efforts after the training session - volunteers and publicity. A volunteer development plan is critical for the ongoing support of travel education programs. A promotions plan and local media contacts is a necessary element to recruit new and wider audiences. There are many success stories to share from councils and hostels doing it well. Tool and resources to support these community outreach efforts area available through Rose Colby, rcolby@hiayh.org <mailto:rcolby@hiayh.org>

This fall, the national Programs and Education department will sponsor Train the Trainer sessions for volunteers and staff interested in starting or jump-starting travel education offerings locally. Here is what we have on the calendar so far for 2001...

- September 29: Washington, DC
- October 13: Boston, MA
- October 20: Ohio (city t.b.a.)
- October 27: Raleigh/Durham, NC
- November 17: Chicago

For more information about any of these World Travel 101 training sessions or to pre-register, email Travis Major at the National Office at tmajor@hiayh.org <mailto:tmajor@hiayh.org>

National Program Models Offer New Experiences for Groups at HI-AYH Hostels

Two program models, The Girl Scout Patch and World Teach-In's are currently being adapted as national program models for use at all HI-AYH hostels and councils. The Girl Scout patch program, initiated in Boston with a local Girl Scout troop, provides a focused curriculum to promote with Junior and Cadet troops. A tool kit expanding on the existing Participatory Patch description, a marketing and promotion plan, and a program brochure will be available in August from the programs and education department. In discussions with Girl Scouts USA staff, we are working on many more ways to engage Girl Scouts in the hostelling experience. This outreach tool can bring more groups to your hostel and create new local partnerships with a respected national organization.

World Teach-In's bring hostellers into local classrooms to share the world of travel and local students to hostels to engage them in the experience of travel. In both cases, young people are introduced to global societies, international experiences, and the possibility of travel. Started in partnership with HI-Orlando/Kissimmee and the Osceola County Public Schools, the program is now being tested in Boston, Chicago, San Diego, and Washington DC. A geography curriculum, tool kit, and brochure is also being developed for this program through the national programs and education department. A complete package will be available through the national programs and education department in the fall. For more information on getting started, contact Emily Moreland, HI-Orlando/Kissimmee Program Director, Mail2em@aol.com <mailto:Mail2em@aol.com>

Sustaining Volunteer Involvement Key to Program Success

Keeping volunteers engaged, supported, and fulfilled is important to the success of any project. Having a plan for volunteer involvement will insure success and sustainability. Start by using position descriptions to find the right people and communicate your needs to them. Break down a task into smaller pieces to give volunteers the opportunity to focus their time and skills.

Remember that recruitment is an ongoing process and training is important to keep volunteers energized and refreshed. Current volunteers can be helpful in finding new leaders and training them too. Bring in the right volunteers, orient them to the local and national organization--then train them to be excellent leaders, presenters, and supporters.

Getting a volunteer program started is a significant investment of time. Your investment will pay off as these new supporters help to expand your program offerings, give staff and board members more time to dedicate to other projects, and eventually become mentors for new volunteers.

The following volunteer development tools are available through the national organization:

HI-AYH Volunteer Manual
A resource for getting started with sample position descriptions, recruitment tips, and ideas for recognition

HI-AYH Volunteer Ambassadors Handbook
This ready to use handbook contains HI background, volunteer policies and a volunteer agreement.

VolunteerMatch connections
Through the HI-AYH Intranet (the internal web site) volunteer positions can be listed nationally to reach local volunteers and "virtual" volunteers for projects that can be done from anywhere.

Volunteer Position Descriptions
A variety of sample volunteer position descriptions are available through the national programs and education department in areas like travel education, hostel based programs, or advisory boards.

Volunteer Program Development Models and Consulting
Sample models and plans can also help in the development of your local volunteer program. Both Rose Colby and Travis Major are available for consulting on volunteer management and development.

2001 National Council Meeting & Convention focused on "Building a Blueprint for Success"

At the 2000 National Council Meeting, we were presented with a bold vision for the hostelling movement. Embracing this vision will mean building strong foundations across the United States and offering a variety of opportunities for community members to engage in the HI-AYH message of peace through responsible travel.

The theme for the 2001 NCM, "Building the Hostelling Movement; A Blueprint for Success" will focus on bringing together a diverse network of regional and national board members, local volunteer leaders, nonprofit professionals, hostel managers, and local consultants and trainers to share experiences related to the mission of Hostelling International. Join your colleagues for basic to advanced workshops in marketing, personnel management, volunteer & board development, team building and much more. Participate in plenary sessions led by nationally recognized speakers like Susan Ellis and Brad Newsham. Hear reports from working groups and task forces engaged in moving the organization forward. Enjoy networking time at luncheons, receptions and small group meetings. Most important of all, celebrate a year of accomplishments with volunteers and staff at the annual awards banquet.

Online registration and preliminary program information will be available beginning August 17 on the HI-AYH Intranet.

Hostel Sitters Needed in November at Ohiopyle

Manager's Kelly and Steve are attending the HI-AYH National Meeting and Hostel Managers Conference in Chicago this November. Hostel sitters are needed at Ohiopyle on Nov. 10, 11, 12 and Nov. 15, 16, 17 and 18 (we are closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. However, someone could stay those nights if they wanted to). Please call us at 724-329-4476 or e-mail us at hiohiopyle@stargate.net. We have a brief application for volunteers to complete, as well as a short training session (this could be done on the 10th or any time prior). Individuals, couples and families are welcome! Hostel sitters will stay complimentary in our private room. If you can't volunteer for the entire week but just a few nights, that is okay. We need to get these dates covered so we can go to the conference.4

October Events in the Ohiopyle Area
Buckwheat Festival at the Ohiopyle/Stewart Community Center Oct. 12-14. Buckwheat pancakes, regular pancakes and fresh pressed apple cider. Cost is \$6 per person.

12th Annual Yough River Trail Race on Oct. 13. 10K run and 5K walk. Pre-registered \$10 and race day registration \$12. Send checks to Knights of Columbus and mail to: 12th Annual Yough River Trail Race, c/o Doug Hoehn, 17 Farm Lane, Ohiopyle PA 15470.

Murder Mystery Dinner at Christian W. Clay Winery (10 miles from Ohiopyle in Chalk Hill) on Oct.13. Buffet dinner with interactive murder in an 1880 historic barn. Mystery from 6 pm to 9 pm. Cost is \$32. (Advance reservations required). Call 724-439-3424.

Reservations at the Ohiopyle Hostel are strongly advised since we are already full 4 days in October! Call us at 724-329-4476 or e-mail us at hiohiopyle@stargate.net.

NEW FIREPLACE FOR OHIOPYLE HOSTEL?

The old wood-burning fireplace at the Ohiopyle hostel was removed due to problems with the flue system. The Facilities Committee would like to install un-vented gas logs in its place. It would be much cleaner and safer to operate and serve as an emergency back up to the oil-fired boiler heating system. We also lost a number of potential visitors last winter when they learned there was no operating fireplace. The total cost of installing the fireplace, piping and propane tank is \$700. As this is way beyond our operating budget, we are asking the members of the Pittsburgh Council for contributions. Please help us out with whatever money you can spare and be ready to join us around the fire in Ohiopyle this winter. Make checks payable to: PITTSBURGH COUNCIL-AYH, and mail them to Pittsburgh Council-AYH, 830 E. Warrington Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15210

JOIN THE PITTSBURGH COUNCIL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The Pittsburgh Council Facilities Committee is charged with maintaining and improving the Pittsburgh and Ohiopyle Hostels. Winter is the time when we repair the battle damage from the summer touring season and make improvements to the hostels. We can use all the help we can get. In addition to the routine tasks like cleaning and yard work, we also need skill players who can help perform major repairs, help plan improvements and organize maintenance and utility records. The Pittsburgh Hostel now has a reputation as one of the showcase hostels in the U.S. under the direction of Jessica Carpenter. The staff works hard to keep the Pittsburgh Hostel squeaky clean and in perfect condition. The Ohiopyle Hostel is a wonderful old house near Ferncliff Peninsula in Ohiopyle



BICYCLING

SATURDAY BIKE RIDES

MOST SATURDAYS WE WILL BE HAVING BIKE RIDES ALONG THE DIFFERENT RAILS TO TRAILS, AND SOMETIMES COUNTRY ROADS. WE WILL TRY NOT TO REPEAT THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER. FOR TIME AND PLACE CALL JOAN ROOLF AT 412-351-2061

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

TOUR DE GRAPE HARVEST WILDERNESS LODGE

OCTOBER 5th , 6th AND 7th , 2001
HAVE A PERFECT FALL WEEKEND AT THE PEAK OF THE FALL COLORS. THIS YEAR, WE WILL RIDE AMONG THE VINEYARDS AND ALONG LAKE ERIE ON SATURDAY. ON SUNDAY WE PLAN TO RIDE PART WAY AROUND LAKE CHAUTAUQUA, TAKING A FERRY ACROSS THE LAKE. ENJOY A HOMECOOKED MEAL SATURDAY AT WILDERNESS LODGE (IF WE HAVE AT LEAST 10 PEOPLE.)

THE COST IS: \$38. PER PERSON (\$48.NON-MEMBERS) FOR A DORM STYLE ROOM (3-6)
\$90. PER ROOM (\$100 NON-MEMBERS) FOR A PRIVATE DOUBLE ROOM
SATURDAY'S DINNER IS \$11. (IT WILL BE COLLECTED THAT WEEKEND) BREAKFASTS ARE EXTRA. LUNCH WILL BE AT A RESTURANT ALONG THE ROUTE. WE WILL RESERVE THE SPACE.

RESERVE EARLY. SPACE IS LIMITED TO 23. PRIVATE ROOMS ARE LIMITED ALSO. SEND A CHECK AND THE APPLICATION BELOW TO :

HI-PITTSBURGH HOSTEL
830 E. WARRINGTON AVE.
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15210

State Park, the largest state park in Pennsylvania. The managers, Kelly and Steve Miller, are doing a great job and the Ohiopyle Hostel received a rave review on this year's inspection by the national AYH organization. The Pittsburgh Council has made major improvements to the building and the park service installed a new roof. If you can lend us a hand, please contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538; email twoschmidts@peoplepc.com.

TOUR DE GRAPE HARVEST BICYCLE TOUR WILDERNESS LODGE OCTOBER 5-6-7

NAME: _____ AYH PASS # _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ TELEPHONE: _____

ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR \$ _____

____ I AM DRIVING AND CAN TAKE _____ PASSENGERS.
____ I NEED HELP FINDING A RIDE.(WE WILL TRY)
____ I WILL DRIVE AND MEET THE GROUP AT WILDERNESS LODGE.

LIABILITY WAIVER

In consideration of your acceptance of my application for participation in the cycling weekend at Wilderness Lodge, I, the undersigned, for myself and my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, waive and release any and all claims for damages for death, personal injury or loss of property I may have or which may accrue to me as a result of my participation. I the undersigned, discharge and release the Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc., Wilderness Lodge, their activity leaders, and their respective agents, boards, comissions and any other involved employees, representatives, and volunteers from all liability arising out of, or connected in any way with my participation, whether or not caused by the negligence of any of the above parties.

I acknowledge that there are inherent risks and dangers which may arise at any time during the weekend. My participation is voluntary and is done at my own risk. I voluntarily assume all risks of loss, damage, or injury that may be sustained while participating. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for participation in this event. I understand and agree that medical or other services rendered to me by or at the insistence of any of the above parties is not an admission of liability to provide or to continue to provide any such services and is not a waiver of any of the said parties of any right hereunder.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS

Ambler Hikes

Ambler Hikes are briskly paced, 5-6 mile hikes. Amblers meet at the lower parking behind the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts at the corner of Fifth and Shady Aves at 10 am on Sundays. BE SURE TO CALL THE HIKE LEADER THE DAY BEFORE THE HIKE TO BE SURE IT IS GOING. We then car pool to the beginning of the hike. There is a car pool fee and \$1 goes to the hostel. Wear appropriate hiking gear especially when the hike is out of town. We usually (but not always) find a local restaurant for lunch.

- September 30th-** A hike in Cook's Forest Lorraine Johnson 412-561-2786
- October 7th-** North Country Trail in Moraine State Park Theresa Honert 412-683-0253
- October 14th-** Cabot Flats Judy Woodring 412-828-9002
- October 21st-** Deer Lakes Park Lorraine Johnson 412-561-2786
- October 28th-** Home, Pa. in Indiana County Judy Woodring 412-828-9002
- November 4th-** Yough Trail at Boston and Dead Man's Hollow Judy Woodring 412-828-9002
- November 11th-** Laurel Ridge Hiking Trail, bring a lunch- Ben Brugmans-412-361-3623
- November 18th-**Cedar Creek Westmoreland Co. Park- Judy Woodring- 412-828-9002
- November 25th-** North Park - Lorraine Johnson-412-561-2786
- December 2nd-**Herr's Island to the North Side, lunch at Max and Erma's-Ben Brugmans-412-361-3623
- December 9th-**Raccoon Creek State Park- Theresa Honert- 412-683-0253
- December 16th-**Walk around downtown and Station Square, enjoying decorations of some of the churches, hotels, etc., lunch at Station Square- Joan Roofl-412-351-2061

December 23rd- Holiday week

December 30th-Monroeville into the Turtle Creek Valley. See the still wild Turtle Creek Valley, which may soon change forever if the Mon Valley expressway comes up the valley.- Lunch in Trafford.- Joan Roofl-412-351-2061

Sighted guides needed for **BOLD** (Blind Outdoor Leisure Developement) hike, Sunday, September 30 on 3 Rivers Hiking Trail. Meet @ 10am at AYH. Bag lunch. Call Maynard Hansen 412-751-7615

Private trips lead by A.J. Stones

Sept. 30th Wolf's Rock 5-8 miles
Oct. 7th Moraine State Park 6-8 miles
Oct. 14th Laurel Highlands Trail 11 miles
Oct. 20th. One day Allegheny river trip 0-18 miles
Oct. 20-21th Overnight Allegheny River canoe trip 18-38 miles
Nov. 2- 4th Overnight trip to Skyline drive for Backpacking trip on Appalachian Trail. Leave Pgh Fri. after work.
Questions:
call 412-241-6042 e-mail aj@ajstones.com
Hiking trips will leave from Jaden's Restaurant Rt. 22 East Monroeville at 8:30 AM
Please if you are going to leave a car at the restaurant park closest to Elliott Rd.

ALLEGHENY GROUP--SIERRA CLUB--OUTINGS THRU NOV. 25, 2001
Recommended carpool fee: 5 cents/passenger-mile, & share tolls (Unless stated, car-miles are one-way from Monroeville) For more up-to-date listings, visit <http://www.alleghenysc.org/> Subscriptions to this list are \$2.50/year ** (4-5 issues). Make check payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club; mail to Bruce Sundquist, 210 College Park Dr., Monroeville 15146-1532 ** E-mail subscriptions: free.
<bsundquist1@juno.com>

EVENING CONDITIONING WALKS (Call for meeting time and place)
South Park (year-around). Times/locations may vary. Call Bonnie Thomas, 412-833-1068
East (during EDST) Tues. & Thurs. evenings in Duff Park near Murrysville. Call Nick Broskovich, 724-863-6707
East End (during EDST) Wed. evenings, 7 PM, to Frick, Schenley or Highland Park. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

DAY- AND WEEKEND TRIPS:
Sat.Sept.29 Hike an intermediate 8-10 miles along the Conemaugh River from Livermore Cemetery (near Blairsville) on an old abandoned railroad grade that followed the Connemaugh River over a series of masonry trestle bridges to the end of the trail, then back to the rail tunnel. Unusual scenery. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sun.Sept.30 Hike an easy and partly exploratory 5-8 miles in the valley of Laurel Run, a scenic stream valley full of hemlock, rhododendron, and beavers. Explore De-

vies Mountain if time permits. This area is recently cquired by Forbes State Forest, and is right next door to Quebec Run Wild Area. This will be our first Allegheny Group trip to the area. \$7.00 carpool-65 miles. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Fri.-Sun.Oct.5-7 Bicycling in northwestern Pa.--among the vineyards and along Lake Erie and part way around Lake Chautauqua, taking a ferry across the lake. Stay at Wilderness Lodge. Cost: \$38 and up. Limit: 23. Get lots of added details from Joan Roofl, 412-351-2061

Sat.-Sun.Oct.6-7 Backpacking on the Laurel Highlands Trail from Rt. 653 to Grindle Ridge Shelter and back (6 miles/day) \$6.75 carpool-60 miles. Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196

Sun.Oct. 7 Hike an intermediate 8 miles on White Tail Trail on Chestnut Ridge from Skyline Drive to Pine Knob Overlook to Lick Hollow Picnic Area (in Forbes State Forest). \$6.50 carpool-60 miles. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519

Fri.-Sun.Oct.12-14 Easy backpack (16 miles) in the upper half of Pine Creek Gorge along West Rim Trail in north-central Pa. Spectacular scenery. Carpool fee to be determined by conditions (a 5-hour drive). Call Robert Welsh, 412-922-7476

Sat.Oct.13 Hike an intermediate 8 miles in Laurel Hill State Park on the east slope of Laurel Ridge. Peak of the fall colors. \$6.25 carpool-55 miles. Meet at Monroeville P&R at 9 AM. Call Tom Wolper, 412-521-8378

Sat.Oct.13 Beginner-intermediate canoe trip in the Bow Ridge Recreation Area near New Alexandria on the Connemaugh River dam backwater. Lot of tributaries and back waters to explore. The concession at the Recreation Area has a canoe to rent. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sun.Oct.14 Easy 4-mile hike in Harrison Hills County Park near Freeport. Scenic views over the Allegheny River and visit a pond. \$2.75 carpool-25 miles from Arts Center. Call Luc Berger, 412-683-3131

Sat.Oct.20 Visit Coon Cave. \$3.50 carpool-35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sun.Oct.21 Easy hike (7 miles downhill) near Ohiopyle--Sugarloaf Knob to Ramcat Run. Meet at Monroeville P&R Lot at 9 AM. \$8.25 carpool-76 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sun.Oct.21 Hike, strenuous and exploratory, on a loop through the farther reaches of Ohiopyle State Park and adjacent Gamelands, northwest from the Old Mitchell Place, in the "corner" where the Youghiogheny flows north and then turns west to cut through Chestnut Ridge. \$7.25 carpool-65 miles. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sun.Oct.21 Easy 1.5-mile hike (2 hours) in Seldom Seen Greenway (Beechview Area). Meet at the far end of Brashear High School's parking lot at 590 Crane Ave. in Beechview at 1:30 PM. Call John or Kathy Murphy, 412-341-9367, or Bill Lawrence, 412-922-3951

Sat.Oct.27 Canoe/hike on a small creek somewhere that has water. Intermediate. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866

Sun.Oct.28 Hike a strenuous 13 miles on Laurel Highlands Trail from Ohiopyle State Park to the first shelter and return. \$7.25 carpool-65 miles. Call Mike Fallon, 412-344-9952

(Continued on page 7)

Baker Trail, Hiker Alerts

- The railroad bridge across the Kiski River in Schenley is stilled officially closed to hikers on the Baker Trail. There is no detour (unless you can swim with a pack). Begin all northbound hiking in Schenley.
- The Cochran’s Mill Shelter has been destroyed by vandals and is, therefore, not in service. It is recommended that you camp a mile or so up- or down-trail and not at the shelter site because of continued drinking parties there.
- There is a new shelter at North Freedom/Langville. Please call (412) 828-0210 or email jimritch@aol.com for the location.
- All other shelters are open, the Trail is fully blazed and a trail guide (\$7+s/h) may be ordered by telephone at (412) 431-4910.

Rachel Carson Trail, Hiker Alerts

- The trail is fully open and blazed. The 5th **Rachel Carson Trail Challenge**, a one-day, 34-mile endurance hike going end-to-end on the Trail is scheduled for June 23, 2001, the virtual summer solstice. Registration is \$23. Call (412) 431-4910 for a registration form or to order the trail guide (\$7+s/h).

Visit the RachelBaker Website

Visit the RachelBaker website at <http://members.nbci.com/rachelbaker> where you will find the following information of interest to hikers and backpackers. Visit today and then bookmark our site for future reference.

1. A current schedule of hiking activities in the Pittsburgh area.
2. Information about the Rachel Carson and Baker Trails.
3. Rachel Carson Trail Challenge information
 - a. See Photos from RCTC2000
 - b. Read the exciting sagas of previous Challenges: 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2000
4. Learn how to volunteer to help maintain our trails

UPCOMING SLIDE SHOWS

October 4: Mary Jo Haywood, "Hiking The Canadian Rockies". The Columbia Icefields. Helicopter-hiking along the top of the Rockies, north of Jasper. Banff, Lake Louise, Peyto Lake, Spirit Lake.

October 11: Pumpkin pie, potato chips and soft drinks party.

October 18: Bruce Berman, "Winter Kayak Vacation In Mexico". Learn white-water kayak with Calleva Mexico, in warm rivers near Vera Cruz and Mount Orizaba. Based at the hot-springs resort Aguas Thermales on the Rio Pescados. Trips are scheduled every winter.

October 25: Annual meeting and elections. Positions on board of directors are open; call Kyra as soon as possible at 412 521 3641. Also, Halloween party with pizza and drinks.

November 1: John Zabcar, "Mount Rainier: Glaciers, Trails and Fauna". Includes the history of the mountain, volcanic activity, and some really impressive photography.

November 8: "The Europe That Ann Frank Never Saw", by ranger Tim Manka. On an 8-week bus tour organized by the University of Vienna, Tim used Ann's hopes, dreams and fantasies, as contained in her diary, as a guide to Paris museums and architecture, to England's kings and queens, to Windsor Castle, to the Pope in Rome. Includes 12 countries such as Denmark, Switzerland, etc..

November 15: Cookies, pretzels and soft drinks party.

November 22: Closed for Thanksgiving Day.

November 29: We show the 16 mm film "Hongkong". A tour of the sights of that great city. See the harbor and the gleaming business district from the top of Victoria Peak. Also, an oriental amusement park, and the fishing boat residences.

December 6: Sally and Chuck Martin, "Bicycling From West Coast To Yukon And Alaska". Includes the Dempster Highway from Skagway to Whitehorse and Tuktoyaktuk. Also Denali National Park.

December 13: Christmas party starting 6:30 PM at the Hostel, Warrington Ave. at Arlington Avenue in Allentown. Extensive food. More information on page 2.

December 20: Cheese, bread and Juicy Juice party.

December 27: Closed for Christmas Holidays.

January 3: Closed for New Year Holidays.

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.

Rambles For Summer 2001

October 2001

Oct 3 Historic Hanna's Town (first county seat west of the Alleghenies) \$3 admission charge. \$4 transportation for passengers from Pittsburgh. Bag lunch. Edmund Appleby. 724-834-5077

Oct 10 Mingo Creek Park. Bag lunch. \$4 trip. Billie Woodland. 412-886-1603

Oct 17 Mystery ramble. Margaret Laske. 412-421-5219

Oct 24 Boyce Nature Trail. Bag lunch. Sonja Sletten. 412-824-3797

Oct 31 McKeesport Cemetery. Marilyn Ham. 412-687-4520

November 2001

Nov 7 Thornburg, Joan Roolf. 412-351-2061

Nov 14 Walk the up-and-down streets of Elliot and enjoy the spectacular views. Bill Phoennik. 412-279-5411

Nov 21 Thanksgiving time. No Ramble

Nov 28 Explore the new trail extension from Herr's Island to Sharpsburg. Ed Divers. 412-828-5154.

December 2001

Dec 5 Mt. Washington - Grandview Ave. Bob Esser. 412-488-1571

Dec 12 Beechwood Blvd. Area. Dick Fischer. 412-421-9215

Dec 19 Downtown ramble. Jean Canfield. 412-661-3998.

Dec 26 No ramble. Enjoy the holidays.

NOTE NEW STARTING TIME!

Fall rambles begin at 10:00 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.



SEA-KAYAKING

Kelleys Island, Cape Henlopen and Presque Isle are just a few of the interesting and exciting places we will be summer. Weather 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.

Sept. 29, 30 Lake Moomaw Vickie 344-4929
Come with us to explore a mountain lake in beautiful Virginia.

Oct. 19, 20, 21 Juanita River Ron 831-5054
Join Ron for a weekend of paddling and camping on this Central Pennsylvania river.

Oct. 26, 27, 28 Halloween trip Vickie 344-4929
Get your costumes ready for our annual kayak/canoe adventure. Car camping, costume paddling, and Joyce will have games and prizes galore.



CANOEING

Activity Co-chairs: Paul Henry (724) 347-3282
Brian McBane (724) 443-8972

AYH CANOEING PROGRAM CALENDAR OF EVENTS THROUGH DECEMBER

October 4-8 George Schnakenberg (412) 731-3046
It has been a while since AYH held a canoe/camp to the New Jersey Pine Barrens. Day trips will be out of a central campground at Atsion. Intimate streams, "tea water" and biologically diverse plant communities make this a very special place. Call early for reservations.

October 12-14 Eric Nilson (412) 487-3255
Leaf Peeper Canoe Camping Trip RSVP by Oct. 9

October 26-28 Joyce Appel (724) 526-5407
The annual Hallowe'en Canoe/Kayak Allegheny Float. Costumes, games, haunted hayride, dinner at Five Forks are the main ingredients going into Joyce's witch's brew, casting a spell of FUN for all!!!

Shelley C. Nilson shelleycn@yahoo.com



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.



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.

August 25-26 Sat-Sun. Lake Arthur Bob Zavos 412-241-0659
REGATTA AT LAKE ARTHUR. There will be a wide variety of water activities including sailing so mark your calendars now.

GLENN OSTER'S BICYCLING EXPERIENCE IN NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

Space restrictions have prevented our printing Glenn Oster's account of his recent three and a half month tour of New Zealand and Australia, much of it by bicycle. However, you can access his article by contacting him at his e-mail address <goglen25@telerama.com>. Alternatively, you can find his article in the website "Miami Valley Ohio Rails-to-Trails Pages" <www.intellweb.com/trails/index.html> Open the website and select "Reviews of Ohio Rail Trails by Users." Near the bottom of the resulting page, select "Glenn Oster's Trail Reviews." You may want to review two of his other articles as well.

FOR SALE

by Joe Levine 6654 Northumberland, Pgh. PA 15217 (412) 421-9706

Sleeping bag - fiber, mummy (from 25°) with stuff sack (barely used) \$80
Backpack - Cannondale - internal frame \$75
Backpack - external frame - blue nylon \$25
Clement - 60", laminated wood canoe paddle \$75
Personal floatation device - (shortened 2") \$10
Optimus gas stove, stainless steel fuel bottle (with half gallon white gas) \$15
Cook set - 5 piece nest, aluminum \$2

Sat.-Sun.Nov.3-4 Backpacking on Laurel Highlands Trail--one of a series of trips to cover the entire 70 miles of the LHHT. Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196

Sun.Nov.4 Hike an intermediate 10 miles in the Mountain Streams area (Little Run, Camp Run) of Forbes State Forest on Laurel Ridge. \$5.00 carpool-42 miles. Call Donna Allen, 412-372-2993

Sun.Nov.11 Hike, strenuous and exploratory, in Charles Lewis Natural Area on the north slopes of Conemaugh Gorge, where the Conemaugh River cuts through Laurel Ridge, with views over the Gorge, opposite the northern end of the Laurel Highlands Trail. \$5.25 carpool-53 miles. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat. Nov. 17 Hike an intermediate 8-10 miles in Tomlinson Run State Park. \$4.50
carpool-45 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sun.Nov.18 Hike a moderate 8 miles near Freeport (Harrison Hills Park to Little Buffalo Creek). Meet at Harmarville Ames at 10 AM. \$1.00 carpool-10 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sat.Nov.24 Hike a strenuous 16-18 miles along the Glacial Moraines in Moraine State Park. Well developed trail. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat.Nov.24 Bush-wack hike on Chestnut ridge. Intermediate. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866

Sun.Nov.25 Hike an intermediate and exploratory 8 miles in the Roaring Run Area near Apollo. Three waterfalls. Hike the west branch and explore the east branch of Roaring Run. \$2.50 carpool-25 miles. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

NOTES: Ask leader for names & phone numbers of trippers for you to arrange a car pool. Reserve at least 36 hours in advance. Notify leader to cancel your reservation. Bring lunch, rain gear, water, first-aid kit, small flashlight and extra clothes for changes in weather. If you have a cell phone, bring it along; they have saved the day on several trips when accidents have required evacuation of injured trippers.

Sierra Clubbers planning to lead outings during 12/1/01-2/28/02 should contact Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737 <bsundquist1@juno.com> by 11/5/01.

SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP INDUCEMENT: If you join the Sierra Club on one of our outings, your \$25 introductory membership will get you a free hip pack (while supplies last). Call Bruce Sundquist (724-327-8737) for application form and pack.

ALLEGHENY GROUP MONTHLY MEETINGS 7:30-10 PM, PGH. CIVIC GARDEN CENTER,
behind Scaife Unit of Arts Center, Second house south of Fifth Ave. on Shady Ave.
Parking meters-\$0.25/hr. (quarters only)

Wed.Oct. 10 "Species Conservation Program at the Pittsburgh Zoo". Henry Kactczyk, Animal Curator, Pittsburgh Zoo.

NON-SIERRA CLUB TRIPS: Trips listed below are in no way connected with the Sierra Club. Sierra Club takes no responsibility, and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of these trips. They are published here purely as a service to our members.

Outside Adventures Sea-Kayaking Program "Sea-Kayaking Taught From Scratch" Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pennsylvania is a non-profit educational organization committed to introducing individuals to safe and enjoyable recreational outdoor pursuits. The Sea-Kayaking Program specializes in teaching all levels of sea-kayaking skills and organizing trips from our evening Introductory classes for new paddlers up to advanced expedition tours. Outside Adventures welcomes participation from individuals, families, youth organizations and outings clubs. Sea-kayaks, or touring kayaks are versatile, fun, human-powered watercraft that enable us to do all these things and more. They are sleek and fast, more efficient than canoes, more comfortable and stable than whitewater kayaks, have hatches to swallow loads of gear, and steerable rudders that enable even beginners to control the boat with ease.

ALLEGHENY GROUP--SIERRA CLUB

For up-to-date listings, visit <http://www.alleghenysc.org/>
ALLEGHENY GROUP MONTHLY MEETINGS
 7:30-10 PM, PGH. CIVIC GARDEN CENTER, behind Scaife Unit of Arts Center,
 SECOND HOUSE SOUTH OF FIFTH AVE. ON SHADY AVE. Parking meters-
 \$0.25/hr. (quarters only)
 Wed Oct 10 The Species Survival Plan at the Pittsburgh Zoo with Henry Kactrzyk, ani-
 mal curator at the Pittsburgh Zoo.
 Wed Nov 14 Update on our National Forests with David Muhly, associate regional rep-
 resentative of the Sierra Club, Appalachian Region

BUTLER OUTDOOR CLUB Same sorts of trips as Allegheny Group. Contact Dave Adams, 724-453-1685 <DaveEAdams@aol.com> or Bob Tait, 724-287-3382 <BobTait@zbzoom.net> or visit BOC's web site at <http://www.butleroutdoorclub.com>

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. PA 15219

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN PA. 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 a sample newsletter and membership information to yoree@sgi.net, or call Loree at 412-521-9425.

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 2nd Wednesday at 8pm at the Frick Environmental Center on
Beechwood Blvd in Squirrel Hill. See home page for details.

trip report for Wednesday, August 1

by Alexis Rzewski

Norm Snyder, Alan Aliskowitz and myself left Pittsburgh at 8 AM, with the intention of reaching the area near the intersecting corner of the three states PA, MD, and WV. A tributary of the Cheat River called the Big Sandy Creek, to which we have hiked twice before in the past year, was going to be our playground for a snorkeling mission. On the way, we stopped in Dunbar, Penna., to pick up a fourth person, Mark, a caver with whom Norm did some trips recently. We eventually arrived at the confluence point of the creek with the Cheat River, a location also called for a bridge called Jenkins Bridge. The driving time was about two and a half hours, mileage about 130.

We started hiking upstream the Big Sandy at 11 AM, and after two hours and maybe four miles, started snorkeling downstream at 1 PM. Snorkeling downstream in a river or stream current is basically floating with your head forward and vision underwater, allowing the waterflow to carry you. The dress code is closed shoes such as sneakers, long pants, long sleeve shirt. I also wore wool socks. In the shallow parts, the current flow increases in speed, pushing the body forward and occasionally the rocks on the bottom scrape the torso or knees. I soon learned of tying my shirt to the pants with a knot, otherwise the water current would lift the shirt and expose my torso to the rocks. If one resists by putting the hands forward trying to stop, the water would just push your feet and legs sideways and then forward. You just gotta go with the flow. In case of fast rapids or waterfalls, one would just walk those portions. Occasionally there were some good fast moving chutes with flat bottom and no protruding rocks that were ideal playground. We did dose chutes repeatedly. Just flow downstream with your body flat and hands forward to deflect your head from hitting eventual rocks. It is easier to float down a river than to walk it, since there are lots of hard to see round rocks, that are prime material for a twisted ankle. Lots of green fish were seen. Water was clear. No garbage such as tires or barrels. No people. The air temperature was forecasted in the 80's, but seemed much cooler. A wetsuit torso would have been nice: I was shivering every time I left the water. An old wool sweater would probably work as well. Almost at the end, near the confluence with the Cheat, there was a beautiful island of hemlock trees and rhododendron bushes. At its end, a sandy beach and a swimming pit. Under the perplexed eyes of some locals that came for fishing, swimming,

and beer drinking, ATVs right on the river's edge with a cooler attached on the back, we exited the water with our water-drenched clothing and snorkeling gear around the neck. Talk of the town on that limbo of sand was about how one guy three weeks before got torn up on back of his legs after he jumped off the bridge splashing of the water 100 feet below. We had been snorkeling almost five hours. Said goodbye to the beer swinging locals, their tattooed bare chests illuminated by the orange evening sun, and at 7 PM started driving back. Got at Dunbar at 8:20, and in Pittsburgh an hour later. I personally finished the day by laying out on the grass of Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park to watch the outdoor movie "Gone in 60 Seconds". I usually have a photo camera on my trips, but on this one, I needed a waterproof one, maybe attached above my mask with duct tape. Back pocket of pants will also work. Front pocket probably not, since when the water gets to be only six inches deep, you are basically scraping the ground with your body front.

Well, fellas. This is my last trip for a while. I am on a tight leash now. Baby is due in the next 15 days.



Pennsylvania State Parks
Reservations & Information

Call Toll Free
1-888-PA-PARKS

Reserve up to 11 months in advance
Cabins - Pavilions - Camping

Mastercard www.dcnr.state.pa.us Visa

(Continued from page 1)

count to HI members who present their cards. 823 E. Warrington Ave. (Allentown-across the street from the Hostel!) Tel: (412) 488-0666

Casbah- 10% off bill. Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 229 S. Highland Avenue (Shadyside) Tel: (412) 661-5656, Email: casbah1@bigburrito.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

City Books- 10% off most books. 111E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 481-7555: email: citybooks@sprintmail.com

City Theatre-Discounts are good for 2001 Subscription Series Productions only. Subject to availability. Students 25 and under \$12 Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday Matinee. Friday and Saturday \$15. Other hostel patrons over 25 receive a \$5 discount. Valid Student ID or receipt from Hostel to be presented at Box Office. City Theatre Performances: Tuesday-Thursday 8pm, Friday, 8pm, Saturday 5:30 &9pm, Sunday Matinee 2pm. 57 13th Street (Southside) Tel: (414) 431-CITY, email: theatre@citytheatrepgh.org, Website: www.citytheatre-pgh.org

Dairy Mart- Free 44oz. Fountain drink with \$5.00 purchase; 1125 Arlington Ave. (Allentown-across the street from the Hostel!) Tel: (412)481-4122

Dave’s Music Mine- 10% off total purchase (music & instruments). Not valid with any other specials, discounts or promotions. 1210 E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 488-8800, Email: davesmusicmine@aol.com Website: www.davesmusicmine.com

East End Food Co-op- 10% on purchases at Pittsburgh’s largest natural and organic food market. 7516 Meade Street (Point Breeze) Tel: (412) 242-3598

Golden Triangle Bike Rentals- 10% discount on bike rentals. 416 Woodrift Lane (near the Jail Trail) Tel: (412) 655-0835; Email: goldentrianglebikes@yahoo.com, Website: www.bikepittsburgh.com

Gray Line Trolley Tours of Pittsburgh- \$2.00 discount per tour #1, 2, 3, & 4 only. 110 Lenzner Court, Sewickley, PA 15143 Tel: (412) 741-2720 Email: Catherine.spanard@coachusa.com, Website: www.coachusa.com

Jester’s Court Tattoos & More- 20% off any tattoo, piercing, t-shirt, etc. 1410 East Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 488-TATS, Email: Jesterscourt@earthlink.com

Kaya- 10% off your bill. Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 2000 Smallman Street (Strip District) Tel:(412) 261-6565, Email: kayal@bigburrito.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

La Prima Espresso- 50 cents off any coffee drink for visiting members. 811 Liberty Ave., Tel: (412) 471-4590 (Downtown) Website: www.laprima.com

Little Chicago’s Pizzeria- 15% discount, Eat-in, Take-out, Delivery. 1728 East Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 431-1450

Macondo- 10% off the regular price of anything in the store. 406 S. Craig Street (Oakland) Tel: (412) 683-6486, Email: Macondo@telerama.com, Website: www.artshainan.com

Mad Mex - 10% off your bill, not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions; 7905 McKnight Road, (North Hills) Tel: (412) 366-5656, Email: madmex-nh@madmex.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

Mad Mex- 10% OFF your bill, not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions; 370 Atwood Street, (Oakland) Tel: (412) 681-5656, Email: madmex-oak@madmex.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

Mattress Factory Museum of Art- \$1.00 OFF admission. 500 Sampsoma Way (Northside) Tel: (412) 231-3169, Email: info@mattress.org, Website: www.mattress.org

Monti’s Studio- 10% discount store-wide; 844 E. Warrington Ave. (Allentown-across the street from the Hostel!) Tel: (412) 381-3240

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens- 10% OFF admission to conservatory and gardens throughout the year. Something’s always blooming at Phipps - so visit today! One Schenley Park (Oakland) Tel: (412) 622-6914, Email: phipps@phipps.pgh.pa.us, Website: www.phipps.conservatory.org

The Pickle Barrel- Buy one Pittsburgh Dog, get one FREE! Pittsburgh Dog: Foot-long Hot Dog, Shredded Gold Cheese, Black Olives, Honey Mustard. 1301 East Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 431-1114

Pittsburgh Symphony: 75% off regular ticket prices! (that's \$15/ticket!) Call Melissa Trifaro at (412) 392-3320 to book your discount tickets in advance. Discounts not available at the door, so make sure you call Melissa.

Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium- \$1.00 OFF admission with membership card, not valid for evening events. One discount per person. Open year-round. One Wild Place

(Highland Park) Tel: (412) 665-3639; email: connie@zoo.pgh.pa.us

Website: www.Pittsburghzoo.com

River's Edge Cafe- One free glass of wine with any dinner. 203 Yough Street, Confluence. 814-395-5059.

Road to Karakesh- 10% discount off total (maximum 4 guests) not valid with any other special, discounts or promotions. 320 Atwood Street (Oakland) Tel: (412) 687 0533

Slacker- 20% OFF all purchases, except magazines. 1321 E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 381-3911, Email: steve@slackernet.com, Website: www.slackernet.com

Soba Lounge- 10% OFF your bill. Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 5847 Ellsworth Ave. (Shadyside) Tel: (412) 362-5656, Email: soba1@bigburrito.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

Southside Card & Gift- 20% discount on any purchase over \$5. 1717 E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 481-2500, Email: Southsidecardgift@yahoo.com

Spice Island Tea House- 10% discount off total purchase (maximum 4 guests). Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 235 Atwood Street (Oakland) Tel: (412) 687-5821

Swank Gear- 15% Discount. 73 ½ South 13th Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 381-1037, Email: swankgirl@worldnet.att.net, Website: www.swankgear.com

Thoreau NM, a Production Company- “Two-for-tickets”-Buy one/Get one Free. Please call ahead for details. 209 Moya Place Cottage (Mount Oliver) Tel: (412) 431-8289, Email: thoreaunm@juno.com, Website: www.trfn.clpgh.org/thoreaunm

AYH Sheet Sleeping Sack DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT ONE!

Required in all youth hostels, the sleeping sack serves as your top & bottom sheets, with a built-in pillowcase. Regular sleeping bags are not allowed at hostels due to public health regulations. Our nylon sleep sack is especially light, compact, and dries extremely quickly (handy on trips). The cotton/polyester sleep sack is a little heavier and bulkier, but feels just like your bedsheets. Order one today! See the order form on the back page for prices.



*Pittsburgh Council, HI-AYH is a United Way Donor Option organization. Our Donor Option number is: **436**.*

2000 North American Hostel Handbooks can be picked up at the Travel Center, the Pittsburgh International Hostel, and the Activities Headquarters. Copies are free when picked up in person.

For Fastest Service! Visit The AYH Travel Store!

Pittsburgh Council, AYH
830 E Warrington Ave, Pittsburgh 15210
Or Call (412) 431-4910 For an Agency Near You!

Ordering / HI-AYH Hostel Membership Application

Include 10% for postage (\$1.50 minimum). Pennsylvania residents must also **include 7% sales tax**. Postage and taxes not required for AYH memberships and Eurail Passes. Memberships and merchandise also available at AYH Headquarters and the AYH office. **Discover, MasterCard, and Visa accepted.** Please allow **two weeks** for delivery of mail orders. Priority or Overnight shipping is available; call for information

Mail to: AYH
830 E Warrington Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15210



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

(day) (eve)

Birthdate: _____ **Sex (M/F):** _____

For hostellers: I need my hostel pass by:

☐ I need a free copy of the North American Hostel Directory

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐

Credit Card Number _____ **Expiration Date** _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Credit Card Orders may be faxed to 412-431-2625 for faster service

HI-AYH Memberships (No Tax on Memberships)

Valid for 12 months from date of purchase. Renewals valid for 12 months from expiration of current pass. Provides access to 6,000 Hostelling International hostels around the world. Includes **free** handbook of North American hostels upon request (see below) and 12 month subscription to Pittsburgh Council newsletter.

Adult (18-54) \$25.00 **Adult Renewal** \$25.00

Youth (17 and under) FREE

Senior (over 54) \$15.00 **Life** (all ages) \$250.00

Application for Complimentary Group Membership (not-for-profit organizations).....call for application FREE

Student/Teacher ID Cards

Student ID Card (2001) \$22.00

Teacher ID Card (2001) \$22.00

GO 25 ID Card (2001) \$22.00

Universal student ID issued by CIBE. Good for worldwide student discounts. Send 1-1/8x 1-3/8 photo, name of your country of citizenship and proof that you are a student. Or ask for free brochure.

Qty	AYH Membership	Unit Price	
	(Type:)		
		Total	

AYH Weekly Open House

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.

Council Office and Travel Store

The Pittsburgh Council Travel Store is open Wednesday through Friday 12 to 5 pm effective Dec 10th. 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.