

HOSTELLING
INTERNATIONAL

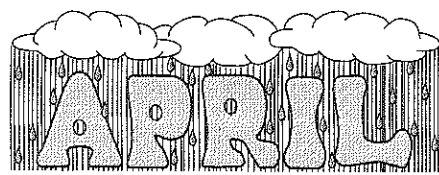
GOLDEN TRIANGLE

American Youth Hostels, Pittsburgh Council

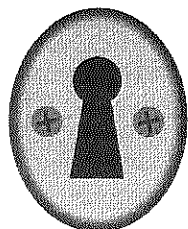
Hostelling International, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping all people, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling.

VOLUME 45, NUMBER 4

APRIL 1995



Features



There will be new locks installed at Headquarters, see page 6 for details.

Glenn Oster is at it again and regales us with the continuation of "Big Bend National Park" on page 3.

Its time to start planning your Summer travel schedule and page 4 is a good place to start looking for travel tid-bits.

Lewisburg area hostellers and trippers will want to check out page 4 for a list of trips now being offered in that area.

With the coming of Spring, comes Spring maintenance on some of our local trails and trail shelters, see page 5 to see how you can help.

Notice to all Trip Leaders: If you are a trip leader, then you will want to check up on the reminder on page 6

INSIDE

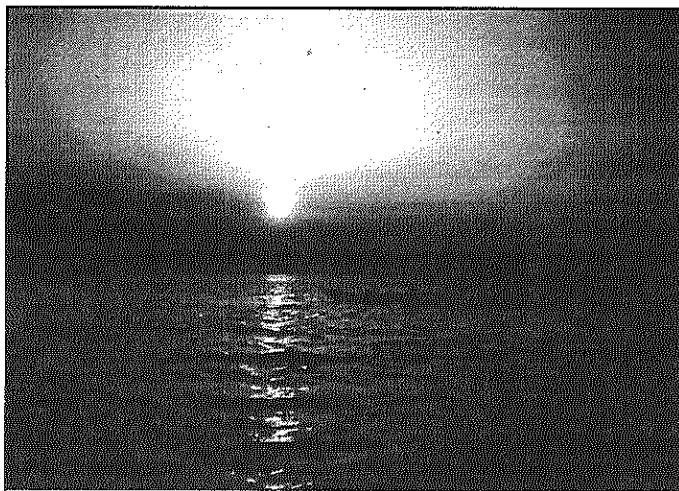
Activity Chairs; Page 2
HQ Programs; Page 2
SPRPC Bike News; Page 2
Fundraising; Page 3
Internet for travelers; Page 4
Lewisburg area trips; Page 4
Activities and trips; Page 5 & 6
Sea-kayaking; Page 7
Classified; Page 7
Council Travel and Book Store;
Back Cover

.....And MORE!!!

Have you ever wondered what it's like - Being stuck upside down in a sea-kayak fending off SHARK ATTACKS, while enjoying a great dinner?

Monday
Evening
April 10, 1995

Then join us for our monthly Activities dinners. Try a different restaurant each month. Sea-kayaking uses these monthly "Gourmandizing Events" in lieu of a traditional annual planning meeting; our dinners are fun and informal,



Watching a May sunset over Honeymoon Bay; Georgian Bay Islands Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada. -Pittsburgh AYH

and our program stays active throughout the year. We'll talk about anything Outdoor related. This is your chance to exchange ideas and tips on buying functional clothes and equipment, what to expect on trips, and finding the best places to go. Plan new sea-kayaking trips (usually over dessert) along with hiking, backpacking and sightseeing trips. Canoers and poke-boaters are welcome on many of our excursions.

Dinners are open to everyone. Please call for reservations and information about each month's restaurant. Mark Mistrik 344-8665.

Travel Store to Expand!

The Pittsburgh Council Travel Store is expanding to carry more travel books and travel supplies. In addition to Eurail and Britrail passes, Hostelling Handbooks, and sheet sacks, we just added more of the Let's Go books and the Lonely Planet travel guides. For your copy of the free brochure "Travelers' Resource Guide", call the Council office at 412-422-2282.

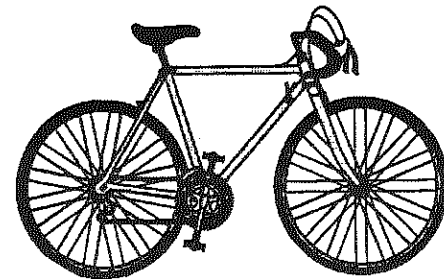
Travelers' Resource Guide

Call the Pittsburgh Council today for a free copy of the "Travelers' Resource Guide, listing travel merchandise available at the Council Travel Store, as well as hints on planning your itinerary, making reservations, and packing for the trip. Call 412-422-2282.

A Reminder: The best things in life are Free!

Since April, 1994, Hostelling North America has been distributed at hostels free of charge to all hostellers to promote hostel usage among people who are in an active travel mode.

CYCLING-95



The Pittsburgh AYH's 3 largest annual bicycling events, "The great Ride", "The Mon Valley Century" and "SABRE" are PGH's Premier touring events and draw a combined 5,000 cyclists each year. Dates for the 95 season are as follows; The Great Ride-July 28th, 1995; Mon Valley Century-August 27th, 1995; SABRE-October 1st, 1995. Watch in future issues for more details.

OHIOPILE WORK PARTIES

Sunday, April 23
Watch for other work party dates throughout the summer.

Please help volunteer for our Ohiopyle Hostel clean-up partys. If you can volunteer a few hours of your time to help paint, move furniture, clean, wash windows, do yard work or whatever talent you have, it will be very much appreciated. Free lunch for all volunteers and also, you can stay overnight for free but you must make a reservation in advance. We're also looking for some donated items: (Upright Piano, refrigerator and crib). We will meet at headquarters at 8:30 PM. and will be back around 6:00 PM.. Call Jacky Eberle if you have any questions or would like to sign up!

***ANY VOLUNTEER WHO WORKS 6 WORK PARTIES WILL RECEIVE A FREE OHIOPILE SWEATSHIRT.**
*** ANY VOLUNTEER WHO WORKS 6 WORK PARTIES WILL be eligible for the "OHIOPILE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR" AWARD**

--Jacky Eberle, Work Coordinator at 833-9732

AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
5604 SOLWAY STREET
PITTSBURGH, PA 15217

Dated material --please deliver promptly
Address correction requested

PASS# - 1910

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HOSTELLING



Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.
Serving Western Pennsylvania & West Virginia Panhandle
Since 1948, Incorporated 1955

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Oops...

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

MATERIAL...

All material to be published, should be sent to the address below. It Can be submitted on Disk in either IBM or Mactintosh format, sent E-mail. or Type written. NO EXCEPTIONS. Call if you have questions.

Mail regarding this Newsletter should be addressed to:

American Youth Hostels
The Golden Triangle
5604 Solway ST.
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
Office: (412) 422-2282

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Chairman of the Activities Committee
VACANT### ####

Canoeing
Paul Henry 962-1511
Cross Country Skiing
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Cycling
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VACANT### ####

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VACANT### ####
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Jim Ritchie 828-0210

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Chris Kline 441-7352

Storekeeper
Wm Eberle 833-9732

The following positions are currently open and we are in need of responsible people to fill them. If you are interested please call Larry Laude at 665-9554.

Caving, Volleyball coordinator,
Asst. Store Keeper, HQ Volunteers

NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for future issues of the GOLDEN TRIANGLE

May
All copy, April 6
Binding/Mailing, April 27

June
All copy, May 4
Binding/Mailing, May 25

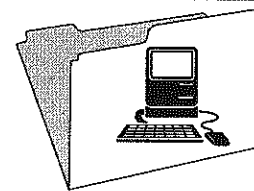
If your work is on computer,
Please contact Bill Eberle
@ 833-9732 or
76202.3051@Compuserve.com

Moving?

If you move, or have any subscription problems, please notify us right away. Returned mail costs 52 cents for each piece, so we can save money if you let us know about any changes in your address. You can also phone in changes to the office at (412) 422-2282.

About AYH

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

Submissions Policy:
Golden Triangle

Classified Adds:

- Classified adds are free to Current members of HI-International
- All requests for classifieds must be made in writing via the Council Office. Request must include full Name, address, phone number and Membership number of member. Members are not permitted to place adds for non-members.
- Free adds may not be for commercial gain.
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

Trips

- All trips must be approved by authorized co-chair
- Trip leader must be a council approved leader
- Trips must be submitted through co-chair, for that activity. Trip leaders, are not to submit trips directly to editor or office, any trips improperly submitted will not be listed.
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

Articles

- Members are encouraged to write articles, about travel abroad and in the states, and about activities and outdoor sports in which the council has a program
- All Articles are to be, non-political and non-secular
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

General rules for submission

- No handwritten submissions
- Submissions Can be;
 - On computer disk (IBM / MAC), E-mail (Internet/compuserve), Direct Modem, Type written material double spaced, faxed
- 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"

April Slide Shows

April 6, 13, 20 Slide show info for these dates not available at the time of printing. Our Doors Will BE OPEN, Contact the office at 422-2282 for Slide Show topics for these dates

April 27 Newsletter Prep Night- join us for a little work followed by socializing at a nearby restaurant.

May 4 Newsletter Prep Night- join us for a little work followed by socializing at a nearby restaurant.

May 11 Cycling Primer: the ABC's of bicycles in the 90's by Wm Eberle

Doors open: 8PM. Slide Shows: 8.30PM

Share your Slide Show trip!

To schedule a show call:

422-2282(daytime) or 362-8181 (8-10 PM Thurs.)

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

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

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

Charleroi Youth Hostel (SA)
Rogo's Hotel and Restaurant
601 McKean Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
(412) 483-6200



Bike Proponents Pumped Up Over Planning Efforts

The region's bicycle enthusiasts — perhaps the area's most tenacious transportation advocates — are winning the support of public officials for an expanding network of bike trails and bike lanes. Unlike the closed-loop recreational bike trails now in many public parks, the regional bikeway system contemplated by many of its supporters would link different communities and destinations to one another. It would, for the first time, provide safe routes for bike riders to commute into Oakland and the Golden Triangle from residential neighborhoods and suburban communities.

To help it formulate the Bike/Pedestrian component of the long-range plan, SPRPC convened a 25-member Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group in mid-October. Later in the month it held a public workshop to address the planning issues that will affect the development of a comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian strategy for the region.

Although bicycle advocates have welcomed dedicated bicycle and pedestrian trails, bike lanes and properly maintained shoulders along regular roads, as well as procedures to encourage road-sharing by motorists, are also of great interest.

New hike trail segments have recently opened in several parts of the region. A portion, of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail on the North Shore, which will ultimately stretch twelve miles from - Washington's Landing on the North Side to Sandcastle Water Park in the Hays section of Pittsburgh, opened on October 22. In southwestern Allegheny County, a portion of the Yough River Trail, which will eventually lead to Washington DC; opened on October 5. An eleven-mile segment of the Butler-Freeport Trail opened in early November. And other trail segments, including portions of the 52-mile Montour Trail, have already been completed.

Additional trail projects are in the works, including the North Hills Commuter Bikeway, which has been granted more than \$1 million to develop a 19-mile path between downtown Pittsburgh and the Butler County line. A proposed bikeway between Oakland and downtown Pittsburgh was also included as an element of SPRPC's recently-completed transportation plan.

Although some planners are skeptical about how much potential bicycles really offer as a form of daily transportation in southwestern Pennsylvania, their proponents have urged public officials to develop policies which would make commuting by bicycle a more attractive transportation alternative.

But work trips represent only 22 percent of the region's travel. Non-work trips - including travel for shopping, social visits, recreation, civic work and educational purposes - tend to be shorter and offer higher potential for being served by bicycle or by walking. Of all trips taken, 63 percent are for less than five miles; 49 percent are under three miles; and 28 percent are less than one mile. SPRPC's study is also examining these forms of travel. In addition to reducing the need for motor vehicle use in the region, improving the opportunities for walking and bike riding can also benefit the region's health, it advocates point out.

From the January 1995 issue of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Regional Planning Commission.

Pittsburgh AYH is accepting pledges and donations for the Pittsburgh Hostel.

Our Fundraising efforts are escalating to foundations and will include corporations as well. If any member is involved or knows of someone involved with these groups we would appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to let us know. Having a contact person really helps to get some attention. We need to raise a ton of money for this building and we need all the help that we can get

Thanks for your interest and help.

Clip out the coupon below and make your pledge today.

Yes, I would like to make a pledge of support for a Hostel in Pittsburgh in the amount of:

- ☐ \$2500
- ☐ \$1000
- ☐ \$500
- ☐ \$250
- ☐ \$100
- ☐ \$50
- ☐ Other: \$ _____



Yes, I can also volunteer my time for:

- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Construction
- ☐ Public Relations
- ☐ Clerical help
- ☐ other: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Mail your Pledge to:
AYH
Pittsburgh Hostel Fund
5604 Solway St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217
412-422-2282

BEEN TO BIG BEND ? (NATIONAL PARK, THAT IS)

(This is the second and final chapter of Glenn Oster's account of a camping and hiking trip he, Mort Kurman and Jack Grab took to Big Bend National Park in 1994.)

This narrative does run on, and be forewarned it's only halfway finished. However it's fun to tell of being there to fulfill my twelve year promise to myself and to see the park again with Mort and Jack. Morning number three and another dirt road - this one taking us to Grapevine Hills. Virtually every mountain and rock formation is igneous in nature, that is, created by some type of volcanic eruption or extrusion. Grapevine Hills was no exception. The rocks on both sides of the trail were fascinating and placed most erratically making the trail more of a rock scramble than we had experienced so far in Big Bend. Perseverance paid off, though, and when we reached the top, there it was, our destination - table rock. How this phenomenon occurred I'll never know, but an eighteen foot long stone was supported at one end by a comparatively small stone, perhaps ten feet high, whereas the other end was wedged into a much larger, needle-like stone. How did it get there? How long will it remain there? I'll never know the answer to these questions.

Back to The Basin and lunch. Where next? This time we didn't have to drive anywhere; we were able to hike directly from our campsite down the Oak Creek Trail as it worked its way to the awesome La Ventana. The day was sunny and hot. The trail generally followed Oak Creek and at times went through stands of, what else, oak trees - welcome shade. Down and down we hiked, and in time we reached the slick rock which precedes and introduces La Ventana. By this time we were in deep shade causing the rock floor and walls to appear gray. (On another day, Mort went down in the morning, and with the sun shining fully on it, the rock looks brown, actually pretty.) On we went the last 100 yards to the window, itself. The trail was slippery beyond belief and followed by a waterfall whose bottom we couldn't see (and with the rock as slippery as it is, we weren't about to crawl out to try seeing). Later in the week, we approached from another trail starting west of La Ventana and were able to see the waterfalls - well over a 100 foot free fall straight down. Oak Creek Trail at La Ventana is just plain dangerous. Surely glad we didn't try to crawl out to look over the edge.

On our way back up the Oak Creek Trail, we saw numerous javelinas and a number of beautiful blue birds, which I'm told were gray breasted jays. (Of possible interest to the bird watchers among you, 434 species of birds have been sighted in the park, more than in any other national park in the United States.) That evening two does and a buck grazed in our campsite attracting campers who don't see as many deer as we do in Pennsylvania. They couldn't get over how the deer simply ignored us. Still later that evening, while we were at our picnic table, we got a very special treat. For about thirty seconds the setting sun reached the red rock mountain we were facing with the most incredible alpenglow. We each wanted to photograph it, but none of us acted quickly enough. We figured we'd be ready the next time - only there was no next time. We'll just have to savor that one in memory.

Our one adventure, if you care to call it that, came the following day. Mort and I set out to hike the desert to Slick Rock Canyon, shown on the map and guide as five miles one way - no problem. We parked the van alongside Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive and, in accord with the trail description, followed a wash for much of the distance. (A wash is a watercourse for rain run off that can be treacherous in a desert storm.) Contrary to our expectations, we had not reached the canyon by noon, and after lunch Mort chose to return to the van. The route was seemingly so simple that neither of us had any concern about Mort's striking out on his own. I continued up the box canyon where we had lunch until I had climbed up its far end. From that vantage point, I could at last see Slick Rock Canyon. The trail description had sent us up the wrong canyon, but no big deal, I just had to climb down a few hundred yards to the canyon that would help me reach my objective. It was fortunate that no one was hiking in the canyon at that moment, because I accidentally dislodged a stone the size of an eighteen inch beach ball which bounded and thundered its way to the bottom knocking over everything in its path. It must have been poised and ready, because it took just the slightest contact to move it.

The climb up to Slick Rock Canyon was a story of its own. There was no trail, as such, and the walking area was narrow, hemmed in from both sides by the canyon's walls. Also, a hiker has to climb over rocks, work around cactus and struggle upwards, at times pulling with both hands. I subsequently learned that later in the season the area is alive with rattlesnakes. The guidebook was notably silent on that point. After about a half hour's climb, I did reach Slick Rock Canyon. It's a sharp division in the rock caused by shifting of the earth rather than by erosion. Smaller, flat, rocks had fallen to the sharply rising canyon floor, making futile any attempt to climb up the canyon. The fallen rocks would slide under foot, i.e., one step up and two steps back. Time to call a halt and join Mort at the van.

Hiking back down the canyon went much faster than up, and soon I was on the bottom and out the correct box canyon to where Mort and I last came in; everything was going fine. I thought. I was following Mort's footprints going the proper way until they reached the first wash that we hiked coming in. Oh, no! Mort's footprints went straight ahead following a different wash. Considering the similarity of most of the washes, it's understandable how he could miss the turn that he and I thought was to be a piece of cake. Some of the washes are twenty feet deep, and a hiker can't see distant physical features to remain directionally oriented. I had to find Mort; he's a great outdoorsman, but had no experience in conditions like these. Whatever we did it had to be done together, and I was mentally prepared for a cold night on the desert. I hiked on following his tracks.

There are no blazes, markers or signs of any sort on this trail. I had walked and explored for forty - five minutes, still following Mort's footprints when I detected a figure off in the distance. It was Mort. He had concluded that he was going the wrong way and properly retraced his steps. We were

See OSTER, page 6

TRAVEL NEWS

Bulgaria

A new Flexipass offered by Rail Europe covers three days of first class rail travel in one month. The pass costs \$70.

Europe

The number of U.S. travelers to Europe in 1994 is certain to exceed 8 million, according to the European Travel Commission. This number is a new record, exceeding the 1993 number of 7.7 million travelers.

France

A new rail station has been built at the Lyon-Satolas airport in Lyon, providing a direct link to the TGV high-speed rail network connecting Paris and southeastern France. Plans call for the station at Lyon to be a connection point between the existing north-south rail corridor and the east-west routes currently under construction.

Norway

A new Flexipass offered by Rail Europe covers three days of travel within one month. The pass costs \$182 for first class and \$129 in second class.

Romania

A new flexipass offered by Rail Europe offers five days of first class travel in 15 days. The pass costs \$90.

U.S. Visa Waiver Program

President Clinton has approved a two-year extension of the participation by the U.S. in the visa-waiver pilot program, which enables travelers from participating countries to visit other participating countries without visas. The countries included in the program are Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom and France

After long delay, high-speed train service through the Channel Tunnel is now available. Passenger service is now in effect, but travelers with cars will not be able to drive onto the trains until some time this spring.

[from the CIEE]

Jetzt weltweit Jugendherbergen buchen

Ab sofort können Sie Ihre Übernachtungen in Jugendherbergen weltweit bis zu sechs Monaten im voraus mittels des International Booking Network (IBN) reservieren.

Yes, no matter where you're going, you can use the IBN to reserve your hostel overnights up to six months in advance. Paris, München, Banff, Tokyo, Rome, London and Sydney are all yours for a phone call to 1-800-444-6111. (Credit card required and a \$2 fee booking fee is charged.)

Going to London?

The Council Travel Store has BritRail passes and flexipasses and London Travel Cards in stock. The BritRail pass works the same as Eurail passes except of course they're only for Britain. Also, Eurail passes aren't valid in Britain. The flexipass offers greater flexibility and options than ever before. For example, a roundtrip ticket from Bath to London costs about \$184 in economy. Put for only \$155, a four day BritRail Flexipass buys you any four days of rail travel over a 15 day vacation. Remember, they're not available in Great Britain, so buy them before you go. Here's a partial list of what's available. Proceeds help support Pittsburgh Council's hostel projects.

First Class	Youth	Adult	Senior
4 days in 8	n/a	\$249	\$229
8 days in 15	n/a	\$389	\$365
15 days in 1 month	n/a	\$620	\$580

Economy	Youth	Adult	Senior
4 days in 8	\$155	\$189	\$169
8 days in 15	\$219	\$269	\$245
15 days in 1 month	n/a	\$395	\$355
15 days in 2 months	\$309	n/a	n/a

LEWISBURG AREA TRIPS

Trips are being coordinated by Chris Olson at 717-524-2729

Saturday April 22

Canoe Pine Creek Blackwell to Slate Run (11 miles). Beginners welcome. We will arrange for rentals from Country Ski and Sport. Meet at Lewisburg Post Office at 10 am. \$1 member \$3 non-member trip fee plus rentals. Bring a lunch and water. Life jackets required.

Sunday April 23

Easy to intermediate bicycle ride from Cherry Run (beyond Weiken) by way of the rail trail to Poe Paddy State Park and beyond on dirt roads and back. Wider tires helpful though "mountain bike" not necessary. Approximately 25 miles. Meet at Cherry Run fishing parking lot at 1:00 pm or arrange transportation with trip leader. \$1 member \$3 non-member trip fee. Helmets required.

Saturday April 29

Sample paddling the big (26' - 12 person) Canoe on the Susquehanna. Meet at Chillisquaque fish commission ramp (across from Lewisburg). \$6 member \$8 non-member trip fee. Life jackets required.

INTERNET RESOURCES FOR THE TRAVELER

The U.S. Department of State Travel Warnings and Consular Information Sheets are now available on the Internet. Connect to the World Wide Web at URL "http://www.stolaf.edu/network/travel-advisories.html" or via gopher at "gopher.stolaf.edu". You can also subscribe to the advisories mailing list by sending a message containing the word "subscribe" to "travel-advisories-request@stolaf.edu". Travel Warnings are issued when the State Department decides that conditions warrant a recommendation that Americans avoid travel to a certain country. Consular Information Sheets are available on every country in the world and include such information as the location of the U.S. embassy or consulate, unusual immigration practices, health conditions, minor political disturbances, unusual currency and entry regulations, crime and security information and drug penalties. This service is provided through St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

Hostelling: Family Style

by Ellen Mayou

In recent years, Hostels have tried more to accommodate couples and families since the hostellers of 10-20 years ago are now grown and have families. Having recently married, we had our first opportunity to try hostel accommodations for families on a recent trip to the Pacific Northwest.

Our first stop was the Ft. Columbia Hostel at the mouth of the Columbia River on the Oregon/Washington border. This is a small hostel located in a former Army outpost in what is now a well-maintained park. We got the only family room at the hostel - a very spacious room with a double bed and a smaller children's bed. There was no extra charge for the private room - we each paid just \$9. We received good information from the managers, one of whom was from Texas.

A few nights later we went to the Selkirk Guest House, the smaller of two hostels located in Victoria, British Columbia. I had hoped the smaller hostel might provide a quieter, more intimate experience. Our room was quite nice. The octagonal room with large windows overlooked the river but it proved to be noisier than expected. However the location provided a hot tub!

At this point my husband was debating the merits of a third night's stay. Fortunately, I was redeemed by the Vancouver International Hostel, which has to be one of the crown jewels in the network of Hostelling International. The large Hostel is located in a park on the waterfront across from downtown Vancouver. After a bit of a search to find our room in the large complex, we were pleasantly surprised to open the door to a beautiful, suite-style area shared with another family room. We had our own private kitchen and bath with shower! The cost for this private suite was higher than most hostels - \$17 Canadian each - but well worth it. The facility was clean, modern and quiet. In addition to what we had in our room, we could take advantage of the many amenities this Hostel offers, including a nice cafeteria that served dinners for about \$5.

So, in all, my first experience with family hostelling was, as with all hostelling, a mixed bag. Some are nice and others you would be happier [as a family] paying a bit more for a motel. Ask around and get some recommendations. And if you do want a family room, make reservations, since most hostels only have a few and at the more popular hostels, they are likely to be booked.

from the Gulf Coast Hosteller

Gdansk

Close your eyes and you'll see him. He's sitting over there on a tar-pitched pier post, puffing his pipe contemplatively. His face, rough-hewn and weathered like deck planks, is fitted with bushy eyebrows and beard. An inquisitive lad in a striped shirt is prompting him to gesture seaward as the gulls circle above. He's an old salt, all right. In fact, he's dropped anchor in this medieval Baltic port for centuries. And, like Gdansk (Poland) itself his name and appearance have changed over time, but his maritime spirit endures.

This beautiful Hanseatic city, Poland's largest port, is the "birthplace" of World War II and, later, of Solidarity. Accordingly, the winds of tourism blow strong here. Travelers seeking shelter from the rising tide of prices should set course for the four local HI (Hostelling International) hostels, where a stationary landlubber's berth can be had for \$3 nightly.

In comparison, the Jantar Hotel on Old Market Square, which asked only \$9 for a double a few years ago, now commands more than \$50.

The most convenient hostel is in a shaded, red-brick building located in the old town, just a five-minute walk from the main rail station. The lobby is rigged with nautical decor. Near the hostel are the Gdansk shipyards - truly a sailor's delight. From this vantage point you can see the daily toil of Polish workers. Huge cargo ships are feverishly loaded for unknown destinations across the cool, dark sea. The ocean gently rock the vessels as if to lull them to sleep before the long voyage.

The second hostel is on Kartuska street. English speaking receptionists offer hostellers cozy double rooms, a kitchen, snack bar and pool tables. A short ride back to the old town eateries costs just 15¢.

Tram #12 in the opposite direction passes near the Grunwaldzka Street hostel. Visitors should alight at the stop-marked "Abrahama". This unpretentious facility is adjacent to a modest sports complex and is a quiet haven from the torrent of tourists. Another hostel is on Smoluchowskiego Street, also via Tram #12.

Regardless of which Gdansk hostel you choose, you'll be certain of clean, comfortable accommodations at prices that won't make you seasick! And perhaps, as you close your eyes there, you'll see him again - still puffing away.

John Williams is the Bluebonnet Council's roving reporter currently on assignment in Eastern Europe. (from the Gulf Coast Hosteller).

WANTED: MAINTAINERS FOR THE BAKER TRAIL

The Baker Trail is looking for volunteers who will adopt a 2 or 3 mile section of the Trail, hike the Trail two times a year and offer some tender loving care. The following sections are open:

Section 6: Cherry Run

This piece of the Trail in Armstrong County runs adjacent to Cherry Run, an excellent trout stream tributary of Crooked Creek. Runs two miles from the bridge on Brick Church Road down to the site of the cable bridge crossing Cherry Run.

Section 7: Idaho: Not available. Already adopted.

Section 8: Amish Country

This is a short section, less than a mile, crossing a wooded area in the heart of Amish farm country. Just rehabilitated last year, in good condition. Just check it out this year; put fresh paint on it next year.

Section 9: Smicksburg: Not available. Already adopted.

Section 10: Mahoning Creek Reservoir

One of the most interesting sections of the Baker Trail, the Trail plunges down into the Mahoning Creek Valley through a dense thicket of hemlocks to a fresh water spring on the shores of the reservoir. The Trail then winds its way back up to high ground. 100 hours of maintenance performed here in 1994 — excellent condition.

ADOPT A SHELTER ON THE BAKER TRAIL

Adopt your own shelter; all you have to do is visit the shelter twice a year, stay overnight if you wish, clean up the area, whack down the weeds around the shelter and report all is well. Opportunities to do roofing and carpentry. All are Appalachian-style trail shelters.

Crooked Creek Shelter: At the top of Cook's Summit in Armstrong County, in a wooded area overlooking a tributary of Crooked Creek.

Cochran's Mill Shelter: High on a bluff over Crooked Creek, near Cherry Run and the Coal Mine Spring in Armstrong County.

Idaho Shelter: Hidden in the woods near the Keystone Power Plant overlook in Indiana County; close to the town of Elderton on Route 422, outside of Indiana.

Atwood Shelter: Near the little town of Atwood, Armstrong County, less than two miles from the boat launch area of Keystone Reservoir.

Other sections and other shelters: To adopt any of the above sections, or any other sections with which you are familiar, call Jim Ritchie, (412) 828-0210 to hear about the details. Each volunteer will get a personal orientation on the trail section or shelter they adopt.

HELP WANTED:

Experience in preparing grant applications

Apply for trail maintenance funding from Pennsylvania trails development program for permanent blaze markers on Baker Trail/Rachel Carson Trail. Volunteer work—will look great on your resume! Call (412) 828-0210.

ATTENTION!!! TRAILCARE WEEKEND CROOKED CREEK PARK

AYH & KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION To rehabilitate the 10 miles of the Baker Trail on the shores of Crooked Creek Lake JULY 14, 15, 16 (Fri., Sat., Sun.)

KTA has dedicated this weekend to work on the Baker Trail, blazing, cutting, clearing, and cleaning. There will be volunteers from AYH and KTA who will come from all over the State of Pennsylvania to work on the Trail. All volunteers will stay at the Crooked Creek Group campground, high on a bluff overlooking the lake, at no charge. During the day, crews of volunteers will be dispatched to different parts of the trail for maintenance work; at night there will be campfires, weenie-roasting, song-singing, tale-telling and other fun things at the campground. Join other hiking folk from all over the state to work on maintaining our hiking trails, in this case our very own Baker Trail. Mary Pitzer, a member of both AYH and KTA, is the KTA project leader. Jim Ritchie, also of AYH and KTA, will coordinate AYH participation.

If you would like to volunteer, call Jim Ritchie, (412) 828-0210, or send email to JLR@VMS.CIS.PITT.EDU. Check-in will be anytime on Friday or Saturday. Come when you can. Work one day and spend the rest of your time in Crooked Creek Park: sandy beach, boat launch: suitable for canoeing, sea kayaking, and sailing. Hiking trails, Visitor Center, fishing.

SAILING

Sailing Activity Dinner and Planning Meeting
April 2 Sunday 6:00 PM

Anyone interested in the AYH Sailing Program is invited to an early Spring get-together, potluck dinner and planning meeting at the home of Bob and Sara Zavos, 1007 Savannah Avenue (regent Square area). We will discuss last year's activities, share stories on recent trips and make plans for the upcoming sailing season. Included in the planning will be AYH Sailing Program operating procedures, Summer Sailing Classes, sailboat maintenance and weekend trips. In addition to sailing Lake Arthur with our Flying Juniors, Sunfish, and 470, we hope to offer weekend trips to Lake Chautauqua and book charters for Lake Erie and Chesapeake Bay cruising. Call Bob or Sara (241-0659) for directions, questions, and to set up the covered dish you will bring.

CANOEING

The AYH Canoeing Program offers a variety of paddling for a wide range of skill levels and interests. Western Pennsylvania offers canoeing on whitewaters of the mountains, to flowing rivers of the valleys, to lakes nestled in the rolling hills. The region abounds with canoeing opportunities suited to almost every taste. Most recreational canoeing in Western Pennsylvania is on moving-water rivers ranging from narrow creeks that are canoeable only after heavy rains to major rivers with year-round flow. They cover the complete spectrum from still through swift, from pristine through industrial, and from easy through difficult.

This program emphasizes open-canoeing paddling. Trips start in May. We use solo and tandem canoes having different designs and characteristics so paddlers can gain experience using equipment rented at a reasonable fee. Basic instruction on Wednesday evenings, weekend day trips on flat and whitewater, whitewater I & II schools, solo school, camping, river trips and exploring marshes are scheduled with the leader who qualifies you for their trip. Basic instruction is a pre requisite for whitewater paddling so be sure and take the class.

April 5

Canoe Program Planning Meeting

Wed 7:30 PM

Paul Henry 962-1511

Anyone Interested in Canoeing activities is invited to Bugby's home for this planning meeting. We will discuss issues effecting canoeing, equipment maintenance and develop the SCHEDULE of classes and trips for the 1995 paddling season. We do allow enough time to enjoy Jan's food. Canoeists do need to keep up their strength. Please call Jan/Gordon Bugby 371-4233 for directions

HIKING / BACKPACKING

Saturday April 1

Joyce Appel

526-5407

Paul Henry

962-1511

Possibly section of Warrior Trail that is south of Pittsburgh. Trail goes from PA to Ohio. Call for details.

Friday May 5-May 7

Mark Mistrik

344-8665

Cranberry Backcountry Biking, Sightseeing, and Ramp-Eating Condo Get-away weekend in southern West Virginia, Easy to moderate hiking in the Cranberry wilderness area. Stay in a condo in Snowshoe, West Virginia, with a working fireplace. Belgium waffle breakfasts are included. Call for more information and to reserve.

Sunday April 16

Leo Stember

681-1385

Intermediate hike 8 - 10 miles in Roaring Run. Expect there to be spring flowers and possibly migrant birds. Call for information and a reservation.

Saturday April 29

Tom Kaveney

276-8044

Intermediate hike 8 - 10 miles somewhere in Laurel Ridge. Meet at Headquarters at 8:30 a.m. Call for information and a reservation.

Sunday April 30

Maynard Hansen

751-7615

Intermediate hike 10-12 miles at Quebec run. Meet at Southland Shopping Center by Wendy's on Rte 51 at 8:30 a.m.

MID-WEEK RAMBLES

April 5

Forest Hills area with Leo and Pat Clougherty

April 12

Beechwood Farms nature walk, with John and Alberta Hartman. Bring a picnic lunch. Possible slides from their trip to Costa Rica.

April 19

Duff Park nature walk with Marge Patterson.

April 26

Trillium Trail in Fox Chapel, with George Westcott.

May 3

Wild flower walk in the Raccoon Creek Wild-flower Reserve, near Raccoon Creek State Park Leaders: Judy and Jim Hurst

May 10

Walk the Squirrel Hill Railroad, ending up in Oakland at the home of Cliff and Marilyn Ham. Please bring a bag lunch; drinks will be supplied. Slides of a trip to Israel with Walter and Peg Patton.

May 17

Walk in Coraopolis with a local group there. Lunch provided.

May 24

Emerging nature in South Park.

May 31

Check out a new addition to Dark Hollow Woods (or Settlers Woods) in Oakmont. Plum Creek.

NOTE FOR ALL TRIPS: Meet in the upper parking lot, Fifth and Shady Avenues by 10 A.M. We will carpool to save energy and enjoy each other's company.

Trips are normally three to four miles in length, at a leisurely pace. Trips are subject to change due to weather, the leader, or the choice of the group. We will walk in all conditions of weather, so be prepared.

From time to time, usually on the second Wednesday, we will schedule lunch at a restaurant, or a brown bag lunch. These are optional.

Call Cliff or Marilyn Ham for more information about a trip, or to let them know you are planning to walk with the group at 687-4520, but not after ten o'clock at night. Note: during March and April call the AYH office during its business hours: 422-2282.

OSTER, from page 3

overjoyed at seeing each other. Things were looking up. We retraced our steps, but, compounding matters, Mort had hiked up and back some of the side washes to the point where I could no longer be sure which wash we had walked on our way in. Once this realization had settled in on me, I concluded that we could simply hike cross country to the van. I had oriented myself on the way in, noting that the van was directly in line between Slick Rock Mountain and Casa Grande. Now, all we had to do was turn our backs to Slick Rock Mountain and walk straight across the desert floor toward Casa Grande. Great idea - only I hadn't allowed for the thickness of the cactus - impenetrable. The only way out was to hike washes the same as when we hiked in. The next problem was that washes don't continue in a straight line. We had to constantly watch for any intersecting washes that seemed to be going in the direction we wanted in order to compensate for washes which after a while took us in the wrong direction. It took several hours and a number of ill-chosen washes, but by late afternoon we made it to the van. This bushwhacking is for the birds, the AYH "Rougher the Better" birds. Give me marked trails. We had hiked some fourteen miles, more in one day than Mort had hiked in recent years; so Jack and I celebrated the fact by taking Mort to dinner that night at the lodge - the end of a most interesting day.

As things played out, it really was not the end of that day. There was more to come. In a word, "wind". After dinner, the wind kicked up, and we beelined to our tents. Jack had the good sense to tilt back one of the van's seats and sleep where he wasn't quite as intimidated. Mort's tent was streamlined and pointed into the wind; so it held up very well. The wind noise couldn't be ignored, and he slept very little, but under the circumstances he made out all right.

On the other hand, I had taken my large dome tent to accommodate both Jack and me. Dome

tents take quite a pounding in wind, and this was serious wind. As the night wore on, the intensity of the wind increased hour by hour. By midnight, my tent pins had pulled out of the sandy soil. The tent didn't collapse; it's free standing. However, the sides were beating on my head, and I was getting no sleep at all. The wind blew stronger still. The tent floor began to lift, and I countered by lying close to the windward side, expecting that my weight would hold the floor tight against the ground. That worked for a while until the wind blew ever harder. At that juncture, the tent lifted and slid me across the floor time after time. Some people are slow to learn when they're licked, and that personifies me. However, there was no denying it. I was defeated and, given the wind's ferocity, had to take down the tent and jam it into the back of the van as expeditiously as I could. Move over, Jack. Was I glad to get out of that wind!

After a night like that, the wimps decided that they had earned a breakfast in the lodge. What a nice change of pace. But there was much yet to see and do in Big Bend, and off to the races we went. This morning we made our way to the trailhead for the Mule Ears Spring Trail. The high wind had abated, but the sky was overcast and the temperature in the low 40s. We passed some great plant life, especially two massive Yuccas in bloom. The trail did not take us as far as the rock formation for which the spring at the trail's destination was named. The Mule Ears are a pair of rocks which reach up toward the sky and look for all the world like a pair of ears - haven't been able to determine how high they really are. Suffice it to say that they can be seen for many miles.

By lunch time, we concluded that we needed an afternoon off to catch our breath. Great idea, but first I made a point of getting to the park's general store and buying the strongest tent pins they had. I was not about to give in to a repeat performance of that capricious wind. Fortunately, the new tent pins never had to prove how good they were. That afternoon gave me a chance to once again set up my tent and to

organize the cargo area of the van. We had it jammed full and about as orderly as a teenager's bedroom. That took some doing.

The following day, Jack and I wanted to hike a trail known as The Chimneys Trail while Mort had other interests. This was the time I referred to earlier when Mort hiked back down The Oak Creek Trail to photograph La Ventana in morning light; so we went separate ways. The sky was clear, but there was a nip in the air. The "Chimneys" are large rock formations extruded from the center of the earth, hard and more resistant to wind and rain erosion than the surrounding areas. Jack rated this hike as one of his favorites if not the best. We had ample opportunity to climb around the Chimneys and take pictures of each other through openings much like windows. In retrospect, it was one of my favorite hikes as well.

That afternoon, Mort and I hiked up to the west side of La Ventana - enough said about that earlier. Jack struck out on his own, and on his return reported seeing a coyote. But now it was time to think about what we would regret not having done - the next day was to be our last at Big Bend National Park.

On our final day, Mort hiked around The Basin while I elected to climb up into the High Chisos Mountain following a nine mile loop trail with a one mile spur ascending steeply to Emory Peak. It is the highest spot in the Chisos at 7825 feet. The climb up the mountain's highest forty feet comes close to technical climbing, but the view was well worth the effort. You could now look down on much of what you had formerly been looking up at - strange. Even massive Casa Grande didn't look so grand. This day surely was the icing on the Big Bend cake - you might say "the desert's dessert".

How often in life when you ultimately get to do something you've longed for, you are actually disappointed, reality falling short of expectation. That was not the case at Big Bend; it was better. If you haven't been there, I recommend that you put it on your list of great places to visit, and then it will hold a special place in your memory too.

BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA BACKPACKING OR CAR CAMPING TRIP

JULY 1 - 15, 1995

If you've ever driven the Needles Highway through the Black Hills of South Dakota, you know at least two things - the scenery is magnificent and the hills are more than hills. Looks like a backpackers paradise. Each time I drove that highway I promised myself that I would one day do some serious hiking there. This is the year.

Detailed plans are not finalized, but put this on your calendar for July 1 - 15 (van touring leaving Friday evening at 6:30 p.m.)

In addition to the backpacking, we'll visit as many area scenic wonders as we can, such as Mount Rushmore, Chief Crazy Horse mountain carving, Custer State Park wildlife preserve (huge herds of buffaloes, wild burros, deer and more), Jewel Cave National Monument, Wind Cave National Park, Devils Tower National Monument and The Badlands.

If you aren't up to backpacking, but would like to car camp or motel and spend time relaxing, day hiking and sightseeing in the area, you would be welcome to come on the trip. We will need someone to drive the van to our backpacking end point and pick us up after our hike.

This has the makings of a great trip. If you'd like to talk about it give me, Glenn Oster, a call at (412) 364 - 2864.

Sea-Kayak for SALE

The Sea Kayaking Program would like to sell one of its club-owned sea-kayaks. Two choices are available. We have a Red Hydra Sea-Runner with fore and aft deck rigging, rear bulkhead and hatch, and new foot-braces. This is a very stable, high cargo-capacity Sea-Kayak well-suited for carrying more gear or larger paddlers. The other boat is a yellow Aquaterra Chinook. This remains the world's most popular sea-kayak model blending easy handling characteristics and efficiency with very good stability. Both kayaks are rotomolded plastic, fully sea-worthy as-is and available on any trip for a test paddle. A two year state registration license will be included. Minimum bid for either Kayak is \$250.00. We also have used Werner San Juan Paddles Available (call for condition and price). Mark Mistrik 344-8665.

T-Shirt Sale

94 MVC T-Shirt \$6,
94 SABRE T-Shirt \$6,
93 MVC T-Shirt \$3

The Pittsburgh Council "I'd Rather Be Hiking... etc." T-Shirt is also available in vibrant yellow or coral and also in purple and heather gray for a special price of \$7 each.

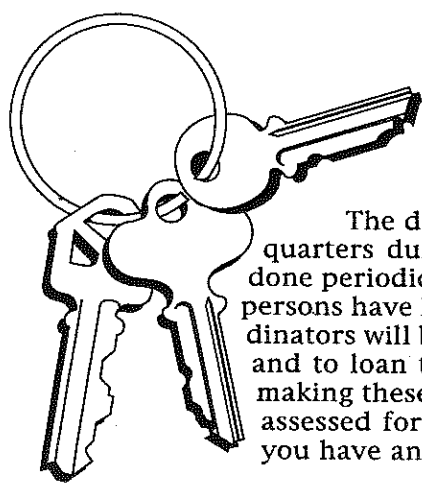
Add \$2 postage for one T-Shirt or \$3 for two or more T-Shirts

Also, water bottles from 93 MVC and 94 SABRE — \$2 including postage

Remember, all T-Shirt sales help support Pittsburgh Council projects, including the new Pittsburgh hostel!

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE!

Buy a gift membership for that student travelling to Europe for the holidays or for the spring semester abroad. Don't forget to include an international hostel directory, a Let's Go book and perhaps a Eurail or BritRail pass. See the back page for details or call the office for suggestions.

New Keys for Headquarters

The door locks will be changed at Headquarters during the week of May 1st. This is done periodically to make sure only authorized persons have keys to the building. Activity coordinators will be getting new keys for themselves and to loan to trip leaders. Due to the cost of making these special keys, a \$10 charge will be assessed for lost keys. Contact Larry Laude if you have any questions.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL BACKPACKING TRIP

Want to tackle a rugged section of the AT? You can, by joining Glenn Oster this summer. He's planning to backpack south from Monson, Maine 178 miles into northern New Hampshire. In order to minimize the difficulty of the climbs, descents and rocky terrain, the average daily distance will be kept to eight miles.

The time frame for the entire trip is July 21 through August 21. However, if you can arrange for your own transportation, there are fourteen different trail segments you can select ranging from four days to twenty-three days' duration and distances as short as thirty-three miles.

The hike will cross the impressive Mahoosuc Range with its superb scenery. Bring your camera.

Call Glenn for information and reservations (412) 364 - 2864.

Contact the AYH Art Department, at 833-9732 to find out how we can get your ad noticed and into the hands of 3,500 outdoor sports enthusiasts and hostellers.

REMINDER TO TRIP LEADERS

All trips and equipment usage must be approved by the appropriate activity chair or co-chair. Trip reports and fees should be turned in by the end of each month at either the AYH Activities Building or AYH Office or mailed to Pittsburgh Council, 5604 Solway St., Pittsburgh PA 15217

SEA-KAYAKING

Looking for fun and adventure? Ready to try something new? Imagine exploring spectacular rocky coastlines, secluded islands, bright sunny beaches, and quiet backwaters full of wildlife. We plan trips like this - and teach new paddlers sea-kayaking skills - every year. The sea-kayaking - program's trips are for anyone who enjoys nature, fitness, and being on the water. Most of our trips are suitable for beginners, and you will learn while you're having fun. More challenging trips are offered for experienced paddlers to keep things interesting. To give you a better idea of what's going on, here were the highlights of the 1994 trips.

Assateague Island has become an annual favorite destination, and we go here at the beginning of every summer. You can choose from over 80 miles of seashore and protected bayside waters to explore, kayak in the surf, and eat at Hooper's - the best crabhouse in the world. Wild ponies inhabit the island and a couple of them are always around looking for handouts. Last year, we were escorted along by a large pod of dolphins, then watched them play and show off around (and very close to) the kayaks. Then in late June we went to Nova Scotia. It's a step back in time, with small picturesque fishing villages and barren coasts. Lighthouses and bell buoys marked foggy small harbors and everywhere there were quaint churches. Perhaps most notable, because it wasn't really expected, English hospitality and warmth were extended nearly everywhere.

One of the best ways to learn sea-kayaking is to come on the Intro trips held all summer long, on weekdays after work. The kayakers liked paddling -- after sunset so much that it gave us the idea to run night trips, and we had two "moonlight" paddles at Crooked Creek Lake. Seeing deer and beaver, and hearing owls was possible out on the water. Afterwards, a large campfire and our tents were waiting on a field above the lake. We also varied the Intro trips for slightly more experienced kayakers with evening trips down Pittsburgh's Allegheny and Monongahela rivers. This is a unique way to see the city at night, plus we often stop at Station Square or Crewsers for dinner, leaving the kayaks on shore or at the docks. Look for these trips next year scheduled around festivals or during fireworks.

The tidewater region of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay offers a nearly - inexhaustible supply of new destinations with undeveloped bays, marshes and sandy coastlines. We're touring segments of the historic Rappahannock and James rivers as day trips, then returning to a resort-quality hostel at night. Bioluminescence - spontaneously glowing water around us - is often seen here after dark.

Last year's big trip was to the Apostle Islands, a string of twenty two remote wilderness islands stretching out into Lake Superior. Our campsites often had views of three to five other islands, and black bear and bald eagles were more common than people. But the real goal was to see some of the best sea caves in North America, and we were able to take the sea-kayaks into them, something not possible with canoes, sail or motorboats.

We hope to plan a similar series of outings this year, and continue to find new ideas for destinations faster than we can lead trips. We're also improving the program's equipment and interested paddlers can join us at the Chesapeake Bay Sea-Kayaking Symposium in May, to select a new sea-kayak. At this time, a series of trips to the South Shore of Lake Erie (including a three-day island-hopping tour across the lake to Canada in August) and a trip to Maine are being considered. So if you're looking for fun and adventure, and ready to try something new, give us a call - or better yet, come to one of the monthly activities dinners, and get involved.

Saturday April 1

Annual April Fool's Day Paddle and Kite Flying Trip - Revived! This one started with Cathy Lynch several years ago, and tea at high noon is customary. We'll provide the hot water. Moraine State Park if the ice is gone. Beginners welcome. Call Mark Mistrik @ 344-8665 or Cathy Lynch, 361-3703. MEETS: 8:00 AM Saturday morning.

Monday evening April 10

Monthly Activities dinner. Each month we select an interesting and affordable restaurant, then eat and talk. Conversation includes the whole range of outdoor-related activities, and a preview of new sea kayaking trips. Call for the restaurant name and location. Call Mark Mistrik, 344-8665. MEETS: 6:30 pm at the restaurant.

Friday evening April 21 thru Sunday evening April 23

Annual AYH/Sierra Club sea-kayaking and canoeing spring weekend. We'll paddle down the, Clarion river if conditions permit or the West Branch of the Susquehanna river otherwise. Beautiful campsites, great campfires and Ed Diver's Ginseng Muscatel are hallmarks of this trip. Open to beginner paddlers with sufficient camping experience. Call Mark Mistrik @ 344-8665. Call for- leaving time and directions.

Tuesday Evening April 25

First INTRO to Sea-Kayaking trip of the year. Easy trip is a very good way to become acquainted with the sea-kayak. Basic instruction, an overview of the sport, and actual paddling on the lake is included. These trips are designed to be fun, with the philosophy that learning by doing is the best way to gain skill and confidence. Trips go to either Glade Lake or North Park lake, small, safe lakes with interesting features. You do NOT have to know how to swim to become a good sea-kayaker. These trips are a pre-requisite for many others, and highly recommended if you haven't been in a sea-kayak lately. Please call to reserve a kayak and for more info. Mark Mistrik, 344-8665.

Friday evening April 28 thru Sunday evening 30-April

Pennsylvania Grand Canyon - Pine Creek Gorge. Sea-kayak weekend tour down one of our state's most scenic waterways. Bald Eagles and small rapids keep this trip 'interesting. Primitive tent camping overnight. Call for more information. Mark Mistrik, 344-8665. Call for leaving time and directions.

Friday evening May 12 thru Sunday evening May 14

Chesapeake Bay Sea-Kayaking Symposium in Elk Neck, Maryland. This is an intensive weekend of class instruction, workshops, and demos, and there is a boat beach where you can try out almost every commercially available (and some homemade ones) kayak on the market. Partially sponsored by the Trade Association of Sea-Kayaking (TASK), this event is not organized by the AYH. This is a must-attend event if you are considering buying a sea-kayak, or want to learn more about the various aspects of the sport from teams of professionals. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE ONE TO TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE TO GUARANTEE ACCEPTANCE. Mark Mistrik, 344-8665. MEETS; Call for leaving times and directions.

Wednesday evening May 17

Monthly Activities Dinner. Outdoor-related conversation and new sea-kayaking trips. Everyone welcome. Call to reserve. Mark- Mistrik, 344-8665.

Friday evening May 26 thru Monday evening May 29

Memorial Day weekend see-kayaking road trip to Assateague Island National Seashore. Three days of exploring undeveloped beaches and saltwater marshes, surfing kayaks on the ocean, and camping right on the seashore. Trip includes dinner at Hooper's famous crab and seafood restaurant, and an obligatory visit to Ocean City, Maryland, to walk it all off. Dolphins, sea-turtles, and countless species of birds have been seen on this trip (we do this every year) and the whole island is overrun with wild ponies. Most of the trip is suitable for beginners (at least one or two previous trips is a good idea though). Call for more information, EARLY REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL IN ORDER TO OBTAIN CAMPING SPACE. Mark Mistrik, 344-8665.

Friday evening June 30 thru Tuesday evening July 4

Sea-Kayaking and hiking on the Georgian Bay, Ontario, Canada. Spectacular scenery, rugged trails and camping on an island. Intermediate-level paddling skills required. Call for more information. Mark Mistrik, 344-8665.

Thursday July 13 thru Monday evening July 17

Sea-kayak in Acadia National Park, Maine. Beginner to Intermediate paddling skills required.- This is one of the most beautiful places you could take a sea-kayak. harbor seals, porpoises, and cormorants are as commonplace as the lighthouses and lobster. We'll probably have the trip extended for those who wish to stay a week. Call for more information. Mark Mistrik, 344-8665.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have extra hours to donate to the Council? Current volunteer opportunities in Pittsburgh Council are listed below. Contact the person listed or leave your name and telephone number at the office (412-422-2282).

*Typing articles for the newsletter into a computer; Bill Eberle, 833-9732

*Hostel development and fund-raising; Marianne Kasica, 665-9554

*Ohiopyle hostel support and work parties; Jacky Eberle, 833-9732

*Travel and Hostel Editor for the newsletter, Larry Laude, 665-9554

*Office help answering phones and assisting hostellers; Larry Laude, 422-2282

*Leading Pittsburgh Council trips; Wm Eberle, 833-9732

*Scouting trails for the next Hiking Guide; Joe Hoechner, 422-2282

*Slide shows at the Thursday Open House; office, 422-2282

*Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail; Jim Ritchie, 828-0210

*HQ Maintenance, minor routine maintenance on a regular basis.. 1-2 people are also needed to coordinate the work, track of volunteer time and to report on HQ to the board and to identify any problems or required major repairs. If you can help as little as one hour a month, please call Larry Laude at 665-9554.

CLASSIFIED

All trips and products listed here are private and are not sponsored or endorsed by American Youth Hostels. Non-commercial ads are free for members. Contact the Editor for more info on Ads for Members and Non-members.

For SALE: 92' Geo Metro. Automatic. 2-door hatchback. Radio and tape cassette. 15,000 miles. great condition. Terrific gas mileage. \$5,375 or best offer. Call Vickie. 344-4929.

FOR SALE: Queen size waterbed with waveless mattress, six drawers in bedframe, heater. \$200 or BO. Barbara 371-2506

FOR SALE: Stereo components - Dual turntable, Sony STR-VX250 receiver, EV speakers. \$150 or BO. Barbara 371-2506

FOR SALE: 2 Dolfino professional silicone dive masks; low volume, fog-free, double edge. Used once and in original box. (older snorkles free) \$35 Eileen 531-9610

I will be traveling to Vancouver & Alaska in May of 95 and was interested in sharing cruise costs to Alaska Inside Passage and rooming in Vancouver. Anyone interested in Travel for Approx. 2 1/2 weeks please contact: Jan Herczak at 921-35656 and leave a message.

For Sale: Cross-country skis, boots (size 44) and poles. "Trak" waxless skis. As new - used once. \$85 for all. Peggy 361-4781.

For Sale: 60" metal desk, 55" wood roll top desk, steno chair Peg Cline @ 372,1782

For Sale: Coleman Tent Trailer - Basic trailer, no stove, sink, etc. All new canvas. \$300 or BO. evenings 371-1384.

Editor, The Golden Triangle
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