

HOSTELLING  
INTERNATIONAL

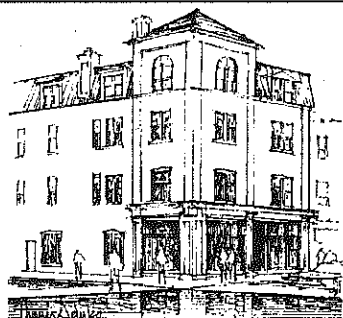
# GOLDEN TRIANGLE

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 47, NUMBER 4

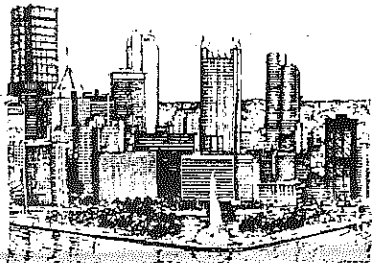
JUNE 1997



## Hostelling - International Pittsburgh PA

**NOW OPEN**

A 60 bed full service hostel in a converted 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

HI-Pgh on the information super highway, point your browser to;  
<http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/> for the latest on activities, slide shows & local hostelling or you can email us at [ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)



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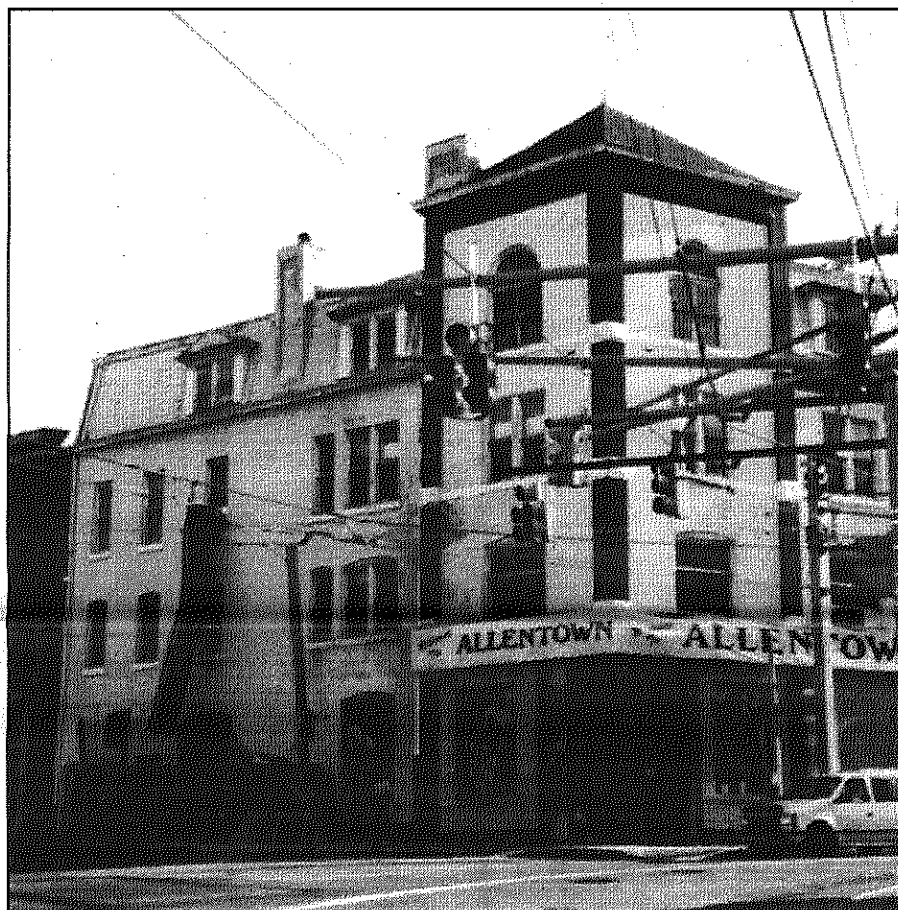
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.....And MORE!!!

## Pittsburgh Hostel Open!

### HOSTEL HAPPENINGS

We're H.I.P. (Hostelling International - Pittsburgh) and we're happening!



### HOSTEL HAPPENINGS

by Holly Ridenour

On Thursday, June 5 at 10 a.m. the Pittsburgh International Hostel will host its long-awaited Grand Opening ceremony. Mayor Tom Murphy and Councilman Gene Ricciardi, among others, will be speaking. Refreshments will be served.

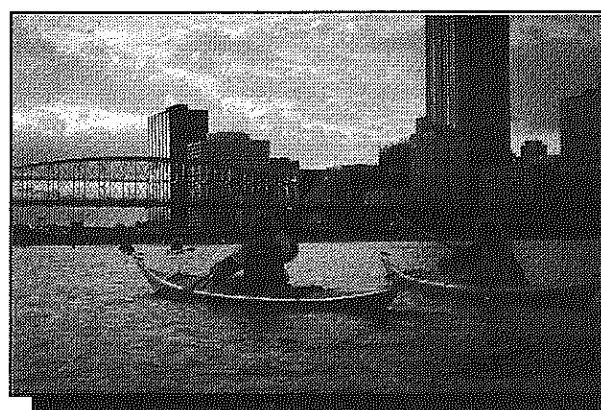
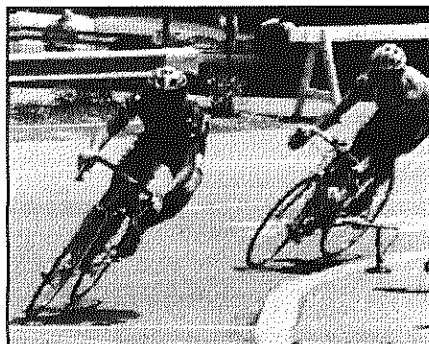
HI/AYH members and the public are invited to attend an open house to be held at the hostel two days later on Saturday, June 7, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Come and take a tour of our fantastic new hostel!

Though I haven't had a chance to meet many of you, yet, I'm excited about finally settling into my new home in Pittsburgh. I will be giving you updates about the Pittsburgh International Hostel in this space and thought I'd take this opportunity to introduce myself.

*Continued on page 3*

### Race Fans!

Inexpensive Hostel accommodations available for race weekend of June 6-8th. Call HI-Pgh @ 412-431-1267 ASAP!



Sea-Kayaking  
Downtown to  
the Point.  
PGH's 1996  
Three River's  
Arts Festival

Photo by  
M. Mistrik

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL-AYH  
5604 SOLWAY STREET #202  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15217-1268

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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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(412-921-1932)

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Mailing Labels ... **Roy Weil**  
Production ... **Don Hoecker**  
Advertising ... **Wm. Eberle**

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(412-665-9554)

Vice President ... **Maribeth Hook**  
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**Wm. Eberle (97)**  
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**Roy Weil (99)**  
**Ray Yutzy (99)**  
**Bob Zavos (97)**

Office Staff  
(412-431-1267)  
**Amy Sincine**

## Oops...

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

Mail regarding this Newsletter should be addressed to:

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

Office: (412) 431-1267  
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](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)



## PITTSBURGH COUNCIL ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Chairman of the  
Activities Committee

Ray Yutzy ..... 341-5682  
Canoeing

Paul Henry ..... 347-3282  
Brian McBane ..... 443-8972  
Cross Country Skiing

VACANT ..... ###-####  
Cycling

Wm Eberle ..... 921-1932  
Chuck Ejzak ..... 466-6196  
Family Activities

Barbara Hanusa ..... 441-7205  
Hiking / Backpacking

Veronique Schreurs ..... 422-0358  
VACANT ..... ###-####

Kayaking  
VACANT ..... ###-####

Ray Yutzy ..... 341-5682  
Midweek Rambles

Marilyn Ham ..... 687-4520  
Rafting

John Orndorff ..... 741-2021  
Rock Climbing

Woj ..... 322-4524  
Vernon Miller ..... 935-3434  
Sailing

Bob Zavos ..... 241-0659  
VACANT ..... ###-####

Sea Kayaking  
Mark Mistrik ..... 361-2943

Alpine Skiing Coordinator  
Wm Eberle ..... 921-1932

Trail Systems  
Glenn Oster ..... 364-2864

Jim Ritchie ..... 828-0210  
Headquarters Programs

Luc Berger ..... 683-3131  
VACANT ..... ###-####

Storekeeper  
Wm Eberle ..... 921-1932

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

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

## NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for  
future issues of the  
**GOLDEN TRIANGLE**

**JULY**  
All copy, June 5  
Binding/Mailing, June 26

**AUGUST**  
All copy, July 4  
Binding/Mailing, July 24

If your work is on computer,  
Please contact Bill Eberle  
@ 921-1932 or  
[76202.3051@Compuserve.com](mailto: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) 431-1267.

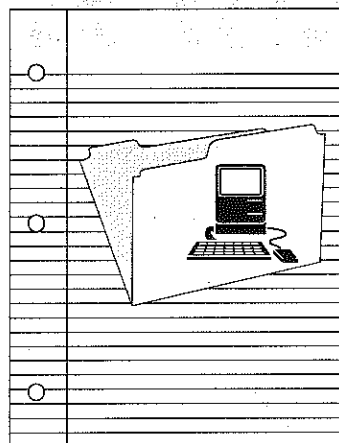
## About AYH

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 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. 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:

**Number 1** issue ->February / March: **Number 2** issue ->April: **Number 3** issue ->May:  
**Number 4** issue ->June: **Number 5** issue ->July: **Number 6** issue ->Aug.  
**Number 7** issue ->Sept: **Number 8** issue ->Oct: **Number 9** issue ->Nov:  
and **Number 10** issue ->Dec. / January

Editor...

## Upcoming Slide Shows

**June 5:** Helen Coyne, "World Wander By Bicycle: New Zealand and Australia".

**June 12:** Carl Katz, "Bali". The art, the temples, the rice terraces.

**June 19:** Steve Poprocky, "Scenic Vistas Of Three Hawaiian Islands". See the Na Pali coast of Kauai.

**June 26:** Helen Coyne, "World Wander By Bicycle: Alaska to San Diego".

**July 3:** We show the video "Atlantic Realm: Island Arks". Features the Bahamas, Canary, Ascension, Saint Helena, Tristan da Cunha.

**July 10:** Mike Fialkovich (rescheduled), "Traveling Along The East Coast From New Jersey to Virginia". See the scenery, the birds, the plants. Includes Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge.

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 683 3131.

## 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)  
Schellsburg, PA 15559  
(814) 733-4212





## President's corner...

### FELLOW HOSTELLERS

In spite of what seems like endless little setbacks the Pittsburgh International Hostel should be opening as you are reading this. Holly, our hostel manager would rather be managing a hostel than managing construction, but as many have told me "things happen" and "construction always takes longer than you think". Yup, they're right.

The Grand Opening will be June 5 at 10 am with Mayor Murphy doing the honors. Be sure to come to the open house the following Saturday June 7. It will be an exciting week for us. We continue to have lots of interest from the local press, please let us know if you see anything in non-local papers. We love to see what is being said and will supply more information to whoever needs it.

In addition to the hostel opening, our office moved to the hostel on May 17. Amy is busy unpacking and sorting. Please note our new address and new telephone numbers. We've had some problems getting our phone service to forward so if you have tried to call and couldn't connect - please try again. We are in business.

Hope to see many of you at the openings!

Marianne Kasica

**The Lancaster Hiking Club, in conjunction with the Butler Outdoor Club, The Duquesne Incline, and The Gateway Clipper Fleet proudly presents:**

### 'IRON CITY UNDER THE STARS' "ALL-NIGHT" - MOONLIGHT HIKE

JUNE 20 - 22, 1997 (Friday Through Sunday)

Deadline for registration is May 16, 1997. This enjoyable and spectacular week-end in Pittsburgh includes an all-night hike from 10:30 PM. Saturday to after sunrise Sunday, the first day of summer and one night past a full moon. The bus will depart Lancaster Friday evening and return Sunday afternoon. Cost for this week-end will be \$150.00 which includes transportation from Lancaster, lodging, admission to all scheduled attractions and 2 breakfasts. We will visit the Pittsburgh History Center, University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Science Center, the Duquesne Incline, take a cruise on the rivers and more. A full night's sleep Friday night and time to rest/sleep before the hike begins Saturday night. Every effort will be made to insure your comfort and safety. There will be adequate rest stops and an opportunity to have a snack during the hike; which will be easy as a grand finale to this unique recreational week-end in Pittsburgh, the group will have Sunday breakfast at "Le Mont", one of the top 350 restaurants in North America and winner of the Dirona award for dining distinction. (cost of trip includes breakfast and gratuity!)

Tickets or Gift Certificates are available by mailing a check for \$150.00. Make checks payable to:  
Pittsburgh Hike Committee, P.O. Box 7922, Lancaster Pa 17604-7922

**HIKE ONLY - INCLUDES TRIPS ON INCLINES, CRUISE ON RIVERS AND BREAKFAST AT LE MONT. COST OF HIKE ONLY IS \$40.00**

(412) 287-3382 or (717) 684-4474 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A WHALE OF A GOOD TIME - GUARANTEED

## Lewisburg Trips Central Susquehanna Hostellers

### CSH Meetings

Meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm at the Lewisburg Area Community Center at 100 North 5th Street in Lewisburg.

### Bike Rides

In addition to longer weekend rides, there are normally shorter bike rides every Thursday evening. Call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

### CSH Information

Call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

## HOSTEL HAPPENINGS

We're H.I.P. (Hostelling International - PGH) and we're happening!

Hi! I'm Holly Ridenour, the Hostel Manager at the latest HI/AYH hostel to open its doors to travelers from around the world. I too have been traveling since early November when I attended the HI/AYH National Meeting in Portland, Oregon and interviewed with the Pittsburgh Council. After the meeting I traveled around Europe for 3 months to visit family, friends, and many hostels. Upon returning to the U.S., I checked out the Miami, FL and Savannah, GA hostels en route to Pittsburgh for a quick visit in March before continuing to San Francisco to make the big move east. As the former Member & Travel Services Manager, and as the Relief Manager at the Sacramento International Hostel, many friends at the Golden Gate Council-HI/AYH welcomed me home. For two years prior to joining the staff there, I was a volunteer at the Hostel At Union Square in San Francisco helping other travelers make the most of their time in "The City By The Bay", where I got my start with AYH as more than "just" a member.



On the inauspicious day of April 15, I arrived in "The Burgh" and joined the staff of the Pittsburgh Council. On the way east I had stopped through St. Louis to co-lead the second HI/AYH World Travel 101 Budget Travel Seminar training session there, a project I have been involved with since last summer. In addition to working closely with Marianne Kasica and Larry Laude to get the Pittsburgh hostel ready to open, Marianne and I attended the Eastern Regional Meeting in Buffalo, New York at the end of April.

I'm addicted to all aspects of the traveling world and exploring a new part of the country while calling Pittsburgh home is the answer to the frequently asked question, of late, "Why would someone want to move from San Francisco to Pittsburgh?" In addition to obtaining a degree in geography, my travels have taken me to Europe three times, Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific, Western Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize in the last 10 years or so. The world is a very wonderful place and each trip out in it has, in addition to being four months or longer, been filled with stimulating and challenging moments, just like getting the Pittsburgh hostel open!

I'd like to invite you all to visit the Pittsburgh International Hostel at 830 E. Warrington Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15210. Office and check-in hours are 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. and again from 5 - 10 p.m., seven days a week, except for December 24 & 25, 1997, when we will be closed. The HI/AYH member price for shared dormitory accommodation is \$16.50/night (tax included), plus \$3.00/person/night extra for non-members. A limited number of family/couples rooms are available for an additional cost and groups are welcome with advanced reservations.

Don't forget we also have conference/classroom space available for rental in the evenings from 6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. through the upcoming summer months, with day use rental coming in the fall. Call the hostel for details.

For those of you who may not have noticed, THE ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE FOR THE HOSTEL ARE INCORRECT in the 1997 *Hostelling North America* handbook and you should correct your copy. The phone number is correct in the handbook and is (412) 431-1267.

The Pittsburgh Council and Travel Center have moved into the same building as the hostel. Please remember to use their phone number for Council business. Their number is: 412-431-4910, and they are currently open Monday & Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Wednesday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Ask to speak to Amy Sincilene, our office manager.

And finally, the Pittsburgh International Hostel is looking for volunteers. We'll be needing people to help us: host the Grand Opening and Open House, put the finishing touches on the hostel, for example, obtaining visitor information and creating displays for the walls inside the hostel; leading walking tours or taking visitors "out on the town"; helping us staff the desk; assisting with mailings and phone calls to market the hostel; and many, many other tasks. We would be particularly interested in anyone who could commit a specific number of hours a week until things are fully up-and-running, though we would be happy to have any time you can spare!

To volunteer some of your much-needed time; to reserve dorm, private/couples, or conference room space; or just to say hello, please call the hostel during our office hours.

Holly

## SAILING

The AYH owns Flying Juniors, Sunfish, and an International 470. Several members also use their own sailboats. Most of our day sailing trips and classes will be on Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park near Butler, Pa. Additional weekend trips and extended trips are also planned.

All trips require previous sailing experience unless otherwise stated. This generally means a minimum of a Red Cross certified Basic Sailing Class or equivalent. Participants for all sailing activities must be in good physical condition and able to pass minimum Red Cross recommendations for swimming competency. Personal Floatation Devices are required on all trips. Individuals with their own sailboats are encouraged to join our program.

June 7-8 Sat.-Sun. Cleveland, Ohio  
Bob Zavos 241-0659

**RED CROSS SAILING INSTRUCTOR CLASS.** The American Red Cross, Cleveland Chapter, will offer a Basic Sailing Instructor Class. This is not an AYH Activity but many of our sailing instructors have completed this course.

June 28 Sat Lake Arthur  
Bob Zavos 241-0659

**DAY SAILING/RACING:** Join us for a day sail or try racing in MSC's Saturday racing series. Optional dinner at Brown's in Portersville.

July 26-27 Sat-Sun. Lake Pymatuning PA Jerry Gaines 475-3957

**PYMATUNING WEEKEND:** Leave early Saturday to pick up the sailboats near Lake Arthur and drive to the group tenting area at Pymatuning State Park near Jamestown PA. Activities will include cook outs, hiking in the nearby areas and sailing on the lake. Return to Pittsburgh late Sunday.

Aug 23 Sat Lake Arthur PA Bob Zavos 241-0659

**DAY SAILING/RACING:** Day sail or participate in the Moraine Sailing Club's races as a racer or administrator on the committee boat.

Aug 30-Sept 1 Sat-Mon. Lake Chautauqua, NY Marilyn Marrari 441-6764

**WEEKEND TRIP.** Our 6th annual sailing trip to Lake Chautauqua, New York will provide time to sail bike, walk or just relax. Fee (about \$75) includes 2 nights lodging on the Chautauqua Institution grounds, 2 breakfasts, and use of the AYH sailboats. Space is limited and this trip always fills up so please reserve by August 15.

**Fees:** Day sail fee at Lake Arthur is \$14 plus the AYH activity fee of \$1 for members and \$3 non members

## Introductory Classes

We offer introductory Red Cross Certified classes for those who have never sailed before or anyone who desires to brush up on their skills. Participants must be at least 13 years old (anyone under 16 must be accompanied by an adult), in good physical condition, be comfortable in the water and know how to swim. Classes consist of two evening classroom sessions, and two full day on the water sessions. We use the Red Cross Start Sailing Right textbook and offer Red Cross Certificates to those who complete all requirements. On the water sessions take place at Lake Arthur and Classroom work is at the Pittsburgh AYH Activity HQ or the new Pittsburgh Hostel. Sailing classes fill up fast. Send in your application early to insure a space. Enrollment will be closed once we reach maximum class size. AYH reserves the right to cancel or reschedule classes due to weather or low enrollment for a full refund. Individuals may cancel up to 7 days prior to the first meeting and receive a full refund minus a \$10 administration fee.

Following is the tentative 1997 schedule.

1997 SAILING COURSE SCHEDULE

	Shore School	Shore School	On Water Classes
Class 1	Wed. May 28 7-9PM	Wed. June 4 7-9PM	Sat. & Sun. June 7&8 9AM-6PM
Class 2	Tue. July 8 7-9PM	Tue. July 15 7-9PM	Sat. & Sun. July 19& 20 9AM-6PM

In the event of bad weather for the Water Classes we may reschedule for the following weekend or by appointment in subsequent weeks.

Please use the following form to enroll in classes. If you are not an AYH member you may fill in the application form that appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Fees include a textbook which will be sent to each student upon enrollment.

### 1997 SAILING CLASS REGISTRATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.(H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Check class desired: Class 1\_\_ Class 2\_\_

Fee Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to Pittsburgh Council AYH)

Class Fee \$85 AYH members, \$95 non-members;

**\$10 discount for two people registering together.**

Mail this form along with your check to:

Robert Zavos, 1007 Savannah Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15221

## CANOEOING

June 7 Sat.  
Oscar Mayer 828-7123  
Moving water school. Call for details.

June 7 Sat.  
Joyce Appel 526-5407  
Flatwater or easy Class I trip. Beginners welcome. Call for details.

June 8 Sun.  
Brian McBane 433-8972  
Moving water school. Call for details.

June 14 Sat.  
Hope 898-1891  
Class I trip on the Little Beaver River. Call for details.

June 15 Sun.  
Paul Henry 347-3282  
Flatwater trip. Dads and sons welcome on Father's Day. Call for details.

June 21 Sat.  
Jon Maiman 441-2306  
Class II solo canoe school. Call for info

June 28 Sat.  
Brian McBane 443-8972  
Whitewater II school. Call for details.

June 29 Sun.  
Jim Roberts 244-8332  
Class I-II trip. Call before 10 PM for info,

July 3-6 Thu eve.- Sun.  
Jon Maiman 441-2306  
Class I-II canoe camping. Call early for details and reservations.

July 12 Sat.  
Porcelli 271-4776  
Class I trip. Call for Details.

July 19 Sat  
Al Kepner 481-8936  
Class I-II trip. Call for details.

July 26 Sat  
Becky Heimberger 242-7179  
Class I-II trip. Call for details.

Oct. 17-19 Fri eve.- Sun.  
Jon Maiman 441-2306  
Class I-II Fall leaf trip. Mark your calendar now.

## White-Water Kayaking

June 7 & 8 - Saturday & Sunday  
Ray Yutzy 341-5682  
Slippery Rock Clinic of the 3 Rivers Paddling Club. AYH Kayaks available to AYH members with prior reservations with TRPC — call to reserve kayaks

June 14 - Saturday  
Paul Bronder 882-9255  
Class 2-3 White-water Trip — Location determined by rainfall/river levels.

June 21 & 22 - Sat. & Sunday  
Ray Yutzy 341-5682  
Beginning Kayak School for total beginners or those with little experience. Meet at AYH HQ Sat. 8 AM and car pool to the river. Saturday; Intro to Boats, Equipment and Flatwater Skills on Yough Lake. Bring nose-clips & goggles or dive mask. Bring lunch & drinking water for shore by cars and water bottle to tie in boat. Overnight at Ohiopyle Youth Hostel. Sunday — Beg. Whitewater Skills on the "Middle" Yough from Confluence to Ohiopyle — Bring "waterproof" lunch & water bottle to tie into boat. Call to register for school — space limited.

June 28 - Saturday  
Paul Bronder 882-9255  
Class 2-3 White-water Trip — Location determined by rainfall/river levels.

**NOTES:** All boaters bring: Non-cotton paddling clothes, tie-on tennis shoes, sunscreen, nylon wind/rain breaker, straps for glasses & sunglasses, tie-on "waterproof" lunch and plenty of drinking water for in boat, change of clothes, cash for car-pool gas and dinner on way home. Overnight at Ohiopyle bring: Sleepsack or sheets.

**CYCLING**

**June 14-15 A/C Joan Roolf 795-8345**  
**Stanford House Hostel** In the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area (in Ohio). This whole area is a bicyclists delight. Ride on rail trails going in many directions. Stanford House is a wonderful hostel that has long been a favorite destination for Pittsburgh AYH trips. Call Joan for more info and to reserve.

**June 29 C Joe Hoechner 242-0781**  
**Pymatuning** Ride around all or part of the reservoir in an area that does not have many big hills. Lots of quiet rural roads. Swimming and some other sightseeing are options. Call Joe for details and to reserve.

**JULY 25-27 ALL Joan Roolf 795-8345**  
**STANFORD HOUSE BIKING WEEKEND** Stanford House is in the Cuyahoga National Recreation area in Ohio. A two hour drive from Pittsburgh takes you into the valley where towpaths and Railtrails branch out in all directions. This trip is suitable for riders who wish to go at a more relaxed pace. The more experienced cyclist will find many miles to cover at a faster pace. Weekend evenings offer many concerts and programs in the local area. Stanford House has always been one of Pittsburgh AYH's favorite Hostels. Sign up early because this trip usually fills up fast. A limited number of spaces are available.

**July 27 A/B/C 431-1267**  
**The Great Ride** Famous tour of the city. Call AYH office for more details

**August 9-10 B/C Judy Menosky 242-1573**  
**Bedford** Hostelling or camping in Schellsburg which is just west of Bedford. Camp at Shawnee State Park. In addition to great biking, there is swimming at the park.

**August 24 A/B/C Lynn and Chuck Ejzak 653-3257**  
**Mon Valley Century Bicycle Tour** Choose from a challenging 100 miles, 70 miles, 50 miles and 35 miles. Rides start in Elizabeth, PA. Call AYH office (after July 1) for an application or get one at AYH. Discount for registrations received by July 31. We are looking for volunteers for this ride. If you or someone you know would volunteer, please contact Lynn or Chuck.

**October 5 A/B/C Bill Eberle**  
**SABRE (Southwestern Autumn BREEze)** Southwestern Allegheny county and Washington county. 100 km (65 mile) and 50 km (35 mile) rides offered. Rides start at Settler's Cabin Park. Registration includes marked roads, map, snack stops and a picnic lunch at the end. Call AYH office (after Aug 1) for an application or get one at AYH. Discount for registrations received by Sept 15.

**Oct 11-12 C Pat Rossi**  
**Wilderness Lodge** Off road and On road riding near the New York / PA border. Stay overnight at the lodge. Contact Pat for more details.

**Ride Class:**

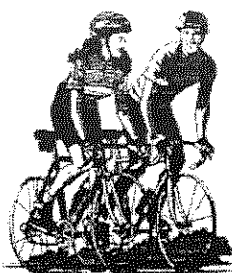
A Adv. (50+ miles), B Inter. (30-60 miles),  
 C Easy (15-40 miles), D Beg. (10-20 miles)

**All Trips:**

Trips are generally open to riders of all ages, subject to the trip leaders' approval. (Most riders tend to be between ages 18 and 70) AYH Members are given priority over nonmembers for trips with limited space. Bicycle Helmets (ANSI or Snell approved) are required on all rides. Riders are responsible for their own equipment.

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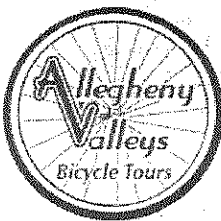
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**Allegheny Valleys Bicycle Tours**  
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**-foot notes: trail maintenance news**

by JIM RITCHIE

Trail maintenance is going wild and wooly in Spring 1997. Only a single week after meeting at the Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center on March 1 to discuss planning and objectives for 1997 trail maintenance, Jim and Sue Ritchie scouted the Rachel Carson Trail from Springdale to Creighton and from Creighton to Bailey's Run, the latter being where a previously-reported clearcut was underway. It was noted that the only trees left standing, on March 9<sup>th</sup>, were those with blazes. With some caution, the trail can be successfully hiked through the logging area, although it might be muddy. Mary Pitzer and Mike Kennelly and his scout troop had just cleaned up that section of the trail, doing a great job, late in 1996. The Springdale to Creighton section was re-flagged with yellow plastic ribbon to mark the trail until it is paint-blazed this spring.

Later in March and in April, Jim Ritchie led four hikes, end-to-end, on the Rachel Carson Trail, resulting in three new end-to-enders and one more double end-to-end. Aaron Rinehart, Ingeborg Kerenyi, and Rich Gemeinhart, hiked the entire 34 miles, end-to-end, and Alan Aliskovitz, hiked his 2<sup>nd</sup> time end-to-end.

On the first weekend of April, the Keystone Trails Association held its annual Spring Meeting at Camp Hebron, near Harrisburg. AYH's present for the meeting included Glenn Oster, Helen Coyne, Mary Pitzer, Hugh Downing, Paul Henry, Joyce Appel, Bob Tait, and Jim Ritchie.

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, a Monday, a longstanding landowner problem on the Rachel Carson Trail was resolved, allowing hikers to continue through the traditional route of the trail in the Hampton Township-Indiana Township area along Wagner Road. New blazes were posted and any vegetation hiding blazes was cut to keep hikers on the trail and out of the landowner's backyard patio.

On Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, Pittsburgh AYH was honored (one of two awards this year) by the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau for outstanding community service for its efforts to maintain and promote the Baker Trail. Accepting for AYH at a traditional thresherman's turkey dinner held at the Heilman Emanuel Lutheran Church in Ford City, PA were Patti Scheuering and Jim Ritchie.

Jim Ritchie, Mort Kurman, Vince Roelf, Paul Henry and Joyce Appel (paulnjoyce), and Tim Henigin, along with significant assistance from Cook Forest State Park Ranger Greg Burkett, installed 8 large 30" by 30" signs marking the Baker Trail temporary detour around the non-existent Gravel Lick Bridge. Too bad the detour crosses the Iron Bridge in the State Game Lands south of Cook Forest: the Iron Bridge washed away last July in the big flood of 1996. But, you can wade across Cathers Run if you have to; you can't wade across the Clarion River.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**

## 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 donation today.

Yes, I would like to make a Tax - Deductible  
 donation of support for the  
 Hostel in Pittsburgh in the amount of:

- \_\_\_ \$2500
- \_\_\_ \$1000
- \_\_\_ \$500
- \_\_\_ \$250
- \_\_\_ \$100
- \_\_\_ \$50
- \_\_\_ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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INTERNATIONAL**

Donations of goods, furnishings or services are also needed! Please drop us a note describing what you have available.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your Donation to:

AYH  
 Pittsburgh Hostel Fund  
 830 Warrington AVE; Pittsburgh, PA 15210  
 412-431-1267



## HIKING / BACKPACKING

Saturday June 7, 1997 Mark Tomlinson 828-1969  
Jim Ritchie 828-0210  
Leo Stember 681-1385

**National Trails Day: Trailwork on the Rachel Carson Trail.** For details, see the article elsewhere in this issue of the Golden Triangle. Please call to confirm your intentions to participate in our National Trails Day celebration.

Saturday June 21, 1997 Jim Ritchie 828-0210  
Leo Stember 681-1385

**RACHEL CARSON TRAIL CHALLENGE.** The Challenge is a 34-mile, one-day, endurance hike on the Rachel Carson Trail. Planned to start at Harrison Hills County Park at 5:50 AM, you must finish by 8:54 PM in North Park. Pre-registration and fees (\$17) required; see elsewhere in the newsletter for registration form and additional information.

**RACHEL CARSON TRAIL HALF-CHALLENGE.** The Half-Challenge is a 17-mile endurance hike on the most difficult half of the Rachel Carson Trail, from Harrison Hills County Park to the Rachel Carson Homestead in Springdale. Start at 5:50 AM and, at an average of 2 mph, you should arrive at the Homestead by 1:30 PM. Pre-registration and fees (\$12) required; see elsewhere in the newsletter for registration form and additional information.

**RACHEL CARSON TRAIL FAMILY CHALLENGE.** The RCT Family Challenge is a 5-mile family event that will occur on the Rachel Carson Trail and other trails in Harrison Hills County Park. The hike will be a loop-hike, and you may start any time between 7 AM and 8 AM. Pre-registration is required; the form is elsewhere in this newsletter.

Saturday June 28 Maynard Hansen 751-7615  
**Intermediate 10 mile hike in Ohio:** Sugarloaf & Baughman's rock. Meet at the Burger King on Rte 30 - Rte 48 at 8:30am. Call for info & a reservation.

Sunday June 29 Veronique Schreurs 422-0358  
**Intermediate 6 mile hike** on the Laurel Highland hiking trail from Rte 30 to Beam Rock. The mountain laurel should be blooming! Call for info & a reservation.

Thu-Sun July 3-6 Steve Nydes 661-9357  
**Intermediate weekend hike** somewhere near Gettysburg. Stay at the Ironmasters Youth Hostel. Leaving Thursday evening (or join us Friday morning.) Call for info & a reservation.

Fri Eve-Sat-Sun July 11-12-13, 1997 Jim Ritchie 828-0210  
**Baker Trail Weekend at Cook Forest.** This event will include a hike on Saturday from the northern terminus of the Baker Trail, in the Allegheny National Forest, to the Cook Forest Public Campground where those who choose to stay for both days may camp. You may want to come on Friday night and find a good campsite; we'll try to all camp in the same area of the campground. Cook Forest campground has hot showers, flush toilets, and running water. On Sunday, we'll hike from the campground to the Cook Forest Fire Tower, to the Lookout, cross the Clarion River and head for the wet crossing at Iron Bridge and beyond. We'll do 8-10 miles and return to the campground. Call Jim for information and reservations. Day hikers are welcome to join us for a single day Saturday or Sunday.

Sunday July 13 Veronique Schreurs 422-0358  
**Easy 4 mile hike or intermediate 8 mile hike** in Lynn Run: Wolf rock (4 miles) and optional back to Beam Rock from the Summit parking lot (another 4 miles). The wild rhododendron should be blooming. Call for info & a reservation.

Saturday July 26 Steve Nydes 661-9357  
**Intermediate 8-10 mile hike in Bear Run.** Call for info & a reservation.

Fri Eve-Sat-Sun August 1-2-3, 1997 Jim Ritchie 828-0210  
**Baker Trail Weekend #2, Backpacking the Baker Trail.** Weekend #2 will have the BT boys and girls starting at Mill Creek in Jefferson County, hiking along the Mill Creek Game Lands, down the gas line to Corsica, and then along rural dirt roads to the Summerville Shelter where we will spend the night. The second day will take us through the village of Summerville, to Heathville on Red Bank Creek, past Tarklin Run, Bethlehem Chapel, and ending near the village of North Freedom. On Saturday, we plan to do about 8-10 miles, hiking aggressively on the dirt road sections, i.e. 2 mph minimum. Sunday will be easier, doing 6-8 miles. Friday night we will camp at the site of the (nonexistent) Corsica Shelter.

### TRAIL MARSHALS NEEDED FOR THE RACHEL CARSON TRAIL CHALLENGE June 21, 1997

Marshals are needed to help with the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge, scheduled for June 21, 1997, a Saturday. Marshals will be assigned to a checkpoint for a period of approximately 3-4 hours with the responsibilities of providing water to hikers and providing directions and answering questions posed by participants. A cell phone will be provided with which you may call other marshals and officials or assist hikers by calling their friends or relatives if transportation is needed. All marshals will receive an official 1997 Rachel Carson Trail Challenge mug for their car. A start-up crew will be needed in Harrison Hills Park, arriving by 5:30 AM. Other crews will have starting times of approximately 7 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM, 7 PM. You may sign up for more than one shift, too.

If you can help us out, please call Jim Ritchie at 828-0210, or Leo Stember at 681-1385. Each volunteer will receive a coupon for one free night at the new Pittsburgh International Youth Hostel in the Allentown section of Pittsburgh.

## MID-WEEK RAMBLES

Note: Important, the time for gathering as of July 1 is 9:30am.

June 4 Swisshelm Park. Mary Frances Garrison 341-5683  
June 11 Deer Lakes Park. Bag Lunch. Don Hoeker 243-8298  
June 18 West Mifflin Architectural Ramble. Fred Mauk 361-6299  
June 25 Frick Park. Bag lunch to eat at Thelma Moroso's new home. Margaret Laske 421-5219

July 2 No walk. Happy Independence Day!  
July 9 Highland Park. Dorothy Fishel 241-2217 Meet at 9:30am starting July 9!  
July 16 North Side Heritage Trail. Ruth Fischer 421-9215  
July 23 River View Park. Bag Lunch. Earl McCabe 761-1844  
July 30 South Park. Bag Lunch. Bonnie Trelease 882-0949

## NOTES FOR RAMBLES!

Meet in Mellon Park upper parking lot at Fifth & Shady Avenues by 10:00am in June and 9:30am in July. Carpooling is encouraged. For trips over 10 miles, please pay driver \$2.00

Call trip leader for more information especially if you plan to meet us at the trail head.

## FOOT NOTES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Jim and Sue Ritchie, along with Brien Palmer of Apollo, cut a mile of new trail along the Baker Trail, near the end of April, in the vicinity of Kerr Road, near Brick Church, near Cochran's Mill in Armstrong County. A 40 acre woodlot was cut to make a new field for cultivation (corn) this year, leaving a 300-yard gap, with no trees and thus no blazing, along the trail. In one day, a new route was scouted, blazes were painted, and the trail was cleared of vegetation. It's above the flood line and entirely within the Corps of Engineers boundary, providing the prospect of long service. Just to make us feel good, more than 20 hikers passed us on the new trail section as we were still in the process of cutting it out of the forest.

New volunteers this season include Tamara Duff, of Atwood, PA; Tamara will be maintaining the Baker Trail from its Route 422 crossing near Elderton, all the way north to Atwood, including the Atwood Shelter. Pat Thompson got her truck fixed and so will be helping us out on National Trails Day, June 7th. Pat maintains the Rachel Carson Trail between Russellton Road and Emmerling Park. Alice Gelormino, a Rachel Carson Trail maintainer who, along with Nancy Schmidt of Chatham College, has volunteered on behalf of her 7th and 8th grade students from the North Hills to help out with the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge on June 21st. Bob Roth, also a Sierra Club trail maintainer, has volunteered to adopt a section of the Baker Trail in the Cook Forest State Park area. Patti Scheuering, has not only volunteered to help out with the Challenge, June 21st, but will also be married on June 28th (how does she do it?). Jack and Blanche Asherman will be taking a checkpoint for the RCT Challenge. Joe Brinzer, has offered to help out on weekend trail maintenance trips over the summer on either the Baker or the Rachel Carson; he has hiked both.

As you know from other articles in this issue, Mark Tomlinson of the Rachel Carson Homestead Association and Kim Davis of Eastern Mountain Sports-Monroeville are organizing two trail projects for National Trails Day on the Rachel Carson Trail. Leo Stember continues his efforts as the co-organizer of the RCT Challenge. Mary Remington will be backpacking on the Baker Trail from Schenley to Girty in May, staying at the Crooked Creek and Cochran's Mill Shelters. Bob Plumskey, of Johnsonburg, PA, a retired engineer, has volunteered to help Vince Rooff and Jim Ritchie to begin the replacement of the long-missing cable bridge over Cherry Run. Assuming all the necessary logistics and preliminaries work out favorably, the replacement bridge will have wooden planks, a big improvement over the two-cable balancing act required in the old days. Bob, Vince, and Jim all met in May at the bridge site to assess the lay of the land and to itemize the necessary materials.

Speaking of the cable bridge, Joe Hoechner is making some sketched diagrams of bridge assemblies that may be used in other upcoming bridge projects. What does Joe have to do with the cable bridge, you ask? I have a picture, dated 1972 of Joe, 135 pounds and with more hair than the girls from Carrick, balanced precariously 6 feet above the waters of Cherry Run, hanging on to the cable bridge for dear life. Actually, it looks as if he is doing quite well; his cable bridge-mate, however, is in the process of spilling into the clear, cool, waters below. John Derby has been a great help this spring, first providing copies of extremely detailed Corps of Engineers topographic maps that assisted in relocating the Baker Trail off Kerr Road, and then by offering to facilitate the Cherry Run project as much as possible, steering us through the various interested bureaucracies.

Dave Rumon, a 1996 RCT Challenger, has offered to help do weekend trail maintenance on the Trail, especially in the Crouse Run valley. Kate Fissell, from the CMU Robotics Institute, asked that we keep her in mind the next time we go out on the trail. Kate has been a steady volunteer over the past two years, often bringing a friend to help out with the work. Dave Galbraith, of Brookville, successor to Tom Brandon's Scout Troop 64, declared his intentions to rehabilitate the Baker Trail from Mayport all the way north to Summerville. He also has some friends who make good signs and they intend to post much-needed signage along this section of the trail.

Thanks go to Mike Diehl, Beverly Haas, and Joseph Natoli, all of the Allegheny County Parks Department for their invaluable assistance in plowing through all the logistics of staging the 1997 Rachel Carson Trail Challenge through the County Parks. They did so under somewhat adverse conditions, given the ongoing reorganization of Allegheny County government. There are others, surely, who need to be thanked here, and who, unfortunately, are the victims of my helter-skelter record-keeping system. To those individuals, and to all those I have named above, I extend a sincere "Thanks", "Thanks for helping out. It is appreciated".

**RACHEL CARSON TRAIL CHALLENGE**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1997**

**FINAL DETAILS ANNOUNCED**

**STARTING POINT:** The 1997 Challenge and the Half-Challenge will begin at 5:50 AM in Harrison Hills County Park. To get to Harrison Hills Park, take the PA Route 28 expressway north to Exit 16; go east (right) off the expressway for less than 1 mile, to Freeport Road. Turn right at Freeport Road, go about one mile and turn left into the Park. Upon entering the Park, just past the entrance, follow the left fork, to the first parking area visible on your left; park your car in this area. You may leave your car parked in this area during the day. The gate to Harrison Hills Park will open at 5:00 AM. Park your car and proceed to the starting area. Officials will begin check in at 5:30 AM and you will be able to start immediately after check-in. The Park will be left open until 11:00 PM, so you can retrieve your car. At 11:00, the gate will be closed and locked. A reminder: it will be dark at 5:30 AM; you may want to bring a flashlight with you.

**THERE WILL BE NO SHUTTLE TO RETURN YOU TO HARRISON HILLS.** Sorry; we are not able to provide shuttle transportation back to Harrison Hills Park. All trail marshals, at the checkpoints, will have a cell phone to assist you in calling for transportation if and when you require a ride. It is recommended you have someone available to pick you up, wherever you may be, throughout the day.

**THE MUG:** All registrants to any of the 3 Challenge events will receive a special insulated Rachel Carson Trail Challenge mug, with a lid; the mug is shaped to fit your car's cupholder.

**ENDING POINTS:** The route will proceed 17 miles, generally southbound, to the Rachel Carson Homestead, where the Half-Challenge will finish. You may expect to arrive at the Homestead between 1:00 and 3:00 PM. Those on the 34-mile Challenge will continue past the Homestead for another 17 miles, generally westbound, to North Park, where the Challenge ends at the Beaver Shelter, on Babcock Boulevard, just north of Pierce Mill Road. You may leave a car in the large parking area off Babcock, adjacent to the Beaver Shelter.

**PARKING AT THE HOMESTEAD:** The Rachel Carson Homestead is located in a residential area in Springdale. **DO NOT** leave your car parked on the street in front of the homestead as that will inconvenience the area residents. You may park your car at the end of the street at the Springdale High School parking lot.

**WHAT TO BRING:** You are expected to be entirely self-contained. This is an endurance hike, not a "trail run" or a race. Weight, up to 10-12 pounds in your pack, will not be a significant factor. Be able to carry 2 quarts of water-sports drinks recommended, lunch plus a number of snacks-high energy foods recommended, raingear, dry socks, first aid gear-especially moleskin or band-aids for blisters; you may want to bring a pair of sandals or surf shoes for wet stream crossings; wear sturdy, well broken-in footgear preferably with a lugged sole to grip loose gravel and rocks and with good ankle support; wear thick wool, wool blend or synthetic fiber socks; wear a hat to keep your head out of the sun; wear sunglasses; use sunscreen; carry a pack towel to soak in streams and wrap over your head to cool down; a cell phone is optional if you want to be able to call someone you know for a ride from the trail.

**WATER:** There will be checkpoints every five or six miles with water available for participants. Marshals at the checkpoints will have cell phones provided by Bell Atlantic NyNex available for communications.

**IF YOU FINISH:** If you sign up for and you finish the 34-Mile Challenge you will receive a weekend for two at the Ohiopyle Youth Hostel in Ohiopyle, PA. There are numerous hiking and backpacking trails, canoe and kayak rentals, rafting outfitters, and a world-class bicycle trail available at Ohiopyle. You will also receive a year's subscription to the AYH Golden Triangle newsletter, a year's subscription to the Rachel Carson Homestead Association newsletter, a Rachel Carson Trail Guidebook, an embroidered Rachel Carson Trail sew-on patch, and a special "I finished the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge" t-shirt; only finishers will receive a t-shirt this year.

**WHAT IF I FINISH THE HALF-CHALLENGE?** Those who sign up for and finish the Half-Challenge will receive the one-year's subscription to both the AYH and the Homestead Association newsletters, the Rachel Carson Trail Guidebook, the embroidered sew-on Rachel Carson Trail patch, and a special finisher's t-shirt.

**IS THAT ALL THERE IS?** We are soliciting additional sponsorship and donations for food, snacks, drinks, and other premiums to be made available to participants. The final details concerning additional provisions are not available at this time.

**PRE-CHALLENGE MEETING:** For all those who are interested, there will be a special Pre-Challenge meeting on Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:15 PM in Mellon Park, at AYH Headquarters, directly adjacent to the Pittsburgh Center for Arts and Crafts. All final instructions will be reviewed, and your individual questions will be answered. Several finishers and participants from the 1996 Challenge will be available to answer any questions you may have.

**THE 1997 RACHEL CARSON TRAIL CHALLENGE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM**  
**JUNE 21, 1997**

Please provide the following information and return this form with a check/money order, payable to: "AYH-Pittsburgh Council"

**NOTE: Each participant must complete and sign an individual form for a valid registration.**

Mail to: RACHEL CARSON CHALLENGE; c/o Hostelling International-Pittsburgh, 830 E. Warrington Ave. Pgh., PA 15210

Last Name (please print)	First Name	Middle Initial	Age (as of 6/21/97)
Street Address			
City, State		Zip Code	
Telephone: daytime		Telephone: evening	
Hike Desired: Full Challenge		Half-Challenge	Family Challenge
(\$17)		(\$12)	(\$7 ea)

**LIABILITY WAIVER**

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

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

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

Participant's Signature in Full	Date
Parent or Guardian's Signature if hiker is under 18	Date

**FINAL PREREGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 11 POSTMARKED BY JUNE 9**

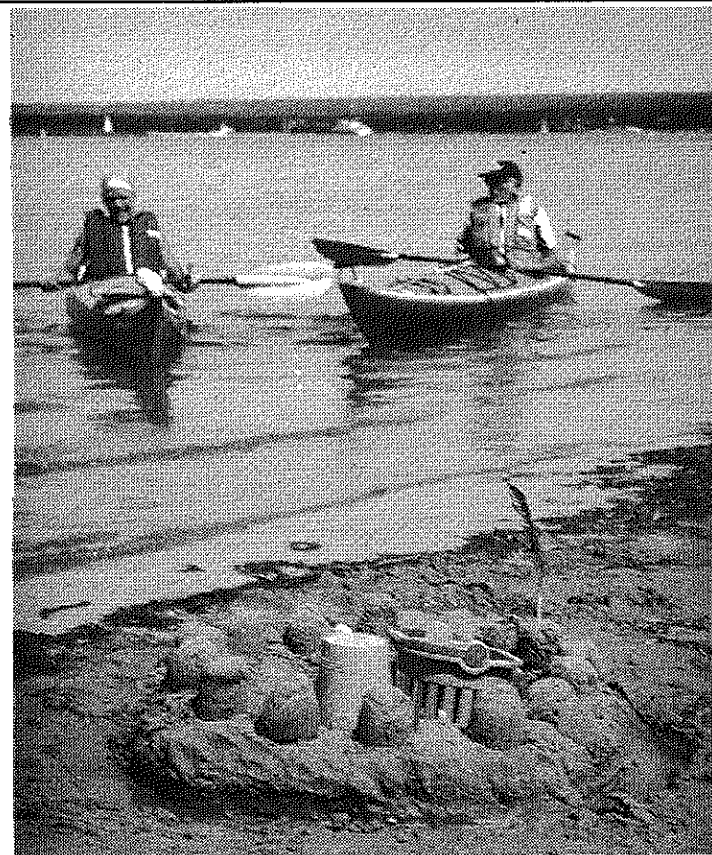
## SEA-KAYAKING

## "Sea-Kayaking Taught 'from Scratch'"

June's Three River's Arts Festival starts off our summertime sea-kayaking trips this month. This is, without a doubt, the most unusual way to reach the annual festival - it's been written about in the Post Gazette - and we've been visiting the Three Rivers Arts Festivals this way for years. Seeing the City lit up at night from the water, while paddling back to our take-out on the Southside, is always a memorable experience. Nighttime sea-kayaking on quiet, serene lakes has become a favorite activity of many paddlers who have tried it, and three sea-kayaking night-trips are planned this summer. The first one is scheduled this month to Crooked Creek Lake, and features both day & night paddling, car camping and relaxing on our own group campsite right above the lake. Last year, moonlight shone down through columns of rising fog, giving the entire lake a magical, surrealistic quality, and a warm campfire greeted paddlers returning off the lake afterwards. Presque Isle State Park is Pittsburgh's closest beach. You can spend the first day of summer exploring garden-like bays & channels, and paddling around soft, sandy beaches along the shore of Lake Erie. We'll end the afternoon with swimming, walking along the lakeshore to the historic lighthouse, and a grill-out picnic before heading home. And at the end of this month, visit islands and spend the day discovering their many attractions on our weekend Sandusky trip, Ohio's summertime 'vacationland'.

The Sea-kayaking program is continuing a series of improvements started this spring. New this year, we've ordered foam backrests for all sea-kayak seats to make our kayaks as comfortable as possible. Dry storage & floatation bags are also on the way. Not only will all sea kayaks now include completely dry storage, but their safety additionally enhanced by increasing buoyancy in the event of a capsize. We've replaced some of our old paddles with new precision Warner touring paddles. These have the balance and craftsmanship of fine skis, and are included with all of our rental kayaks. Additional Extrasport lifejackets will let us correctly fit all participants on every trip, have full length zippers that can be unzipped open to cool off (unlike life-vest Pfd's) when it's hot, and features like pockets and large comfortable arm holes, great for kayak touring. We also continue to improve upon our extensive medical kit, refine details and add amenities to our trips; improvements made possible by the program's years of growth and experiences. And you no longer have to meet and return to the AYH to load and unload kayaks - we now have the use of a trailer to transport them directly, and no longer have to use everyone's cars and makeshift roof racks. Everyone will save the time, effort & cost of having to go the Shadyside twice on every trip. However, we still promote carpooling whenever practical on our longer trips, and arrange a meeting place (usually over breakfast) convenient to everyone on the trip. Finally, if you sign up for sea-kayaking trips at least five days in advance, we'll send you a 3 - 4 page Trip Information Letter, customized and specially written for each trip, and including a full description of the trip, its scheduled itinerary, list of required, suggested and optional items to pack and bring along, climatic information to expect on the trip, whether the trip includes an optional group food arrangement, directions to the meeting place, and a local map to refer to.

Finally, many of our trips will now be bi-species. Keesha 'Paddle-Your-Own-Canoe', a Keeshond puppy, is the newest addition to our growing list of paddlers. We're teaching her to sea-kayak, play in the water, camp, and the many finer points of being a good trip participant. In return, she's showing us how to properly chase squirrels, play tug-of-war, dig holes and the finer points of being cute & charming. I can tell it's going to be a great year.



Sea-Kayakers & Sand Castles.  
Barry Tunick and Sam Rinehart along Sunset Beach at Presque Isle.  
Photo by M. Mistrik

#### Friday evening May 31st thru Saturday June 1st, 1997

Clarion River, Cooksburg, Pa

Trip begins: Belltown Put-in at 9:00 AM

Belltown Bridge to Cooksburg. Popular 12 mile run with fast moving flatwater and easy Class I ripples. The Clarion is a National Scenic River which flows through a very pretty wooded valley. We'll car camp at a state park campground Friday night, or you can join us early Saturday morning. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for information and to reserve.

#### First or second week of June 1997

Three Rivers Arts Festival, Pittsburgh

Trip begins: Southside Put-in 6:00 PM

Weekday evening paddling trip from the South Side down the Monongahala River to the Point and back, about six miles total both ways. We'll take out at the Point to see the sights and hear the sounds of the Festival (free Jazz concert). Buy Festival "delicacies" or bring your own. Experienced canoers (with their own canoes) also welcome. A bright, hand-held flashlight is required. We don't know the exact festival schedule at the time of newsletter submission, so call as soon as possible for the trip date, more information and to reserve a sea-kayak if you need one.

#### Friday evening June 13th thru Saturday afternoon June 14th, 1997

Night Trip at Crooked Creek Lake, Kittanning, Pa.

Trip begins: 6:00 PM or when you arrive at the Lake.

Our first summer night trip this year. We originally got the idea for this when paddlers didn't want to quit kayaking after dark on our regular Intros. Here, we'll set up tents and build a campfire on a large open field with shade trees right above the lake. All evening you can kayak, talk, snooze, swim, eat or just sit by the campfire and enjoy the evening. Night paddling is a favorite of many sea-kayakers. Wildlife becomes more abundant and the lake and shoreline seem to turn almost surrealistic. Wake up to Saturday morning brunch and explore the lake before returning home. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information.

#### Tuesday evening June 17th, 1997

Sea-Kayakers Monthly dinner

Dinner meets: 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the restaurant.

Social dinner for sea-kayakers, paddle-folk and anyone else interested in trying new, unusual local restaurants and outdoor-related conversation. The only cost is the food you order. Call Lin for directions to the restaurant and so we can make enough reservations.

#### Wednesday evening June 18th, 1997

Intro to Sea-Kayaking, Glade Run Lake

Trip begins: 6:00 PM at the lake

Same trip we offer all summer with kayaking lessons, paddling on your own, meeting new people, and followed with a cookout. Tonight's trip also features a nearly full moon rise at the end of the trip. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

#### Saturday June 21st, 1997

Presque Isle State Park, Pa

Trip begins: 8:00 AM breakfast or 10:15 at the Put-in.

This one has a little of everything and is one of our favorite daytrips. We begin with a late morning paddle through the inland ponds and connecting channels of Presque Isle, surrounded by wildlife and water lilies. After leaving Misery Bay, an 1812 historic site with a view of the town of Erie from across the water, we'll paddle past a Coast Guard station and to our lunch stop at Beach 11 on Lake Erie bay. After lunch, you'll have the option of hiking or driving to Sunset Beach, or continuing out onto the open waters and waves of Lake Erie. We paddle around a bird sanctuary and follow the white sandy beaches around the peninsula to Sunset Beach, where we'll all meet for swimming and a picnic dinner. Paddling distance is five or ten miles - your choice - plus all the hiking or sunning you want on the beach. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

#### Sunday June 22nd, 1997

Donley Island, Freeport, Pa.

Trip begins: 1:00 PM at the Put-In.

Relaxing and fun afternoon paddling trip and picnic. Meet less than an hour North of Pittsburgh in Freeport and paddle across the river to Donley Island. We'll build a campfire and roast a few chickens or you can bring your own lunch to the picnic. Spend your afternoon paddling, hiking and swimming, read the Sunday paper, or just sit back and enjoy the island. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

Hope to see you on the water. Mark Mistrik

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Aggressive beginners & up

Ends: Take-out 4:45 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Beginners & up

Ends: Returns 9:30 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: New, beginners & up

Ends: Returns Saturday 4:00 PM

Yuh'Fu Lin 371-4083

Everyone welcome

Ends: 8:30 PM or so

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: New, Beginners & up

Ends: Returns 9:15 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Beginners & up

Ends: Returns 6:30 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: New, Beginners & up

Ends: Leaves river 6:30 PM

Continued on page 9



## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Fri. eve. June 27th thru Sat. June 28 or Sun June 29, 1997

Lake Erie Islands, Sandusky, Ohio

Trip begins: Friday afternoon & evening carpools

Lake Erie Weekend at Sandusky, Ohio. This is Ohio's "Vacationland" - we'll paddle to, and spend the day at Put-In Bay (South Bass) Island sampling the many attractions there. Saturday evening dinner at the Marblehead Lighthouse to watch the sunset and see the lights of Cedar Point. Sunday morning we'll kayak through the historical "firelands" region of Western Sandusky Bay. The islands have routine ferry service, so you can skip Saturday's open water crossings if you prefer. Overnight camping with car access, campfire and hot showers. There is a Friday evening/Saturday only option also. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

Tuesday evening July 1st 1997

Intro to Sea-Kayaking, North Park Lake

Trip begins: 6:00 PM at the lake

Fun and easy evening paddling trips for new and experienced paddlers. Intros cover all basic aspects of sea-kayaking: beginners can learn how to fit a boat correctly through intermediate instruction in open water rescue and kayak rolling. This is an excellent way to try sea-kayaking, learn or improve your skills and practice, or just relax and explore the lake on your own. We finish off the evening with a cookout. Please call for more information and to reserve a kayak.

Thursday afternoon July 3rd thru Monday July 7th, 1997

Flowerpot Island, Georgian Bay, Tobormory, Ontario

Trip Begins: Carpools arranged July 3rd.

Open water sea-kayak touring & camping trip returns to one of our favorite destinations on the Great Lakes. Sculpted out of limestone from the Niagara Escarpment (the same geological feature Niagara Falls pours over), during the last ice-age, Flowerpot Island offers both striking scenery and quiet solitude in the camping areas, hiking trails and freshwater bays there. We'll set up a base camp and take paddling daytrips out. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information.

Wednesday evening July 16th 1997

Intro to Sea-Kayaking, Glade Lake

Trip begins: 6:00 PM at the lake

Evening sea-kayaking trip for lessons, practice and fun. Trip ends with a cookout. Call for more information and to reserve.

Friday evening July 18th thru Saturday July 19th, 1997

Nicholson Island Night-Trip, Allegheny River, Pa.

Trip begins: Anytime after 6:30 PM in Freeport, Pa.

This is the easiest summertime kayak camping trip imaginable: short drive from Pittsburgh, throw some gear into your sea-kayak and paddle across the river to the island. We'll set up tents and build a campfire, then you can kayak, talk, snooze, swim, eat or just sit by the campfire and enjoy the evening. Night paddling is a favorite of many sea-kayakers. Wildlife becomes more abundant and the lake and shoreline seem to turn almost surrealistic. Wake up to Saturday morning brunch and explore the area before returning home. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

Tuesday evening July 22nd, 1997

City Paddle, Downtown Pittsburgh

Trip begins: 6:00 PM from the Southside

Evening sea-kayaking trip from the Southside to the Point, around the Science Center's submergence, up to Station Square then back to the Southside. Food & drink stop at Station Square. Bright flashlight required. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information & to reserve.

Saturday July 26th, 1997

Lake Wilhelm, Goddard State Park, Mercer, Pa.

Trip begins: 9:00 AM breakfast or 10:45 AM at the Put-in.

Sea-Kayaking daytrip for all paddlers. Before lunch we'll paddle into a wildlife sanctuary (no motorboats) with a chance to see Kingfishers, Cormorants, Osprey and Eagles. Lunch and a rest break on an island, then we'll continue to explore the sanctuary's backwaters while more experienced paddlers are free to roam the lake. We'll reconvene at the take-out at 5:45 PM to load boats and return home. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

Monday evening July 28th, 1997

Paddler's Monthly dinner

Dinner begins: Arrive anytime between 6:00-7:30 PM

Our monthly dinner for paddle-folk and anyone else interested in outdoor related conversation. We try a different restaurant each month or so during the kayaking season. Call for the restaurant's name & location, and so we can make the correct number of reservations.

Friday evening August 1st thru Sunday August 10th, 1997

Isle Royale National Park, Lake Superior

Sea-Kayaking Wilderness Trip

This is the Sea-Kayaking Program's premiere wilderness camping trip this year. We will board passage across Lake Superior to Isle Royale, an archipelago of islands that comprise the most isolated National Park in the lower forty-eight states. This is a rugged land of rock, forest and water, and the island is a World Biosphere Site and home to moose, wolves and loons. You may sea-kayak the entire time or join us for a short backpacking trip (need a collapsible internal frame pack that will stow in the hatch of a kayak), once we've paddled well into the interior. Sightseeing along Lake Superior in Michigan's Upper Peninsula on the way home. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information.

Friday evening August 29th thru Tuesday September 2nd, 1997

Outer Banks of the Atlantic, North Carolina

Trip begins: carpools organized Friday afternoon & evening

Labor Day Weekend is the traditional close of the summer paddling season, so we're going to the quaint old Bank's village of Ocracoke to catch all the warm surf and golden sand we can. Friendly porpoises and curious pelicans have been commonly seen here, and fresh seafood cookouts are the rule. After relaxing in Ocracoke for a day or two with car camping right on the seashore, we'll paddle out to explore our own barrier island and camp overnight there. Expect bioluminescence (a natural sparkling of the water at night), a beachside bonfire, and stars out over the ocean right down to the horizon. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

Saturday September 20th, 1997

Mark Mistrik 361-2943 CALL FOR INFO

Friday eve Sept. 26th thru Monday October 6th,

Mark Mistrik 361-2943 Lake Powell, Utah

Level: New, beginner & up.

Trip begins: Vanpool leaves Pgh 6:00 pm or fly & meet us; Ends: Monday evening.

Explore spectacular redrock canyons of the Colorado River and see some of the most fantastic scenery in America's West - all from a gentle flatwater lake and with the conveniences of a houseboat at hand. Now an annual trip, we envisioned this several years ago as a way to accommodate inexperienced paddlers and even hikers on a longer, extremely interesting trip, and the result has been exceeding expectations ever since. The idea is simple: the houseboat does all the long-distance work, leaving your days free to hike, paddle, explore ancient Indian ruins, or relax as you please. Due to limited houseboat availability, you must let us know if you are interested in early March to secure space. We'll have an organizational meeting this month to set the details. Call for more information

Fri. eve. October 10th thru Sunday October 12th

Kinzua Fall Foliage Weekend

Level: aggressive beginner & up.

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Aggressive beginners & up.

Ends: Leave Bay Sun. 3:00 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: New, Beginners & up

Ends: Leave lake 9:15 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Intermediate & up

Ends: Pgh. 7/7/97 9:00 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: New, Beginners & up

Ends: Leave lake 9:15 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Beginner & up

Ends: Leave Island 4:00 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Beginner and up.

Ends: Take-out 9:15 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Beginner and up.

Ends: Take-out at 6:00 PM

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Everyone welcome

Ends: 9:00 PM

Call: Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Intermediate w/  
kayak camping experience

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Intermediate & up.

Ends: back in Pgh 9:00 PM

## Ambridge Bike Shop

Serving all your cycling needs for over 25 years!  
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### • DIRECTIONS •

From I79, take Exit 19 (Sewickley & Route 65). Follow Route 65 through Sewickley. Take second right (Fourth Street) after the 84 Lumber. At the first traffic light, take a left turn onto Merchant Street. We are on the right, 1 1/2 blocks up.

**518 Merchant Street • Ambridge, Pa. 15003 • 412-266-1111**

Weekdays 10 am to 8 pm - Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm

Visit our WorldWide Web Page at: <http://www.novaord.com>

Continued on page 11

## Rock Out With AYH!

### Rock climbing trips from Pittsburgh Council of American Youth Hostels

The 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 lunch 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 or a jacket in the event of a late-afternoon thunderstorm.

Beginner trips are held at Coopers Rocks State Forest, Exit 15 on Rt 68, east of Morgantown, WV. Trips leave from AYH headquarters at 7:30am. We arrive at Coopers Rocks around 9:30 am and take a short walk to the climbing area. We are back at the cars by 4:30 or so. Many climbers stop at a local restaurant for dinner before driving back to Pittsburgh. We arrive back at AYH headquarters before 8pm. Cost is \$9 for AYH members (\$11 for non-members). Gas money (if you car pool) and dinner are NOT included in the trip fees.

Experienced climbers are welcome on our "Beginner" trips since we top-rope climbs of varying difficulty (up to 5.11). We also teach the skills to become a "second" on a multi-pitch climbing trip to Seneca Rocks, WV. The AYH climbers make frequent "unofficial" trips to Seneca Rocks, New River Gorge, the Gunks, and other climbing areas. Several AYH climbers can be found hanging out at The Climbing Wall (in The Factory on Penn Ave) on Thursday nights (7-9:30pm) before retiring to the Evergreen pub (also on Penn Ave) for a few cold ones and to make plans for the coming weekend.

To find out more about the AYH climbing program, call Jim "Woj" Wojciechowski @ 322-4524 or Vern Miller @ 935-3434. To sign up for a specific trip, call the Trip Leader listed in the table below.

Trip size is limited. Call the Trip Leader (not the climbing chairmen) to sign up.

#### 1997 AYH ROCK CLIMBING TRIPS

DATE	DAY	LEVEL	TRIP LEADERPHONE
June 14	Sat	Beginner	Dave Hartman 821-3796
June 29	Sun	Seneca Prep	Jeff Bauman 673-0597
July 11-13	F/S/S	Seneca Rocks	Bob Dodson 243-4558
July 27	Sun	Beginner	Jim "Woj" Wojciechowski 322-4524
August 9	Sat	Beginner	Brian Schwadron 344-0790
August 23	Sat	Seneca Prep	Vern Miller 935-3434
Sept. 5-7	F/S/S	Seneca Rocks	"Spyder" Praksti 856-8716
September 28	Sun	Beginner	Garry Simmons 327-8338

## NATIONAL TRAILS DAY Saturday, June 7, 1997

### Work on the Rachel Carson Trail

National Trails Day, 1997, will be June 7. AYH will be working with the Rachel Carson Homestead Association and Eastern Mountain Sports on the Rachel Carson Trail. Two projects are proposed. One is to build an elevated, wooden walkway across a bog in the Hampton Nature Reserve and the other is to begin putting up the new, maintenance-free plastic, yellow trail blazes. If you want to pitch in and spend the day helping to build a great trail, call Jim Ritchie at 828-0210 or Mark Tomlinson, Executive Director of the Homestead Association, at 828-1969, to get on the volunteer list.

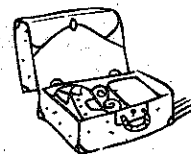
The two projects will be funded from the proceeds of a \$1,000 grant from Eastern Mountain Sports, awarded to the Rachel Carson Homestead Association. The funds are to be used for supplies for trail development and trail maintenance on the Rachel Carson Trail.

The beneficiaries of the EMS grant will be the hikers who utilize the RCT throughout the year. You can help support the Trail, as well, by supporting the companies who support our hiking trails. The next time you are shopping for outdoor gear, stop in EMS to see what they have in exchange for their support.

Some of the projects that may be forthcoming include bridges for Crouse Run near Sample Station, Cunningham Run in Indiana Township, just off Eisele Road, and a troublesome tributary of Pine Run in North Park. Several bog areas, including one near the horse farm in Harrison Hills and the other in North Park, are candidates for elevated wooden walkways, and posting will be considered for the new power line cuts through Fawn and Harrison Townships.

We will celebrate National Trails Day initiating a worthy project on the Rachel Carson Trail with supplies obtained through the EMS grant. YOU can participate by volunteering to work on a Trail Crew, on National Trails Day, June 7, 1997. To do so, call Mark Tomlinson at 828-1969, Jim Ritchie at 828-0210, or Leo Stember at 681-1385.

## More Hostel News



### NEW YOUTH HOSTELS FOR LIVERPOOL AND LONDON IN 1997

The YHA (01727 855215) is to open two new City Youth Hostels in the summer of 1997 - in the Albert Dock region of Liverpool and at St. Pancras in London.

In Liverpool, the brand-new, purpose-built Hostel - a first for the city - will have 100 beds in four and five-bedded, ensuite rooms. Facilities include a restaurant - with table licence - lounge, TV room and games room together with more traditional YHA features such as a self-catering kitchen and laundry facilities.

The opening of the St. Pancras International Youth Hostel brings to eight the number of hostels now available in London, with a total bedstock in excess of 1400.

Owned by University College, London and situated opposite the new British Library, the building is being divided into two, a 150-bed Youth Hostel - with two, four and six bedded, ensuite rooms - with the remainder being Halls of residence for the University. During the summer vacation, University rooms will be available for YHA use.

"This extra accommodation in London is urgently required as demand has exceeded supply for some time, particularly in the summer, when more than 60% of our visitors are from overseas," said Business Development Director, Liz Lloyd.

An overnight stay at the new Liverpool Hostel will be £12.50 per adult, £8.65 for youngsters, or £20.50 and £17.50 respectively at St. Pancras, inclusive of breakfast.

### A NEW HOSTEL WILL BE OPENING IN MADISON, WISCONSIN ON JUNE 1

Madison is located 2.5 hours North West of Chicago and is considered one of the best places in the United States to visit and live. There are many fun (and free) activities happening in Madison during the Summer. Every weekend has great music (free at the Terrace at the University of Wisconsin), and some type of great festival.

There are several Frank Lloyd Wright buildings in and around Madison - the renowned architect spent much of his life here. The State Capitol, which is modeled after the U.S. Capitol, has free tours every hour. Madison has nearly 200 parks, several glacial lakes, miles of paved bicycle trails, and many state and country parks within 40 miles - these are some of the reasons Madison is considered an outdoor recreation paradise!

Some basic information about the hostel:

- Location - 210 Langdon St. - just 1/4 mile from the Univ. of Wisconsin!
- Dates open - June 1 through August 14, 1997
- Prices - \$13/night (hostel members) and \$16/night (non-members) for dormitory-style rooms, and \$25 (members)/\$30 (non-members) for private rooms.
- Discounts - 25% off for groups of 5+, people affiliated with Madison non-profits, people arriving from Chicago via Van Galder Bus Lines. 50% off for people arriving by bicycle.

For more information and/or to make reservations, call Stuart Kipnis at (608) 282-9031 or email at skipnis5@ssc.wisc.edu. Indicate an address if you want to have a brochure sent to you or someone else.

Check out our home page at <http://www.sit.wisc.edu/~madhostel>.

Thanks, The Madison Hostel Volunteers

### Pittsburgh International Hostel Assistant Manager & Part-time Desk Assistant Needed

The Pittsburgh International Hostel is hiring. Duties for both positions include staffing the reception desk, providing visitor information, cleaning, and promoting the hostel and HI/AYH. Must be able to work both morning and evening shifts with a minimum of one weekend day. 25 hours a week for part-time position. Additional responsibilities for the full-time Assistant Manager include: supervision of daily operation, cash reconciliation and group promotion. Live-in housing available for Assistant Manager. Both positions require attention to detail and customer service background. Experience in hostel preferred. Contact Manager Holly Ridenour at the hostel (412-431-1267) for more information.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Saturday October 18th, 1997  
Tygart Lake, Grafton, West Virginia

Sunday October 19th, 1997  
Cheat Lake, Morgantown, West Virginia

Something new here: We're running two great lakes in Wild, Wonderful West Virginia and joining the Explorer's Club at Clare Lodge in Cooper's Rocks State Forest for their annual Halloween Party and general fun. Both lakes are in wooded valleys and the autumn colors here should still be very good. These are run as individual daytrips, so you may paddle either day or both, and round out the weekend with rock climbing, mountain biking or hiking. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for info/reservation

Friday evening October 24th thru Sunday October 26th, 1997  
Lake Moomaw, Shenandoah region of Virginia

Friday evening October 31st thru Sunday November 2nd, 1997  
Virginia's Eastern Shore, Urbanna, Virginia

Friday evening, Late November 1997  
Light Up Night 1997, Downtown Pittsburgh

Wednesday evening November 26th thru Nov 30th, 1997  
Charleston & Surrounding Lowcountry Region, South Carolina  
Trip begins: Carpools arranged Wed. afternoon & evening

Our second South Carolina Lowcountry paddling trip. Come spend a Southern style Thanksgiving with us in sunny & warm Santee, South Carolina. Sightseeing in historic Charleston, beach walks, palm trees, plenty of wildlife, and maybe porpoises if we're lucky. This trip will be a collection of daytrips and include saltwater and freshwater paddling, and a blackwater river. All overnights in a modern condo built on stilts on a pier, over a lake. Space is very limited. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

Thursday evening December 4th thru Monday Dec. 8th, 1997  
New York City

Trip begins: Thursday evening TBA

Sightseeing and Urban hiking through New York City to see the Christmas festivities and decorum. Details still being worked out. Call for more information and to reserve.

Late February/Early March 1998  
Florida Sea-Kayaking Winter Trip

Early August 1998  
Apostle Islands National Seashore, Lake Superior, Wisconsin

Premier sea-kayak touring & wilderness trip for 1998. AYH sea-kayaks available. Call for more information and to reserve.

Leader: Mark Mistrik 361-2943  
Level: Beginner and up.

Begins: Coopers Rock 9:00 AM  
Ends: 5:00 PM each day

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Aggressive beginner & up.

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Aggressive beginner & up.

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Aggressive beginner & up.

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Intermediate & up.

Returns: Pgh 8:00 PM Sunday

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

(Not a sea-kayaking trip)

Returns: Mon. evening TBA

Call: 361-2943 for Info

Level: Aggressive beginners & up

Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Level: Int. & up. w/ camping exp.

## The vacation of a lifetime; ALASKA

## Here's your opportunity

You've read the stories and seen the slide shows of Glenn Oster's western trips. Well, he's at it again - in a big way. **ALASKA.** This tour focuses on sightseeing, but plans are to do a few days of backpacking (Chilkoot Trail) and day hiking, (in Denali National Park and at Exit Glacier.) Others may opt to sightsee instead. Throughout the trip, we'll camp or use hostels, and while traveling, most of our meals will be eaten in restaurants.

The trip can be taken as a whole, or you can fly to Vancouver, BC or Anchorage, Alaska to join the group. The entire tour will begin June 21 and end on or about August 3. However, by flying out and meeting the tour in the Pacific Northwest, you can concentrate on the Alaska portion of the adventure. The shortest time frame is eleven days, a more inclusive portion, twenty-eight days and the full trip forty-four days. Other meeting locations and durations could be worked out as well.

Taking the entire trip will involve starting on June 21 and driving by van across the "lower forty-eight" and up to Prince Rupert, BC.

Continuing with the entire trip, at Prince Rupert we'll put the van on an inland passage ferry. Please Call for the full itinerary

And winding up the entire trip, we'll head back to Anchorage, drive down the Alcan Highway and work our way over to the Ice Fields Parkway. Please Call for the full itinerary

Obviously, a tour of this size will be expensive, compared with our earlier trips. However, it's a real value when you consider the enormity of distance covered and the length of time over which we'll be lodging and eating meals. Cost estimates vary, of course, with the portion of the tour elected and the number of trippers over which to average van and campground costs. Assuming three trippers, and not counting personal items purchased along the way, rough estimates of cost range from \$1650 for the ten day portion starting at Anchorage, to \$2822 for the entire forty-four day tour.

Phone Glenn at (412) 364 - 2864 for more information and to make reservations.

## THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL, COME NIBBLE ON IT

The urge to hike some part of the seductive Appalachian Trail (AT) dwells within most of us hikers - and that probably includes you. Plan now to join Glenn Oster for one, two or three weeks hiking the AT through the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut and a bit of New York. The hike itself will extend from August 25 through September 14, 1997, plus two days travel time before and afterwards.

There's no way to call any part of the AT easy, but compared with the trail north and south of this sector, it is easier. We'll average a modest ten miles per day, but every now and then there will be a twelve or thirteen mile day thrown in to challenge us. While there will be long stretches of reasonably flat hiking, there will be a few zingers of ups and downs in there to keep us from getting bored. Our average daily climbs will be 1300 feet and descents, 1550 feet. Backpacking, of course, assumes that we'll be self-sufficient as we hike and carry all our needs for food, clothing and shelter. However, if someone wants to go on the trip and is willing to drive, it might be possible to work out sections that could be slackpacked (a day at a time from one vehicle to another without the need for the full backpack.) That tends to run costs up beyond what is discussed below, but it can be considered.

With all the variables possible, it is difficult to provide crisp figures as to your cost to join the trip. The following cost estimates assume a tripper travels with the group in one vehicle from Pittsburgh to North Adams, Massachusetts (where the hike will begin), completes the hike and returns with the group. His/her cost would range from approximately \$200 each for four trippers to \$300 if only one tripper were to join the leader. Normally, the leader's travel and lodging expense is borne by the other trippers. However, on this trip, the leader will share travel expenses along with the trippers. The cost estimates include an HI/AYH fee of \$25 (Will be \$50 higher for a non-member; so, would pay to join.) Meals while traveling and while hiking are not included in these cost estimates. If a person wants to hike for only a portion of the three weeks and can provide his/her own transportation, lesser costs would apply.

For a copy of the hiking plan, send a note and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Glenn Oster, 784 Olive Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4882. To discuss the trip, phone Glenn - (412) 364-2864.

## 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:** Two Recumbent Easy Racer Bicycles. #1 6,000mi, \$800.00, good condition. #2 500mi, \$1,350.00, new condition. Many extras. Also Burley Deluxe Trailer, nearly new, \$325.00 Call 814-734-1358 eve, for info or to ride!

**For Sale:** North Face Back Magic, external frame backpack; flexhip joints, heavy duty, large capacity. Will deliver. \$75.00 obo. Call 304-233-5960.

**For Sale:** NIKON FG SLR. 28 mm 52 mm and 70-210 mm zoom macro lens closeup lens tripod and bag mint condition \$400.00. Call RICHARD GREGO, 412-533-5725

**For sale:** Epoke 205 mm x-country skis, good condition, \$50; Contact ski boots, size 11, hardly used, \$35; free poles. Call 731-7415.

**For Sale:** Northface internal-frame backpack \$150; Northface tadpole tent (1-2 person) \$140; Whisper light stove \$50; First-Need water filter \$40. Call 242-9747(w) or 1-800-917-4763(pager) and leave message.

**For Sale:** Sail board/wind surfer; Mistral-large older model in good condition. Fiberglass mast, hardware, 2 sails (4m&6m) \$250. Perfect for starter. Night 766-3972 or Day 762-7440.

**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

**For Sale:** Kneissl (XC) Skate Skis; Size 190; without bindings; Used once! (Too long for me.) \$50.00 Call 372-1068 eve.

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

**Distributing AYH brochures** We are looking for places to distribute hostelling brochures, primarily brochures describing hostelling and how to purchase a Hostelling International membership, but also some specific hostel brochures. If you have some suggestions on where we can display brochures for potential hostellers - such as colleges, travel agencies and travel bookstores, please call the office at 412-431-1267. We will be happy to deliver them.

**Editor, The Golden Triangle**  
830 Warrington AVE.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15210

## 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, 830 Warrington AVE., Pittsburgh PA 15210



