

Fran Czapiewski, Editor

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1956

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IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR TWENTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, A. Y. H. received this letter from President Eisenhower:

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Jenkins,

To you and to all associated with American Youth Hostels I extend congratulations on its twenty-first birthday.

Over the years in many parts of our country this organization has done outstanding work in fostering wholesome outdoor recreation and education through travel. With hosteling groups abroad, it has helped to build friendships between young Americans and people of other lands.

As the American Youth Hostel organization marks this anniversary, all of you have my best wishes for the continued success of its program through the years to come.

Sincerely,
(signed) Dwight D. Eisenhower
---The AYH Newsletter, N. Y.

National Meeting

Mr. Miller Moore is A.Y.H.'s newly elected National President. Hereplaces Mr. Edward Jenkins, who is now Chairman of the Board. Mr. Moore has served as AYH Treasurer for the last two years, in addition to holding the position of vice president in the Bankers Trust Company of New York.

Betty Bierer continues to serve on the Board; Tony Franses was elected vice president

Open house --8:15 PM on THURSDAYS

"Mystery of the Incas" - Jan. 26
Frieda Hammermeister showsher - Feb. 2

Western Tour movies
"Skiing at Laurel Mountain" - Feb. 9
plus Square and Folk Dancing

BOARD MEETING - Feb. 14
"Field's Frolic in France" - Feb. 16

-color slides
Marianne Schlochauer's Brazil - Feb. 23

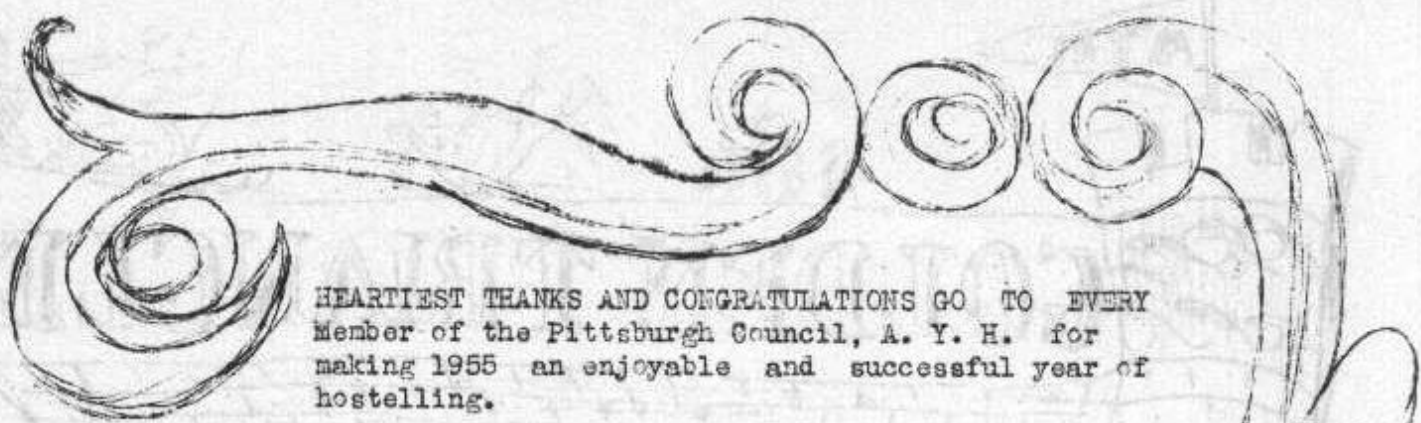
ANNUAL BANQUET - Feb. 25
Movies of Art Jentoft's - Mar. 1

Skiing Adventures
"Fine Cameras & How They Are - Mar. 8
Made" - movies from Argus

Wear your green dancing costumes - Mar. 15
-you Folks and Squares

BOARD MEETING - Mar. 13
Time to go Dancing - Mar. 22

Cycling Previews - Mar. 29



HEARTIEST THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS GO TO EVERY Member of the Pittsburgh Council, A. Y. H. for making 1955 an enjoyable and successful year of hostelling.

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YOUR PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION made possible a lively canoeing program (an additional canoe was acquired through voluntary contributions) along with renewed cycling activity; plus many hiking, swimming, skiing, and ice skating adventures. As a result of your planning and enthusiasm, extended trips to various parts of the U.S. and Canada were a big success.....and, reliving the trips with pictures at our openhouse was almost as much fun as being there. Some of you even became T.V. stars and found time besides to build another shelter on the Baker Trail. Financially, we stayed within our budget very close to prediction. Your cooperation in cutting unnecessary spending and your trip participation provided the income to cover operating expenses.

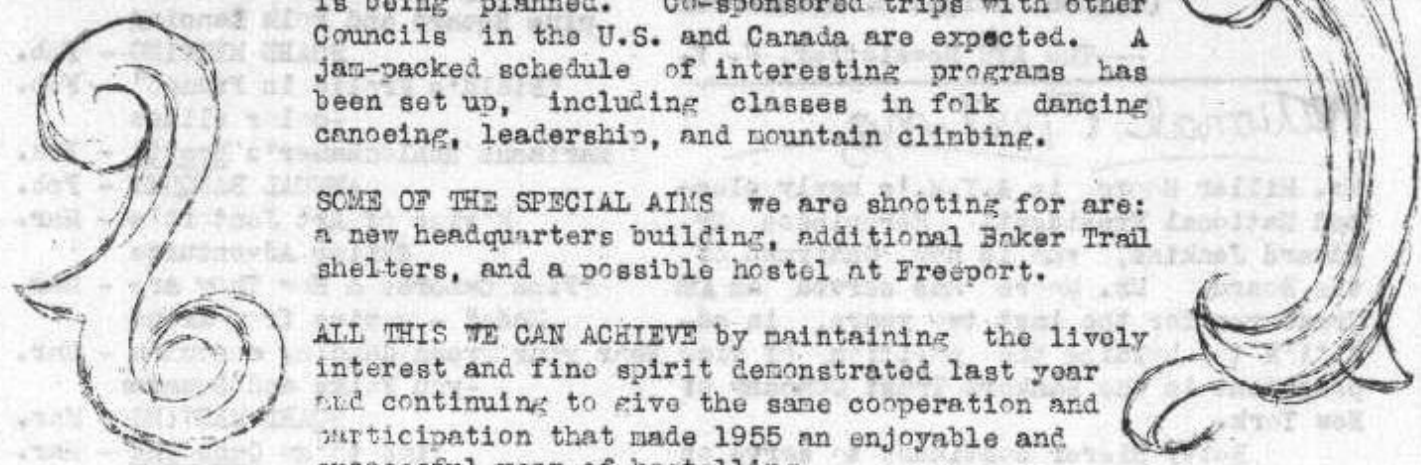
ABOVE ALL, YOU DEVELOPED A WARM, FRIENDLY ATTITUDE and spirit which helped put our activities program over. I am certain you will strive to retain this spirit and build upon it.

THE NEW BUDGET APPROVED BY THE ACTIVITIES BOARD and Board of Directors is reasonably within our means, yet it optimistically anticipates continued enthusiasm and increased activities. With our widening interests in mind a large variety of local, overnight, extended, and even international trips is being planned. Co-sponsored trips with other Councils in the U.S. and Canada are expected. A jam-packed schedule of interesting programs has been set up, including classes in folk dancing canoeing, leadership, and mountain climbing.

SOME OF THE SPECIAL AIMS we are shooting for are: a new headquarters building, additional Baker Trail shelters, and a possible hostel at Freeport.

ALL THIS WE CAN ACHIEVE by maintaining the lively interest and fine spirit demonstrated last year and continuing to give the same cooperation and participation that made 1955 an enjoyable and successful year of hostelling.

---John D. Behun, President



Please Note

Membership fees have been increased, in accordance with a resolution passed at the Nat'l. Workshop in Dearborn, Mich. on December 4, 1955:

Adult (21 & over)	\$5.00
Sr. Youth (19-21)	4.00
Youth (to 18)	2.00
Family	7.00

The discount of \$1.00 is still in effect for renewals made within a month of pass's expiration date.

CAMPING

A.Y.E. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION was held December 28 in New York City. The theme was Scottish in honor of Loch Lomond, site of 1953 International Youth Rally on August 12.

....OF NOTE TO HOSTELERS WHO'VE camped in National Forests:

Although a bill requesting 10% of the revenues from the forests was not passed, the U. S. Forest Service Recreation Dept. will receive an additional allocation for this coming budgetary year of one million dollars.

This is for the development, maintenance and operation of public use facilities in the National Forests.

Thanks are due the American Camping Assoc. for playing a large part in this achievement.

Holiday Magazine is doing a feature on "Youth Hostelling in America" in its March issue. Don't miss it.

The WORLD

....big, wide, wonderful place, waiting for you All you need is a spirit of adventure and an appreciation of simple living (hard beds, cold water, vigorous exercise) to find the new horizons in travel that only A.Y.E. offers. Just look:

#6-TRANSCONTINENTAL ROLLING HOSTEL takes you to Canadian Rockies, Yellowstone and Grand Canyon

#10-HAWAII? AIR & BIKE TRIP leaves from San Francisco on July 9....Cost, \$430

#21-THE BALKANS, Italy, Greece, Yugoslavia

#23-HIKING CARAVAN VIA Volkswagen-Station to get from one point to another. A first for this type of trip to the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Saarland, Switzerland, Austria and France.

#71,2-FOUR MONTHS COLLEGE-ON-WHEELS TRIPS in Northern and Southern Europe. Leave from New York on March 20.

in all, 26 trips including one in the Fall bound for India, Japan, and the Olympics in Australia.

More information? Get the travel folder from T & T. Chairman, Ralph Krichbaum, or write National at 14 W. Eighth St. New York City

WANTED: A 16mm sound projector for use on the Thursday night programs...Gloria Fisher is the one to notify.

Whenever there's snow - Make plans for skiing with John Behm
Fr. 10992

OUR OLD

HOUSE

- is a-gettin' shaky
- is a-gettin' old
- lets in the rain
- lets in the cold
- is a-gettin' feeble
- is a-needin' paint

Don't just
stand there...

...DO SOMETHING!



Fill out this questionnaire and return it by March 1 to:
Bob Lesnick, c/o A.Y.E., 6300 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh 32, Pa.

This information will be used for planning a new headquarters building.
Please answer as specifically as possible.

WHAT AID CAN YOU GIVE US? - check off items which apply.

1. Offer of materials:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lumber | <input type="checkbox"/> Glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Block | <input type="checkbox"/> Doors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cement | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete | <input type="checkbox"/> Roofing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other - |

2. Use of equipment:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other - |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saws | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Implements | |

3. Specialized Skills:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electrician | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumber | <input type="checkbox"/> Roofer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpenter | <input type="checkbox"/> Mason | <input type="checkbox"/> Other - |

The sad shape of our house together with the possibility of eviction, makes it necessary for us to pay immediate attention to plans for a new meeting place. Herb Buchwal has canvassed activities chairmen on their needs and has drawn up preliminary sketches for a new building. See them the night of the Banquet, February 25.

Name _____ Address _____ Phone No. _____

Pass Application

Mr. _____

Mrs. _____

Miss _____

Mailing Address _____

I am interested in: (check) cycling, hiking, canoeing, mountain climbing, skiing, square dancing, cave crawling

I have) held a pass before. Year _____ Date of birth if under 21 _____
I have not)

Enclosed in \$ _____ in cash, check or money order to cover the cost of the N. Y. E pass checked below.

<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Pass \$2	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Youth \$4	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Pass \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Pass \$7
for those under 18	for those under 21	for those 21 & over	No. of children _____

105 Boulevard Murat
Paris 16e, France

Dear Fran,

Well, we're still in Paris! We don't know for how long; but recent developments indicate a return to New York at the end of February, no guarantee, of course.

Perhaps you have seen Field Curry by now and he's told you our good news. We don't know whether we'll have a little Frenchman or an American; we're betting on the American....You may have seen some of Field's slides, which are quite good; I'm sure AYH won't pass up the opportunity to "See Europe With Curry."

We have been fortunate ourselves in the number and variety of trips we've been able to work in--France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, England, Holland....Thought perhaps we'd see some of you AYH'ers over here on an extended trip last summer....

If you have some spare moments, we'd appreciate hearing all the latest from Pittsburgh.

(signed) Beth and Huck Fackins

Knoxville, Tennessee
January, 1956

Dear Gloria,

Letters

...I'll tell you something about our Florida trip.

December seems to be the ideal time to go. Their rainy season is over, warm sunny weather is the usual and winter rates are in effect.....St. Petersburg, is where we spent Christmas. Fritchie took us on a tour of the city to see the lights....more decorating here than any city I've ever seen. Trossing a mile-long pier and carols are broadcast over the streets. The city is one mass of color.

The Tamiami Trail thru the Everglades....Colorful Seminole Indians live here in little tree-covered rises called hammocks. They get around nowadays and hunt in air boats. These boats have airplane propellers attached at the rear so they can skim thru a few inches of water. We rode one; it was like riding thru a grass field in a boat.

Everglades National Park....The ranger there was one whom we knew from the hiking club, and was ranger in the Sierras last year. He took us on a canoeing trip down an old canal lined with mangrove forests, and full of wild animals and birds, into 3 little lakes seldom seen by anyone. Here we were really in the tropics surrounded by a true jungle with all its queer noises and dark foreboding shadows. Even the seemingly solid ground was soft so you sank in. Roots of trees were the only solid standing places. Alligators are numerous; poison trees, ten times worse than poison ivy are found throughout this jungle.....interesting and different.

Key West....It was terrifically windy all day and we couldn't enjoy the beaches. After visiting friends who own a lime plantation, we headed for Miami. This is a fabulous and quite artificial place, all it takes here is money.

Inland at Highlands Hammock State Park....nicest and best equipped; the camping area A #1 and trails wonderful. We had a little New Year's Eve party here with the other campers-----heard the carillon play at Back Tower; was well worth-while-----bought oranges and grapefruit from a farmer who let us pick our own.

Back home....we got into winter very quickly; now I'd like to take a few good snow hikes-----Let me know the latest on your hostelling trips.

(signed) Ruth Zimmerman Ewald

Miscellany

Shu wants us to know he's been much too busy but has not forgotten his friends. He sent a clipping we'd find interesting --it's from the Jan. 19 N.Y. TIMES: "A weary Frenchman walked into town yesterday just 7-1/2 days and 120 mi. from Montreal. Laurent Olano, 19-yr. old pedestrian had one pertinent comment, 'My feet hurt.'"

He walked 17 hrs. a day, slept in fields and small hotels, spent less than \$1 & found people "très sympathique." The dogs were less friendly, so were border officials who arrested him 3 times. "But I can understand --this is funny, no?" as he gestured to his beret, parka, over-the-shoulder blanket, canteen boots and small handbag.

M. Olano comes from the French Island of St. Pierre on the Atlantic Coast. He is a student at the University of Montreal....would like to go on to Venezuela. If not, he'll return to Montreal, but not on foot." * * * * *

A new hosteling custom was inaugurated at our New Year's Eve party: tossing people in a blanket.... they got dizzy, but they liked it! Vince Roof will be home from Georgia on leave in February. Seen on the Travel page--an ad selling Florida: "A bird in the sand is worth two in the slush."

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

Stopping in a country lane to get a drink of water at a nearby house, I leaned my bike against a tree and started up the walk. Just then a huge dog lunged at me. He was chained to a tree so I managed to get out of his reach. No one was home. I walked back to my cycle and the dog lunged again. His chain was long and my bike was in a spot he could easily cover.

Can you guess how I mounted the bicycle without getting bit? Answer is below.

You haven't forgotten, have you, that we maintain a Speaker's Bureau which gives slide shows to other interested groups?

I moved slowly around the tree, staying just out of the dog's reach. He angrily followed me, winding his chain around the trunk until it was so short he couldn't possibly reach my bicycle.

book

REVIEW

A.Y.E. HANDBOOK AND HOSTELER'S MANUAL

- Lists the facilities which are available to hostellers.

- Gives details such as location, number of people accommodated, and attractions in the vicinity.
- Tells how to plan, arrange and carry out a hosteling trip.
- Tells the least important items mentioned are, for instance the need for beginners to do a bit of conditioning before a trip, and for everyone to start with the attitude of friendly exploration and a willingness to live according to Hostel customs.
(e.g.) 1. HOSTELING means traveling under your own power and living simply, in a spirit of fun and friendliness; using youth hostels as overnite accommodations.
- The book goes to passholders.



insures you the trip schedule you want. Go to the next Trips and Trails meeting

TRIPS n STUFF

February 3,4,5
Winter Sports

MID-SEMESTER WEEK END AT COOK FOREST - The Harrises have found a heated cabin in a spot that's ideal for skiing, skating, hiking and tobogganing. Make reservations by calling Paul and Madeline at Sewickley 12747 or with Jack Paskind on Thursday....only the first twenty accepted.

February 11,12
Pack Trip -
or Blazing

BETWEEN SHELTERS ON THE BAKER TRAIL - This is for the hardy who enjoy camping out.....But the less rugged can join us on Sunday to find and blaze the trail where we lost it the last time near Godfrey.
Get information from Ralph Krichbaum.

February 19
Anniversary
Hike

PRESTO LAKES TRIP - For the eighth consecutive year, the president of the Council, this time it's John Behun, takes us on the trip that inaugurated hostelling in Pittsburgh....Added feature: a turkey dinner at Ralph Krichbaum's. Call John at Fr. 1-0992.

February 25
Anniversary Dinner

EIGHTH ANNUAL BANQUET- This event gives you the opportunity to get out of denims and into diamonds to dazzle all the old and new friends you're going to meet. Inside sheet has details.

February 26
City Hike to
West Park

HIKE TO AVIARY - Ogden Nash writes, "Suburban yards and rural vistas, Are filled with avian Andrews Sisters," but we've got them too (the birds, not the Andrews Sisters) over on the North Side, one of Pittsburgh's unusual attractions.

March 3,4
Cave Trip
and/or Hike

WEST VIRGINIA NEAR SENECA ROCK - A National Speleological Society member will take us through dry caves in the heart of the W. Virginia caving country. We'll stay in house rented by NSS. Bring flashlights and old clothes. Ralph Krichbaum, Wa. 1-2697

Any Weekend
there's snow

SKIING - Laurel Mt. or Seven Springs, whichever the group decides. Call John Behun Fr. 1-0992, who will also handle sales and swaps of equipment. (Nylon parkas now being featured @ \$9.50)



OLD TIME NEWS

Joan Walczak is now living with Kay in New Jersey. The vacancy in her apartment with Lanie Wilson will be filled by Grace Kriner.

Engaged are Damon Phinney to Thea Welsh of Washington, and Bob Fulton to a girl from Stanford, Conn.

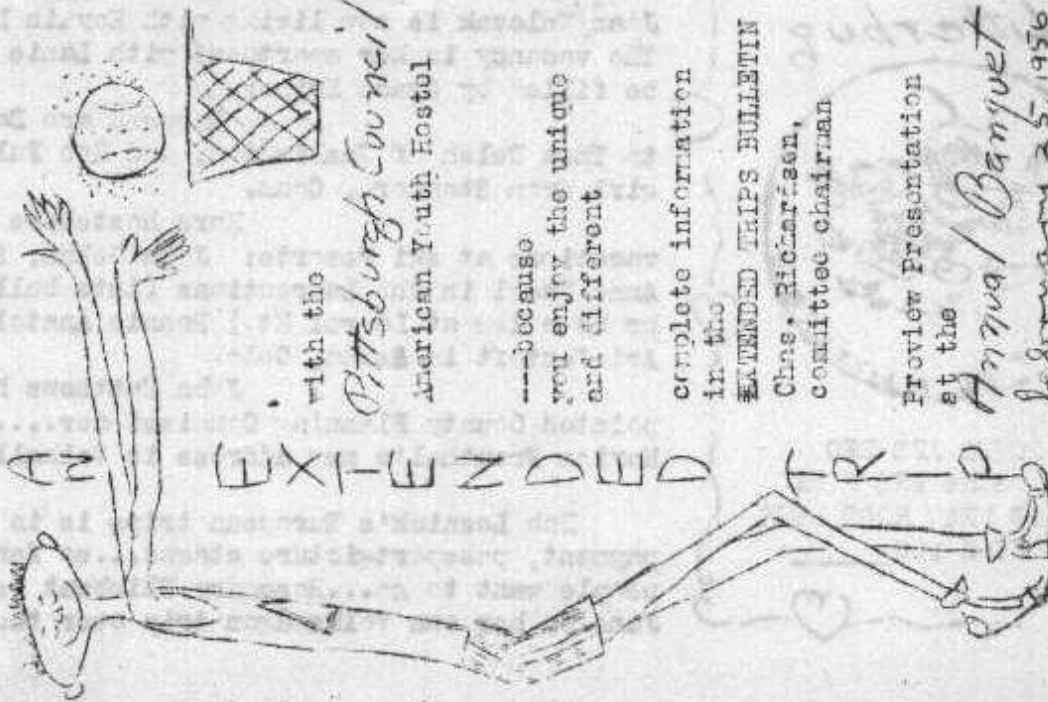
More hostellers are spending vacations at ski resorts: John Behun, Stu Raynolds, Anne Madel in the Laurentians (late bulletin-Anne broke a leg at Laurel Mt.) Ronnie Anatole in Quebec, Art Jentoft in Aspen, Colo.

John Matthews has been appointed County Planning Commissioner.....Fred and Marion Freuthal's new address is Valhalla, N. Y.

Bob Lesnick's European trip is in the down-payment, passport-picture stages...so far, eight people want to go....Rosemary Thiebaut is going in June on her own Volkswagon trip over there.

your **GOAL** for

nineteen fifty-six



with the

Pittsburgh Council

American Youth Hostel

---because
you enjoy the unique
and different

complete information
in the

EXTENDED TRIPS BULLETIN

Chas. Rickarisen,
committee chairman

Preview Presentation
at the

Annual Banquet
February 25, 1956



American Youth Hostels, Inc.

Pittsburgh Council

6300 Fifth Avenue

Pittsburgh 32, Pa.