

AYH Golden Triangle



HOSTEL OF THE MONTH:



OHIOPLYE Pa. State Park Hostel

Chartered By
American Youth Hostels
Pittsburgh Council
In Cooperation With
Pennsylvania Dept. Of
Environmental Resources

March 1987
Volume 38
Number 3

AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS INC.
PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
6300 FIFTH AVE.
PGH. PA.15232

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PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS

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Pittsburgh Council of American Youth Hostels is a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to hostelling, outdoor education and self-powered recreation. We have many activities. The council has some rental equipment available for use on council trips. A full range of skill levels are offered, and we also offer courses in our activities so that you can upgrade your skills. Pittsburgh Council AYH maintains about 200 miles of trail in western Pennsylvania, writes and publishes several guides for people interested in outdoor activities, and maintains the Ohioyle State Park Youth Hostel.

Our headquarters is located near the corner of Fifth and Shady Avenues in Mellon Park. We are nestled between the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts and the Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center. Meetings are held every Thursday evening. The building opens at about 8 pm and the program starts around 8:15. Weekly trip announcements are made immediately following the program. Thursday evenings are the only time when you can be sure that a real person will answer the phone. A machine will answer at all other times; leave your name and address and you will receive a response to your message.

Pittsburgh Council trips are listed in the center of this issue. AYH trips are led by competent people who volunteer their time and receive no financial reimbursement. If you'd like to go on an AYH trip, carefully peruse the trip calendar, then look under the activity notes, where you may find more information. After you've read over everything, call the trip leader to reserve space on a trip.

Talk things over with the trip leader. Find out what you need to bring; ask where you'll be going. How late will you get home? What is all this going to cost you? AYH trip registration runs 75¢ per day for members, \$2.25 for non-members. You are expected to bring enough money with you to cover carpool, registration, equipment rental and any other expenses (we often stop at a restaurant on the way home).

Trips listed are open to the public, AYH members are given priority. Trip costs include transportation, rentals, and a 75¢ registration fee. IN ADDITION non-members are charged \$1.50 per day, which may be deducted from the cost of membership when joining AYH. The registration fee also covers insurance (\$1000 medical/ \$1000 accidental death or dismemberment).

AYH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

AYH memberships are available at Open House meetings on Thursday nights. If you cannot attend a meeting fill out the application below and send it along with \$1.00 to cover postage for each membership ordered and your check made payable to Pittsburgh Council, AYH, to:

AYH Membership
6300 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15232.

Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery of your hostelling pass. Membership also sells International Hostel Guide to Europe for \$8.00 by mail or \$7.00 at Headquarters.

Note: Memberships run from Oct. 1st to Dec. 31st of the following calendar year.

Amount and Membership Types Available (check one):

- ☐ \$10.00 Junior (17 years and under).
- ☐ \$10.00 Senior Citizen (60 years and over).
- ☐ \$20.00 Senior (18 years and over).
- ☐ \$50.00 3 year Senior (18 and over).
- ☐ \$30.00 Family (includes children under 18 yrs.)
- ☐ \$200.00 Life (Individual lifetime membership).
- ☐ \$18.00 Foreign Nationals (including Canadians).
- ☒ \$1.00 Postage (for each membership ordered).

NAME _____
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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE () _____
BIRTHDATE Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
New/Renewal? _____

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

International Hostel Membership Card
USA Hostel Handbook
"The Knapsack", National AYH Travel Newsletter
"The Golden Triangle" Pittsburgh Council Monthly News
Open House every Thursday night at 8pm at Headquarters
Access to national programs and leadership training

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

APRIL ISSUE DEADLINES: MARCH 5 all submissions
MARCH 26 Production

The GOLDEN TRIANGLE is the monthly publication of the Pittsburgh Council of American Youth Hostels. Contents are at the discretion of the editor.

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FEISTY NOTE

I had a feeling that I was becoming confused about the meaning of a word, so I looked it up in the dictionary. What I found in there told me that no, I am not confused - but several other people are. Here's what I found:

DEADLINE: (dēd'lin') n. 1. A time limit, as for payment of a debt or completion of an assignment. 2. A boundary line in a prison that prisoners can only cross at the risk of being shot.

In order to cut several people a break, in the past I've accepted late items for the newsletter (I know, you thought I'm too feisty to do something that nice!). However, in order to get a handle on this stupid printing we've been stuck with for a few months, I was forced to put this entire issue together in 4 days. That means no more "Ms. Nice Guy". Don't give me excuses - give me hard copy - NOW! The reason why it's called a deadline is because that's what it is - not a target date! (Speaking of targets, I prefer the second definition!)

Several trips, ads, and articles did not reach me in time, therefore they aren't included in this issue. Too bad -- I didn't leave them out to be feisty - I left them out because I had no choice!

April is going to be just as bad folks - be warned!

AYH THURSDAY MEETING PROGRAMS FOR MARCH

- March 5 Find Out About an Explorer Post and Backpacking in Colorado from Mark Chance
- March 12 A Trek From Nepal to the Mount Everest Base Camp with Walter Vaux
- March 19 Reviewing Proper AYH Banquet Etiquette and Other Things by Bob Goff Esq.
- March 26 Discovering the Mayan Culture by Angeles L. P. Stiteler

MARCH ACTIVITIES BOARD MEETING

The March Activities Board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 4 at 8:00 pm at Kathy Pacacha's home. All interested AYH members are welcome to attend. For directions to Kathy's house, call 363-2228.

NEWEST LIFE MEMBER

Judy Menosky, who has been affiliated with our council for many years and a much appreciated, active volunteer, is our newest life member. Welcome to that special group of people who care so much about AYH.

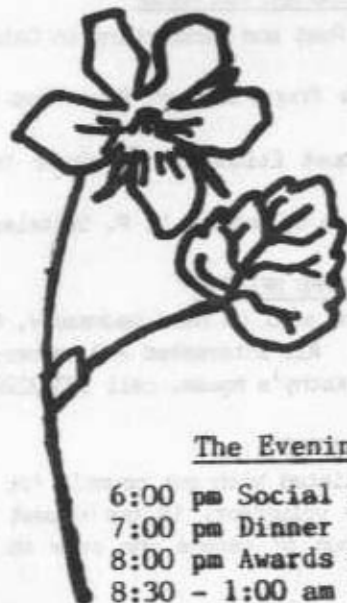
ON OUR COVER

Ohiopyle State Park Youth Hostel, Fayette County, PA, is part of the 20,000 acre Ohiopyle State Park. The hostel is sponsored by the Pittsburgh Council of AYH through the cooperation of the PA Department of Environmental Resources. Ohiopyle is a small town nestled in the Laurel Mountain region of Western PA. The Youghiogheny River, or "Yough" for short, flows through the park with the waterfalls in town. The park has family campgrounds (225 sites), hiking trails, and river put-in and take-out points.

The hostel is located on a grassy, tree-shaded hill to the right of the "Ferncliff Peninsula" entrance. The entrance is west of Route 381, between the highway bridge and the double set of active railroad tracks. You bear slightly right and the hostel is directly in front of you hidden by the trees. With a 25 person capacity, the hostel has an equipped kitchen, dining room and common room. The bunkrooms are upstairs and the showers are in the basement. Storage is available for bicycles or boats.

The Yough provides white-water adventure for the novice to expert in kayaks, rafts and canoes. Outfitters are located in town for sales and rentals, as well as instruction. The park uses a "quota system" to restrict river overuse, for more information contact: Park Superintendent, Ohiopyle State Park, P.O. Box 105, Ohiopyle, PA 15470 (412-329-8591).

The Ohiopyle Hostel is open year around. All are welcome! Reservations are highly recommended. For more information contact: Ohiopyle State Park Youth Hostel, P.O. Box 99, Ohiopyle, PA 15470. (412) 329-4476



AYH Presents
THE SPRING FEVER
CELEBRATION!

Saturday, March 21

at Poli's Restaurant
Murray Ave. in Squirrel Hill

The Evening's Festivities:

6:00 pm Social Hour (appetizers, cash bar)
7:00 pm Dinner
8:00 pm Awards and Door Prizes
8:30 - 1:00 am Dancing and Music

All meals include: fresh fruit cup, salad, baked potato,
green beans almonidine, chocolate mousse and coffee or tea.

Cost: \$18.50/AYH member, \$19.50/non-member

Deadline for Reservations is March 12th

Questions??? call Maryanne Frabotta (339-2054) or Judy
Vanderbeck (327-6473)

RESERVATION FORM

Send with check made payable to Pittsburgh AYH to: Judy
Turnage, 3924 Sardis Rd., Murrysville, PA 15668 (phone
327-0141).

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ HOME _____ WORK _____

_____ #AYH Members _____ #Non-Members

_____ #Vegetarian Dish _____ #Veal Cutlet Parmesan

_____ #Chicken Cordon Bleu

4 RESERVE BY MARCH 12!!!!

AN EXCITING NEW DIMENSION OF Pittsburgh AYH!



The Activity Board has agreed in principle to sponsor a High-Adventure Explorer Post. Final approval will be requested from the Board of Directors at their April meeting. This will mean several things to you, the average member of AYH. First, it means that if you are over 18 and interested in helping shape the character of the youth of Pittsburgh, you can volunteer to be an advisor for the post. If you are not over 21, you have the opportunity to be a member of this group. Second, it means that if you know of a young adult who may be interested in the outdoors, but wants to hang out with people of the same age, you can encourage them to join this Explorer post.

Exploring is a division of the Boy Scouts of America that is open to youth ages 14 to 21. Prior membership in a BSA troop or pack is not required. Both boys and girls are eligible. Exploring does not have ranks or merit badges. The basic unit of Exploring is called a post. The youth elect officers to run the post.

Our post will be a "high-adventure" This means that the common interest of the members is outdoor recreational activity. The emphasis is on learning and doing the type of outdoor activities that AYH does. The post will have week-night meetings twice each month at the AYH headquarters. The post will organize a trip or activity once each month, whether it is a day trip or a weekend event.

The post will need the help of several associate advisors. These people help the advisor and the post officers plan and execute the post program. You do not have to have previous experience in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or AYH to volunteer for this.

There will be a planning meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday, March 9th at Mark Chance's house (5469 Bartlett St.). PLEASE COME! If you have questions, please call Mark Chance, daytime at 268-6736 or evenings at 421-0435.

WQED TV AUCTION

AYH has offered to participate with the WQED Auction on Tuesday April 28 from 7 pm to 12 midnight. We will be making confirmation calls and talking to many of the winners to confirm their bids. There will be interesting people, fattening snacks, and a TV appearance by all of our volunteers to show off our AYH t-shirts. Come join us! Old recruits and new recruits welcome. For more information, call Margie Abeles at 422-0584.

HOSTEL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING MEETING

On Friday evening, March 27th, we are having a hostel development planning meeting to discuss future hostel locations in western PA and in nearby West Virginia. We will decide where we want new hostels and how we can get them started.

We currently operate one hostel in Ohiopyle and have chartered four hostels (Lake City, Pittsburgh, Jennerstown and Schellsburg) operated by other organizations and the Boyer's home hostel in Rural Valley.

We want more hostels in the area to provide hosting opportunities not only for ourselves but for visitors from other parts of the country and the rest of the world. We need ideas on where you think hostels are needed and will work. A chain of bicycling hostels from Pittsburgh to Erie? Canoeing hostels along the Allegheny River? Completing the chain of hostels from Pittsburgh east? Hostels for hikers and backpackers on the Baker Trail? A hostel in or near the Allegheny National Forest? How about one in Wheeling and Morgantown? A year-round hostel in Pittsburgh? A hostel north of us for cross-country skiing when the snow's gone at Ohiopyle? Where would you like to have one? Where can we get enough overnights to make a hostel work? Can they be facilities operated only as hostels, or will they have to be shared facilities? We can't expect to come up with absolute answers in one evening, but we do need a starting point for planning purposes.

After we decide where we would like the hostels (whether it's soon or in 10 years or now!), we will move on to the "how" in subsequent meetings. Here's where people with legal, real estate, financial, and management experience will also be needed. For this meeting however, we need people with suggestions and ideas.

Come to the meeting with your ideas or call 412-665-9554 and leave a message.

The meeting will be at Larry Laude's house at 210 South Atlantic Avenue in Bloomfield (665-9554) and refreshments will be provided. (Let us know if you're planning to come.)

Larry Laude, President

Joe Hoechner, Hostel Development Chair

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PANASONIC TEAM PRO	DuraAce/aero tubulars	56-58	\$1200	\$999
CANNONDALE 900	Campy/tubulars	53-56-58-60	\$1300	\$940
MIYATA PRO	DuraAce/aero clinchers	54cm	\$1150	\$750
CANNONDALE 800	SuperbePro/clinchers	48 to 58	\$1195	\$725
MOTOBECANE LE CHAMPION	Campy/clinchers	58cm	\$1050	\$699
SEROTTA NOVA	DuraAce/clinchers	59cm	\$1200	\$699
PANASONIC 7000	DuraAce/aero tubulars	53.5cm	\$1000	\$599

*** BICYCLE CLOSEOUTS ***

RALEIGH COMPETITION	Campy/clinchers	22.5"	\$400	\$240
LOTUS LEGEND	Suntour/clinchers	22"	\$400	\$260
LOTUS COMPETITION	Superbe/tubulars	23.5"	\$400	\$290
CENTURION DAVE SCOTT '85	500/clinchers	58-60-64	—	\$290
CENTURION DAVE SCOTT '86	600SIS/clinchers	48 to 58	—	\$270
SCHWINN SUPER SPORT	Suntour/clinchers	23"	\$450	\$250
SCHWINN CIRCUIT	Suntour/clinchers	22"	\$450	\$250
SCHWINN PELOTON	Superbe/tubulars	22"	\$450	\$280
SPECIALIZED ALLEE S.I.S.	600SIS/clinchers	50 to 58	\$400	\$260
SPECIALIZED ALLEE SR '85	Superbe/clinchers	50 to 56	\$400	\$260
SHOGUN 1000	600SIS/clinchers	47-51-59-63	—	\$200
SHOGUN 1800 KAZE	"FUNKY BIKE"	58 only!	\$450	\$250

*** SPECIAL FRAMESET SALE ***

NISHIKI CRESTA	includes headset	58cm	\$180
TREK (touring)	includes headset	24"	\$200
PEUGEOT COMPETITION	DuraAce headset	58cm	\$270
NISHIKI OMP	includes headset	58cm	\$280
CANNONDALE 900	Campy headset	60cm	\$300
TREK (touring)	includes headset	24"	\$330
SPECIALIZED ALLEE	DuraAce headset	52-54-58	\$370
BATAVIS	Campy headset	53-57-58	\$400
SEROTTA PRO	Campy headset	54cm	\$400
TREK (racing)	includes headset	25"	\$430
GAZELLE	headset and shifters	58cm	\$500
MOULTON PUSCO		55-56-57-58	\$500

15% OFF ALL CLOTHING IN STOCK
50% OFF SELECTED DESCENTE CLOTHING

CANOE FOR SALE

The AYH has a canoe for sale to the highest bidder. It's a Chattooga two-person whitewater canoe, with very sturdy construction, and it's fully rigged for use, complete with airbag and heavy-duty grab loops and painter ropes. This boat has an ABS plastic hull, which is excellent for whitewater because it's more "slippery" than aluminum, and has a flat bottom which is good for easy maneuvering. It's several years old, in good condition, with many more years of lifetime. You can see the boat at AYH HQ during a Thursday meeting, or call Steve Shafer at 481-0507 for more information. To bid, send a sealed letter with your bid to the AYH Canoe Chairperson at AYH HQ, 6300 Fifth Ave., Pgh., PA 15232. We will accept bids until March 31 and select the winner on April 1. Minimum bid is \$250 (which would be a bargain basement price for this boat!).

REMINDER: THE ANNUAL BANQUET WILL BE MARCH 21 AT POLI'S RESTAURANT.

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We will leave Pittsburgh on Friday evening, June 19 and return on Saturday, July 4, 1987. Should be inexpensive. Trip will be limited to eight hikers. Last year's roster filled up quickly, so sign up early. For info and reservation, call Glenn Oster at 364-2864h or 234-3967w.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The February Activities Board Meeting focused on a proposal by Mark Chance for the Council to sponsor a "high adventure" Explorer Post. After extensive discussion, we voted to recommend the concept to the Board of Directors for final approval. There are still some issues that need to be resolved regarding shared use of equipment, subscriptions to the newsletter, participation on Council trips, and liability for the Council. We also reviewed the problems with the quality of the Triangle printing for the last two issues. We're told the problems are due in part to bad chemistry between our printing press and the plate making process; Joy and others are looking for ways to make improvements. At the January Board of Directors meeting we worked on the issue of an associate membership for the Council for those who are interested primarily in the activities and don't need the pass to stay at hostels. The Board endorsed the concept of an associate membership but wanted it to be within the context of the national organization. We're out getting more information and will have another go at it at the April Board meeting.

Elsewhere in the Triangle, there is an article announcing a meeting of the hostel development committee to look at the future development of hostels in the Council's area. Stop by and talk with us about what you'd like to see in hostels nearby.

We welcome Cindy Ruppert to the Activities Board as our new rafting chair. Say hello to her at the Thursday open houses and help her out by volunteering to lead raft trips.

That's it for this month, hope to see you all at the Spring Banquet! Larry Laude 412-665-9554

PITT TRAVEL FAIR!

Once again AYH has been invited to set up a display at the University of Pittsburgh Travel Fair to be held on the ground floor of the Forbes Quad building. The date is Wednesday, April 1st (no fooling!) and time is from 9 am to 5 pm. Volunteers are needed who can spend a couple of daytime hours at the display booth handing out AYH information, answering questions and collecting names and addresses for future follow-up. About 1,000 to 1,500 students are expected to attend and food is available nearby.

If you would like to help out, call Joe Hoechner at 373-3403, keep trying! Thanks.

ROOF RACKS?

If you drive a mini or full size van and are looking for a sturdy roof rack, request a free catalog from: American Van Equipment, 212 Gates Road, Little Ferry, NJ 07643.

SPRING CELEBRATION AT GETTYSBURG HOSTEL

Gettysburg International Youth Hostel is celebrating the coming of Spring. They are extending an invitation to all hostalers to enjoy free continental breakfast on the mornings of March 21 and March 22. Because of the area's unique geography, the frequently enjoy warm, sunny days when other regions are shrouded with clouds and chilly temperatures. Bicyclists and others suffering with cabin fever may well want to consider the scenic drive to Gettysburg to enjoy the pastoral beauty and more than 400 miles of mapped bicycle routes in the region. As transplanted Pittsburghers, Leo and Patty Stember, Hostel Managers, empathize with those "huddled masses yearning to be free" of winter's grip. For more information, contact the Gettysburg Hostel at 27 Chambersburg Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325 (717-334-1020).

PROBE OF THE ROCKIES

JULY 17 to AUGUST 1

*ROCK CLIMBING *HIKING *BACKPACKING*

(We're going to have a Devil of a good time!)

1st week - Devil's Lake, Wisconsin - Devil's Tower, Wyoming - and South Dakota's Needles and Mt. Rushmore (face climbing only)

2nd week - Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park area including; Lumpy Ridge, Long's Peak, and Estes Park.

Join us for a full two weeks or fly to Denver and join us for the 2nd week only. Primarily car camping near rock climbing areas with lots of day hiking and backpacking possibilities. Check with Bill Johnston at 687-4893.

REMINDER - Next Outdoor Gear Flea Market is May 7th in Mellon Park!



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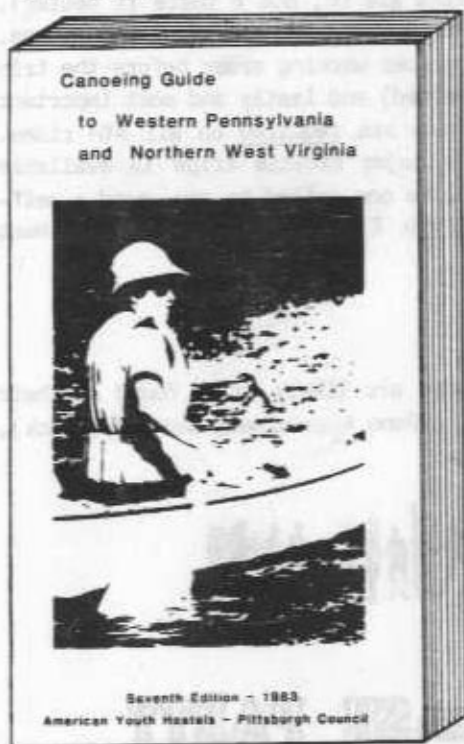
Fiberglass Touring Pole features epoxy fiber-glass shaft. Resists shattering, adjustable nylon strap. Round basket. Also Rottefella aluminum binding.

Nortur Drina is a 75mm boot with these features: Leather upper, lined, padded snow cuff reaches to ankle.

accessories including knickers, tops, cross country socks and hats will be 20% OFF.

A NEW CANOEING GUIDE TO WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA & NORTHERN WEST VA.

EDITED BY MARY SHAW AND ROY WEIL, PUBLISHED BY PITTSBURGH COUNCIL, AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, 1983, 290 PAGES, 6" x 9" SOFT COVER, \$5.00/INDIVIDUAL COPY - A BARGAIN!



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THANK YOU,

WORLD ADVENTURES: SWITZERLAND-RHINE VALLEY BICYCLE TRIP

by Cheryl Arnold

I had always dreamed of going to Europe but thought it was beyond my reach, especially for so many years when my extra time, energy and money went towards my education. But after 8 years of toil, I earned my degrees and was offered a World Adventure trip to Europe by my folks. I choose the Switzerland-Rhine Valley Bicycle trip in August 1985.

As anticipation is often as much fun as the trip, I eagerly awaited my trip package from National AYH. Finally it came. I began the fun of learning some German, planning what to see and what to take with me. I reviewed my list of clothing, accessories and tools many times to limit the weight and space they would require. Finally, I thought I was down to "bare essentials", only to find that I could have done with less. (I actually mailed a package of clothes home from Switzerland to lighten my load before tackling a long mountain pass!) As August 9 approached, I carefully packed my bike in the box and labelled it with my name, address and phone number. Not a seasoned traveller, I did not know to label it with my destination, a mistake that I later paid for emotionally and financially. I found out that Wayne Hennemuth, from Pittsburgh AYH was also on my trip and we planned to fly to Newark together where we would meet the rest of the group and trip leader. Wayne and I checked out bikes through to London on the Peoples Express flight and enjoyed the flight to Newark.

In Newark I met an AYH tripper who would later be my close friend on the trip. Cheryl Betson. From then on we were warmly referred to as "Cheryl A" and "Cheryl B"!

We took the all-night flight from Newark to London, too excited to get much sleep. In London everyone collected their luggage and bikes. My bike did not arrive. I filed a claim for the bike and went to the London Hostel with the group. I spent an uneasy night worried about my bike, but Cheryl B was quite confident that it would come. I tried to share her confidence.

The next day I went back to Gatwick Airport, but still no bike. At this point I had several alternatives: I could find a bike shop in London and buy another bike, I could travel with the group and go by train while they biked, or I could call it quits and go home. I did none of these. I talked to a "bobby" who cheered me up with his British humor and then called to see what my dad would suggest.

Through all the confusion I missed the flight to Luxembourg with the group that day. So I changed my ticket for a flight the next day, got a hotel room near the airport, and called home again. My bike was found in "unclaimed baggage" in Newark where it had arrived after a detour to Los Angeles! It would be on the next flight to London and because I had missed the flight to Luxembourg, I was still in

London to get the bike in the morning! I called the Luxembourg Hostel to leave a message for the group that I would meet them in Trier, W. Germany. I also got directions to the hostel. As it turned out, the group never received my message, but I got excellent directions. The next day my bike did arrive and I flew to Luxembourg, got the bus to the hostel, ate dinner and spent the evening putting my bike together.

The next morning, I had the breakfast I would have for the next 23 days which consisted of two hard rolls, butter, jam or cheese and coffee, tea or hot chocolate. I studied the map on the hostel wall to figure out the way to Trier. And off I went. About an hour later, thrilled that my bike was working perfectly, the sun shining brightly and the towns so beautiful, I hopped off my bike and took a picture of it propped against a low stone wall! At that point I mentally kissed the problems goodbye and began my wonderful adventure.

Soon after I crossed the border into West Germany, I saw a sign to a bike path. Not knowing whether it was just a short local loop or a major path, I opted to follow it. The little road to the bike path ended at the Mosel River and the bike path (complete with a sign pointing the way to Trier) followed the Mosel. I stopped to watch a small red tug boat, when someone beside me said "Gutentag!" That's how I met Johannes. He said he had seen me at the Luxembourg Hostel, and was going to the Trier Hostel, and did I want to sit on the bench and share his lunch and ride with him to Trier? Between my broken German and his broken English, we had a wonderful ride to Trier. Johannes was a German University student spending his summer touring his country. I wished I'd been a better Political Science and History student in school, but still, he taught me a lot about his people and culture on that ride.

Once in Trier (Germany's oldest city, predating Rome by 1300 years) Johannes and I dropped of our panniers at the hostel and rode into the marketplace. Johannes had some shopping to do and I wanted to sightsee and take pictures, so we parted company. The first picture I took was of the ancient black Roman Gate called "Porta Nigra" that guarded the entrance to the old city. Then I had to get a picture of the massive, fortress-like Romanesque cathedral. It was so large and the streets were so tiny and curved, it was a difficult picture to take. Finally I found a small alley lined with sidewalk cafes. I was backing up, trying to get a good shot of the cathedral when someone called out "Cheryl!!" There was Wayne and part of the group, sitting at a cafe drinking beer! Never having received my message, they'd had no idea what had become of me, and were quite shocked to see me there in Trier. I knew they were in Trier but I certainly didn't expect to reunite with the group at a sidewalk cafe! I sat down and had a wonderful reunion. I had begun an exciting adventure, was with the group again, life couldn't be better!

To be continued.....

ACTIVITY NOTES

BICYCLING

The March bicycle trips will be announced at the Thursday open house and will be dependent on the weather. March trips will probably not be more than 25 miles, will leave from HQ or a location close to HQ, and will not begin before 10:00 am to allow things to warm up. Bring a spare inner tube (patch kits are OK, but a spare is better), rain wear if the weather looks threatening, and money for food stops. Make sure that your bicycle is in proper working order before the trip (ask Chuck or Judy for advice if needed) and lastly and most important wear your helmet. Hardshell helmets are required on all AYH rides. A brochure describing this year's major bicycle trips is available from Judy or Chuck. If you would like one mailed to you, send a self-addressed-stamped-envelope to: Chuck Ejzak, 6858 Wilson St., West Mifflin, PA 15122.

CLIMBING

Climbers are in hibernation now are likely to be found in their favorite cave, the Evergreen Bar (on Penn Avenue near South Braddock), after the regular Thursday meeting.



A Y H SPLASH PARTY

PITTSBURGH MARATHON '87

SUNDAY MAY 3 9:00 to 1:00

PICK UP APPLICATION AT HEADQUARTERS OR FROM JACK PETH

Home 921-7214 Work 269-5265

PLEASE GIVE JACK YOUR NAME & PHONE NUMBER AND RETURN

THE FORMS TO HIM 125 ELMONT ST PGH PA 15205



PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AYH ACTIVITY CHAIRPEOPLE



BACKPACKING

Ben Brugmans
736-2751

BICYCLING

Chuck Ejzak
466-6196
Judy Menosky
242-1573

CANOEING

Bill Whitehead
363-0365
Rick Tomlinson
963-8910
Steve Shafer
481-0507

CAVING

John Popp
885-2126
Paul Herre
653-7934
Roy Provins
784-9127

CLIMBING

Dale Vilsack
343-8379
Gary Simmons
327-8338
Eric Bauer
687-0766

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Rick Ulaky
422-0849
Fred Parker
824-2638
Steve Tubbs
751-2158

HIKING

Kathy Pacacha
363-2228
Dan Martt
921-4638

KAYAKING

Lou Conley
681-8321
Ray Yutzy
341-5682

SEA-KAYAKING

Cathy Lynch
361-3707
Ted Self
795-6286

VOLLEYBALL

Jeff Marsh
466-7841

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Barbara Hanusa
441-7205

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Larry Laude
665-9554

VICE PRESIDENTS

Joe Hoechner
373-3403
Bill Johnston
687-4893

TREASURER

Fred Hull
242-5379

MEMBERSHIP

Blanche Asherman
828-8158

PROGRAM

Bob Goff
761-2837

In order to coincide with the story of the World Adventures Switzerland-Rhine Valley Bicycle trip, I thought I'd spend the next few issues discussing hostels in Germany and Switzerland.

German Hostels (Jugendherberger) are often large private estates left to the government that have been restored and converted to hostels. Such was the case with the hostel in Bacharach, on the Rhine River. Cheryl B and I pulled into town, and asked the way to the hostel. The townspeople pointed up the hill. So many of the hostels on our trip were on the tops of hills that we were sure it meant "steep hill"!

In Bacharach we were quite pleased to find that our hostel was a 15th century (or so) castle, complete with a tower! The rooms were modern (at least by 15th century standards)! The first floor housed the common rooms and dining room with beautiful, ornate antique furniture. The second floor housed the men's dorms and the third was for women. (We women thought it was highly unfair that we had to lug our luggage up an extra flight! This was more often the case than not.). Breakfasts and dinners are commonly served in the hostels for a nominal price. Sometimes they'll even pack you a lunch. (Though I found that it's much better to find lunch in a local "flesh-erel" (deli) or bakery! As I mentioned in the story, the breakfasts are continental-style, but dinners are often very plentiful for the price, though they vary in quality. Individuals cannot reserve a space in advance, but groups can. So if you're traveling in Europe be yourself, it's recommended that you get to the hostel early in the day to ensure a space. If they are full, they can often recommend a "bed and breakfast" place to stay costing a little more money. The dorms contain bunk beds, just as in the States. But there are no chores to be done since the government pays a staff to clean the hostels daily. All the hostels I was in provided small lockers for storing personal valuables -- but you must bring your own lock.

The castle was majestic, romantic, and very clean. It also provided us with a great location for our group shot: we sat on the old stone castle wall overlooking the enchanting Rhine River and ancient town of Bacharach!

For more information concerning hosteling in Germany, contact Cheryl Arnold c/o Pittsburgh AYH.



PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS TRIPS



MARCH TRIPS

DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY	LEVEL	LEADER	PHONE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
14	SAT	HIKE	INTER	GLENN OSTER	364-2864H 234-3967W	7:30	ENJOY A DAY HIKING IN THE WOODED BEAR RUN NATURE RESERVE. CALL FOR INFO AND RESERVATIONS.
15	SUN	HIKE	EASY	DAN MARTT	921-4638		IDES OF MARCH SALTSBURG HIKE. EXPLORE THE CANAL AND QUAIN TOWN.
15	SUN	HIKE	EASY	WENDELL PHILLIPS	831-2606		BAKER TRAIL HIKE.
21	SAT	BANQUET	PARTY	MARYANNE FRABOTTA	339-2054	6:00PM	THE SPRING FEVER CELEBRATION AT POLI'S RESTAURANT. SEE THE AD IN THIS ISSUE.
27-29	FSS	CAVE	INT	BUCK RODGERS	238-4311WEEKDAYS 751-7957WEEKENDS		FLOWER POT CAVE NEAR ELKINS, WV. FEATURING A VERTICAL ENTRANCE, THE GREAT WHITE FORMATION, AND LOTS OF PASSAGE.
APR 1	WED	CANOE	ALL	GORDONBUGBY	371-4233	7:30	ANNUAL MEETING FOR CANOEISTS. AT GORDON AND JAN BUGBY'S HOUSE. WE'LL GO OVER THE CANOEING POLICIES AND TYPES OF TRIPS, TALK ABOUT OUR BRAND NEW SOLO BOAT (AN OLD TOWN "OTTER"), AND START TO SET UP THE TRIP AND SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR 1987. ALL CANOE TRIP LEADERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PADDLERS ARE INVITED. CALL STEVE SHAFER AT 481-0507 OR GORDONBUGBY FOR MORE INFO AND DIRECTIONS.