



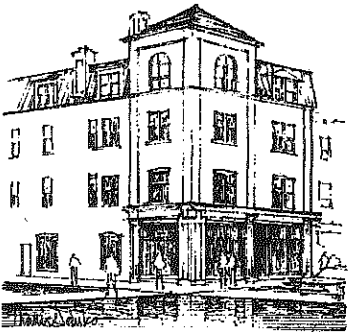
# GOLDEN TRIANGLE

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 48, NUMBER 8

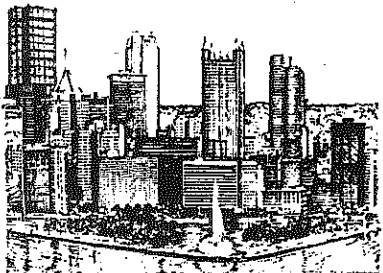
OCTOBER 1998



## 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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.....And MORE!!!

# OFFICIAL CALL...

## Annual Meeting & Pizza Party Thursday, October 15

The Pittsburgh Council Annual Meeting and Elections will be held on Thursday October 15, 1998 at 8:00 pm at the Activities Headquarters at Fifth and Shady. The slate of candidates will be announced at the meeting and a brief report on the council and the Pittsburgh and Ohioyle hostels will be provided. Please join us. All are welcome but only members can vote.

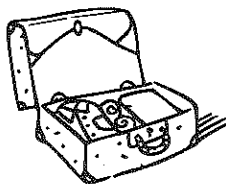
Bring drinks and snacks to share and we will provide the pizza. And, as a special bonus, each member attending the meeting will receive a free T-shirt. The T-shirts are from a recently discovered cache of the famous "I'd Rather Be ..." T-shirts.

This notice serves as the official call to the annual meeting in accordance with the Pittsburgh Council Bylaws. The Activities Headquarters is located at Mellon Park in Pittsburgh at 6300 Fifth Avenue adjacent to the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts.

Larry Laude; Secretary

## AYH Sheet Sleeping Sack....

**DON'T  
LEAVE  
HOME  
WITH-  
OUT ONE!**



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

Order one today! See the order form on the back page for prices.



**The Golden Triangle  
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Has Changed  
Please Use  
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Thank-you...**

### HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

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830 E. WARRINGTON AVE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15210

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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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(412-310-7224)

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Production ... Don Hoecker  
Advertising ... Joe Hoechner

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(412-665-9554)

Vice President ... Maribeth Hook  
Secretary ... Larry Laude  
Treasurer ... Roy Weil

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Lou Conley (98)  
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George Schmidt (00)  
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Roy Weil (99)  
Ray Yutzy (99)

Office Staff  
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(431-4910)

## 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) 431-4910  
or

HI-Pgh on the information super highway,  
point your browser to:  
<http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/>  
or you can email us at  
[ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL  
ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Chairman of the  
Activities Committee  
Ray Yutzy ..... 341-5682  
Canoeing  
Paul Henry ..... 724-347-3282  
Brian McBane ..... 724-443-9872  
Cross Country Skiing  
Veronique Schreurs ..... 422-0358  
Cycling  
Wm Eberle ..... 310-7224  
Chuck Ejzak ..... ###-####  
Family Activities  
Barbara Hanusa ..... 441-7205  
Hiking / Backpacking  
Veronique Schreurs ..... 422-0358  
Kayaking  
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  
Sea Kayaking  
Fran Fleming ..... 412-363-1221  
Vickie Gotaskie ..... 412-344-4929  
Trail Systems  
Jim Ritchie ..... 828-0210  
Headquarters Programs  
Luc Berger ..... 683-3131  
Storekeeper  
Steve Poprocky ..... 721-2429



Pittsburgh Hostel Manager  
Holly Ridenour  
(412-431-1267)

OhioPyle Hostel Manager  
Marjorie Paqualle  
(412-329-4476)

## NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for  
future issues of the  
GOLDEN TRIANGLE

NOVEMBER  
All copy, Oct 8  
Binding/Mailing, Oct 29

HOLIDAY ISSUE  
All copy, Oct 29  
Binding/Mailing, Nov 19

If your work is on computer,  
Please contact Bill Eberle  
on the "NET" at,  
[wre66@CSL.COM](mailto:wre66@CSL.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.

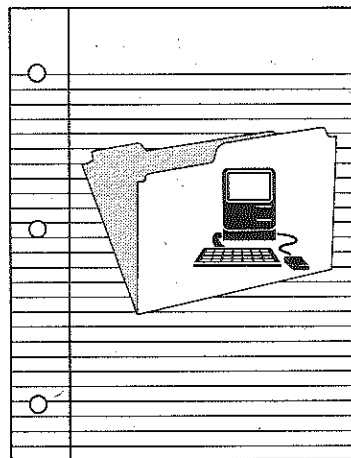
## About AYH

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

- October 1:** Annual Astro-Festival. See craters and mountains on the Moon. Moons and belts of Jupiter, rings of Saturn. Bring telescopes and binoculars. If cloudy, we show slides of planets and galaxies.
- October 8:** Cake and ice cream party.
- October 15:** (Also annual meeting and elections) Ralph Gurley, "European Sampler." Travel through England, Italy, France, Spain, and Switzerland.
- October 22:** Jim Ritchie, "Backpacking the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge". See the Atigun River Gorge and Philip Smith Mountains, in the Brooks Range.
- October 29:** We show the 16 mm film "Balloon Safari". Wildlife filmmakers in Kenya. Trying to fly over Mount Kilimanjaro at 25000 ft. Touch down in a lake, landing in a forest.
- November 5:** Halloween pizza and juice party. Bring witch or devil disguise.
- November 12:** Sara Zavos, "Day Hiking In The Cascades". This show features Mt. Hood, Mt. Rainier, and Mt. Saint Helen.

Slide shows start at 8:30 PM, at AYH Headquarters, Shady Avenue at Fifth Avenue. Doors open at 8:00 PM. If you want to give a show, call Luc Berger at 412-683-3131.

## Pittsburgh Council Hostels

Ohiopyle AYH Hostel  
Ohiopyle State Park  
PO Box 99  
Ohiopyle, PA 15470  
(724) 329-4476

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

HI-Pittsburgh Hostel  
830 E. Warrington Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15210  
(412) 431-1267





## ADOPT THE BAKER TRAIL

The Rachel Carson Trail is fully-covered by volunteers who have adopted sections of the trail for trail maintenance. The Baker Trail is about two-thirds covered, so we need about a half-dozen people who are willing to donate one weekend a year to put fresh paint on the blazes, trim away a little vegetation, and pick up the trash left along the trail. Qualifications are: you must be outdoors-minded; responsible; you show initiative, and don't need a lot of supervision; you're not afraid to get your hands dirty and want to make a small contribution in return for all the pleasure you've experienced on trails that someone else built for you. It's possible to do all your work in one day each year. If you are interested, call me, Jim Ritchie, 828-0210, and I will send you a map; you can check out the trail on your own; if you are still interested, call me again, and I will arrange to meet you on the trail to give you some supplies and provide about one hour of on-the-job training. Take a look at these:

1. Bethel Township Maintenance Building to Crooked Creek Visitor's Center. We need someone with a gentle and understanding disposition to steward this troubled section of the Baker Trail. You must be friendly, have a good smile, and be a good listener. The works been done for this year, but we need someone to hike through every 3 months or so to keep on eye on it. This section starts at the Maintenance Building and descend Cooks Summit to Route 66; go past the Llama Farm and then along Crooked Creek all the way to the Visitor's Center. Mostly wooded, off road. 60 minutes from the Highland Park Bridge.
2. Corsica to Mill Creek. Most of the work on this section has been done for this year. We need a physically capable volunteer to take it over for next year and, for this year, finish up some of the blazing along the road from Corsica to the point where the trail jumps off the road—about 1.5 miles. 90 minutes from the Highland Park Bridge.
3. Atwood to the Milo Weaver Shelter. This section follows dirt roads through the farm country of Indiana and Armstrong counties in the neighborhood of the Keystone Reservoir (Plum Creek Reservoir). Several Amish farms are along the way. Easy maintenance. 75 minutes from the Highland Park Bridge to Atwood.

Call Jim Ritchie, 828-0210.

### FALL EDUCATION CLASSES & PROGRAMS AT THE RACHEL CARSON HOMESTEAD

(SPRINGDALE, PA) The Rachel Carson Homestead announces a new season of educational programs and activities designed to advance Carson's message of understanding and defending the natural world around us.

Our popular "Science on Saturdays" family programs offer hands-on science and nature activities for the whole family to enjoy. Usually the third Saturday of each month from 1 - 4 pm. Space in these free programs is limited; call (724) 274-5459 to make your reservation.

#### Saturday, October 17 - "Batter Up for Bats"

Discover the true facts behind these misunderstood mammals that have mastered the science of flight. Ornithologist Bob Baldesberger takes a closer look at these warm-blooded, winged wonders. Come join us to clear up "your belfry" about bats!

#### Saturday, November 21 - "Amazonian Adventures"

No passport will be needed as we escape on a tropical adventure and learn about the brilliance and biodiversity of the Amazon rainforest. Naturalist Chuck Tague will lead you through a journey you won't forget!

#### Saturday, December 12 - "Holidays at the Homestead"

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of holiday shopping and enjoy the beauty and simplicity of the season. Walk amongst twinkling lights in the evening stillness, and enjoy holiday songs in the air as steamy apple cider warms you, all in this historic homestead decked out in old-fashioned Christmas décor. The gift shop will be open for last-minute shoppers, stocked with new items such as Lost Woods: The Discovered Writings of Rachel Carson. Children's activities will include making your own wrapping paper. Offered at a special time of 7 to 9 pm.

Adult classes will also be offered through the Fox Chapel Adult Education program at Fox Chapel High School. Call 412-963-9600 for a course catalog.

#### October 15, 22, and 29 - "Witness for Nature"

Executive director Mark Tomlinson will lead a historical survey course that covers Carson's life and includes a tour of the Homestead.

Beginning in November, A book discussion group will be launched in collaboration with Borders Books and Music in Northway Mall, with a focus on environmental history, natural history and nature writing. The group is expected to meet monthly.

For teachers and home-schooling parents, "Rachel Carson's Silent Spring", a one-hour documentary originally aired on PBS and featuring Meryl Streep as the voice of Rachel Carson, is available for purchase or rental. Lost Woods: The Discovered Writings of Rachel Carson (Beacon Press), edited and introduced by Carson biographer Dr. Linda Lear, is a new anthology of her never published writings and will be available in October.

The *Rachel Carson Homestead* is the birthplace and childhood home of ecologist and nature writer Rachel Carson (1907-1964), whose 1962 book *Silent Spring* launched the modern environmental movement. Born in this five-room farmhouse, Rachel Carson's childhood here in southwestern Pennsylvania nurtured a love and respect for nature and natural things which would guide her the rest of her life. *Silent Spring* warned of the dangers of indiscriminate pesticide use, and was recently named by Time magazine as one of the ten most important nonfiction books of the last one-hundred years.

Guided tours of the house and grounds are offered year-round on Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm and Sundays from 1 pm to 5 pm. Regular museum admission is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children. Senior citizen and group discounts are available. School field trips, scout badge programs, public outreach programs and historical talks are also available by reservation. The museum is located at 613 Marion Avenue in Springdale, Pennsylvania.

For more information call (724) 274-5459, or visit our World Wide Web site at [www.rachelcarson.org](http://www.rachelcarson.org).

### TOUR DE HARVEST WILDERNESS LODGE OCTOBER 9 - 11

Once more Don Hutchinson has agreed to lead us on an "easy to intermediate" ride on through vineyards, orchards and off roads in the scenic environs of North East, PA. Mountain or hybrid bike and a helmet are a must. A stop at a local winery (free samples!) and lunch on the shores of Lake Erie will also be featured. We will enjoy two overnights in the cozy comfort of Nansi Janes' Wilderness Lodge and dinner at one of the superb local eateries. There are many possibilities for an additional Sunday ride (on your own): Peek 'n' Peak, French Creek, and Findlay Lake. A road bike may be used on the trail at Presque Isle. COST: \$45 per person for AYH members, \$55 for non-members for bed in hostel-style room (3-6 persons). There are three private double rooms, two persons per room @ \$120 for members, \$140 for non-members. The cost includes Friday and Saturday night lodging. A varied breakfast menu is offered at extra cost. We usually enjoy a Singalong on Saturday night after dinner. Reserve early by calling the AYH office at 412-431-4910. Space is limited to 36 people. Send a check for the full amount payable to Pittsburgh AYH a.s.a.p. after your call to guarantee your space. There will be no refunds after September 15 unless a replacement for you is found. A waiting list will be kept. Fees include a non-refundable \$10 per person, or \$20 per double room.

For more information call Pat Rossi, 335-5067.

#### Wilderness Lodge Bicycle Touring Weekend October 10-11-12

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
AYH Pass #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Add: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/ST/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am driving and can take \_\_\_\_\_ passengers.

\_\_\_\_\_ I need help finding a ride. (We'll try!)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will drive and meet the group at Wilderness Lodge

#### Liability Waiver

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

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## HOSTEL HAPPENINGS

### NATIONAL BUDGET TRAVEL DAY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1998

Attend the World Travel 101 Workshop from 12 noon - 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 10 and learn how to plan a trip using hostels, both overseas and in the US. This and all our upcoming workshops are FREE!

National Budget Travel Day is held twice a year, once in the fall and again in the spring at locations all over the country. Over 40 different hostels and regional council offices of Hostelling International are now leading these workshops with more locations added regularly to help novice travelers learn more about budget travel and Hostelling International.

The Pittsburgh World Travel 101 Workshop will cover: planning an itinerary, evaluating transportation options, strategies for both saving and carrying your money, how to find accommodation, safety and more.

Inexpensive world travel IS possible! Come and learn how at the Pittsburgh International Hostel. A chance to tour the hostel will also be available on October 10.

National Budget Travel Day will kick off the Pittsburgh Council's fall and winter travel seminar series. Watch this space for more details. If you would like to volunteer on seminar days, learn how to present a seminar (training available), or have suggestions for seminar topics, please contact Holly Ridenour at the Pittsburgh International Hostel. As the weather turns colder, come inside our comfortable hostel and start planning your next trip and meet other people doing the same thing.

### SUMMER UPDATE

August business at the hostel was up about 15% over last year, largely because of brisk business in the final two weeks of this traditionally busy travel month. We are now listed in several guidebooks we weren't in last year which has also helped. While the increased business is great news, there is little doubt that the weak Canadian, Australian, and New Zealand dollars discouraged many of these enthusiastic travelers from coming to the US this summer and increasing our hostel's business even more. The most encouraging news is the number of repeat visitors we had and the people who said "a friend" told them about us. This is certainly strong evidence that the "grapevine" and that what hostellers are saying about our hostel is very good.

### RECENT COMMENTS FROM OUR GUEST BOOK

It has been a long year since I arrived in Pittsburgh, filled with some of the most challenging experiences ever to get the place "off the ground." But this past summer was easier than last. When looking back it amazes me sometimes what we've accomplished - so far - and what some of our guests have "left behind" to remind us why we're here.

*"Very good staff, very clean and comfortable place to stay. I wish all the hostels (were) like this one..." Los Angeles, CA*

*"Never seen nicer hostel before!"*

*"What a better and more inexpensive place to stay compared to the downtown hotel. I save on hotel, food, etc. It allows me to see more Pirates games each year!" Connecticut, USA*

*"The nicest youth hostel so far - great desk staff and a cool lift (elevator). Pittsburgh was surprisingly interesting." England*

*"This should be a model for all future hostels! Great staff, clean rooms."*

*I love this place!! Everything is just so awesome, specially the 4th floor!" Caracas, Venezuela*

*"You guys rock! What a great place to stay. I can almost feel the presence of Mr. Rogers in the air - there's all this giving spirit in the air. Thanks for the memories." Indiana*

In 1998, as of the end of August, we've hosted 1900 overnights stays, for a grand total of 3300 since we opened in 1997.

Feel free to drop by during our open hours and read some of the many, many other comments we've received or to find out to how you can help with the continuing endeavor of putting Pittsburgh and the hostel on the "map."

### MARKETING FOR WINTER BUSINESS

We have received some assistance from the HI-AYH National office to go after overflow budget and student convention business for the upcoming season. I would like to thank both Brent Mundt and Laura Radtke for their help in putting together some high quality marketing material and taking some of the work off our hands to get these materials on to the desks of convention planners around the country. We look forward to reaping the benefits of their efforts in the coming months.

On a local note, we ask for the assistance of our local members and friends, especially as the off season progresses. Keep us in mind whenever you are in contact with people in need of accommodation in Pittsburgh - whether it be visiting friends and relatives, church and social groups looking for a facility for a retreat, special events in town (bike rides, concerts, sporting events, etc.) Remember we have a special group rate for 10 or more people.

Remember that the hostel is also available for exclusive day use rental (with or without overnight stay) for meetings and special events at reasonable rates for for-profit and non-profit groups.

With your help the goal is to continue increasing the usage of our building. We're still a long way from selling out nightly as most major city hostels do. Spread the word!

*Holly Ridenour, Hostel Manager, Pittsburgh International Hostel*

## MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AT THE PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL TODAY!

The Pittsburgh Hostel has 50 beds available. If you or someone you know would like to stay, we'd be happy to make a reservation for you.

Individual HI/AYH members pay \$17.00/person/night for dormitory beds. Non-members may stay for an additional \$3.00/night.

Individuals can make a reservation for dormitory bed(s) by providing the following information:

### Pittsburgh International Hostel Reservation Request Form

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

Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Morning of Departure \_\_\_\_\_ # Nights \_\_\_\_\_

# Female Beds \_\_\_\_\_ # Male Beds \_\_\_\_\_

Include a check -OR-

VISA/MC/Discover # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

We have a 24-hour cancellation policy. You must cancel no later than 10 p.m. the night before your intended arrival date or your credit card will be billed for the first night's deposit. Government-issued photo ID required to check-in. Don't forget to bring your membership card!

Call the hostel directly for Family Rooms requests (limited availability). A surcharge and key deposit apply to these rooms.

Special Group Rate for 10 or more people. Please request a Group Inquiry Packet.

Need more information? We can send a copy of "Everything You Need to Know About Visiting Us" to you by email, fax or "snail" mail. Please call the hostel at 431-1267. You can send the reservation form above or request a copy of "Everything You Need to Know..." by fax or email. Our fax number is 431-2625. Email to [ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)

It doesn't get any bigger than 1998 for the Pittsburgh International Hostel. Lots and lots of Hostel Happenings. We plan on putting Pittsburgh and the Allentown area on the map with visitors from all over the world in the first full year of business. We look forward to seeing you here, especially if you can help us out in this exciting endeavor.

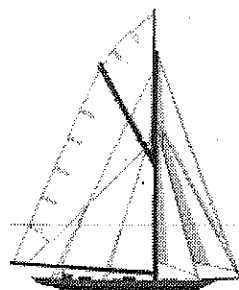
*Holly Ridenour,  
Hostel Manager, Pittsburgh International Hostel*

## SAILING

Individuals who wish to receive additional updated sailing program information via EMAIL should send a request to [RZavos@worldnet.att.net](mailto:RZavos@worldnet.att.net)

**October 10&11 Annapolis, Maryland**  
**Bob Zavos 412-241-0659**

**US SAILBOAT SHOW.** We leave very early Saturday morning and will stay a campground in the Northern Cheasapeake area. Optional day sailing may be available in a rented sailboat near Harve de Grace. Early Sunday we drive to Annapolis for the world's largest in-water sailboat show. Details are available on the web at: <http://usboat.com/shows/sbhomes.htm>. We return to Pittsburgh late Sunday. Exact itinerary is still flexible so call early. Basic fee is \$35/AYH members, \$40/non-members and includes show admission, overnight at a campground and breakfast. Outside meals and sailing fees are extra. Car pool fee will be \$20 per person. Reservations are required by September 24th.



## 1998 HI/AYH MEMBER DISCOUNTS

HI/AYH members with valid membership cards are eligible for following discounts. Full details can be found in the FREE and just-published 1998 HI/AYH North American Hostel Handbook.

**ALAMO CAR RENTAL:** Various discounts. Request plan BY 19998 American Youth Hostels.

**ANDY WARHOL MUSEUM:** Buy one admission, get a second (of equal or lesser value) free.

**MATTRESS FACTORY ART MUSEUM:** \$1.00 off admission and 10% off merchandise in museum shop.

**PITTSBURGH ZOO:** \$1.00 off admission.

**CITY BOOKS (Southside):** 15% off all used books; 10% off most new books (some exceptions); 10% off all espresso bar items.

**ALLEGHENY VALLEYS BICYCLE TOURS:** 20% off the regularly advertised price of any bicycle tour granted to current HI members.

**DANNY K'S DINER** (3 blocks from hostel): 10% off final bill to all HI members.

**PGH INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL:** \$17.00/night for dormitory accommodation.

Additional merchants will be offering discounts for 1999. Look for details here and in the 1999 North American Hostel Handbook due out at the end of the year. Thanks to the merchants who are offering discounts to our members. To HI-AYH members who live in the Pittsburgh area and to those passing through, remember these discounts are just another way to use your membership card!



# 1998 EVENTS PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL

Meet other HI/AYH members, hostel guests, and the public, see the hostel, and learn more about hostelling at the following events, either as a volunteer or participant in the activities.

During our normal hostel hours of 8 - 10 a.m. and 5 - 10 p.m. (we are closed during the day) the hostel is in the business of providing accommodation to its guests. For that reason only the lobby is accessible to non-guests during open hours and tours are not available without prior arrangement.

Tours of the hostel will be available at all events listed below.

## VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED THIS WINTER

Volunteers are needed for all the following events. Please call the Pittsburgh International Hostel at (412) 431-1267 to let us know how you can help make the 50th year of the Pittsburgh Council a great one!

## SABRE BICYCLE TOUR BENEFITS HOSTEL SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

To register for the ride: call our Hostel Office at (412) 431-4910-2493 or stop by the hostel for an entry form. Volunteers are especially needed to make this event a success. Call the hostel to volunteer.

## WORK PARTIES: SATURDAYS - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. Call Hostel Manager for dates

Clean Team will help maintain the hostel and help the hostel staff with the extras we never seem to have the time for. Bring a broom and gloves if you have them. Refreshments will be served.

Watch this space in 1998 or call the hostel at 431-1267 for more details on Hostel Events.

## BICYCLING

October 4 A/B/C/D Will 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 for an application or get one at AYH.

Oct 11-12 A/B/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.

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



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

Order one today! See the order form on the back page for prices.



## SEA-KAYAKING

Oct. 3-4 Vickie Gotaskie 344-4929  
Allegheny River, Franklin to Emlenton; Kayak Camping

Oct 9-11 Fran Fleming 363-1221  
Barb Peterson 371-2506

Eddie's Kinzua Fall Foliage Trip. Allegheny Reservoir; Kayak camping Experienced beginners. CALL for info or ffx@ibm.net

Jan. 2 1999 Russ Tague 331-2073  
Russ's New Years Paddle; Allegheny River or Non frozen alternate

NOTE: Canoes are welcome on most sea kayak trips. Check with trip leader.

## GELMAN & REISMAN LAW OFFICES

MARC S. REISMAN

1701 LAW & FINANCE BUILDING  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219-1503  
PHONE 412-288-9200  
1-800-883-1-LAW  
FAX 412-281-3530

## MID-WEEK RAMBLES

"Rambles" are casual Wednesday outings sponsored by the Pittsburgh Council of Hostelling International - American Youth Hostels. Most take place in and around the city of Pittsburgh.

The group meets at 10 a.m. (9:30 am during the summer) in the upper parking lot of Mellon Park in Shadyside, off Shady Avenue near the intersection with Fifth Avenue. Remember to bring quarters for the parking meters.

Trips are normally three to four miles in length, at a leisurely pace. Trips are always subject to change because of weather, conflicts of schedule, and the choice of the group. We do plan to walk in all kinds of weather, so please dress appropriately.

From time to time, we will schedule lunch at a restaurant or a brown bag lunch. These are optional.

We also try to carpool to save energy and to enjoy each other's company. For trips over 10 miles, please pay the driver \$2 per passenger.

Call the leaders listed below for information about a trip or to inform the leader that you plan to walk with the group (especially when reservations are requested or you plan to meet us at the trail head), but please call before 10 o'clock at night.

October 7 Margaret Laske 421-0922  
Frick Park. Bag lunch at Thelma Moroso's house.

October 14 Marge Patterson 823-4218  
Duff Park. Bag Lunch

October 21 Bill & Ruth Phoenik 279-5411  
Montour Trail at point Zero.

October 18 Marilyn Ham 687-4520  
Mystery Ramble

November 4 Ruth & Dick Fischer 421-9215  
Homewood Cemetery. Bag lunch at Joe Levine's house.

November 11 Earl McCabe 761-1844  
Uniondale Cemetery

November 18 Margaret Laske 421-0922  
The labyrinth at East Liberty Presbyterian Church. Call Margaret before November 11th to reserve lunch in church dining room. Bag lunches are welcome.

November 25 Happy Thanksgiving. No Ramble.

December 2 Billie Woodland 886-1603  
Downtown ramble. Lunch at Presbyterian Church.

December 9 Alex Federowicz 421-0922  
Churchill Valley Country Club. Bag Lunch

December 16 Dick Fischer 421-9215  
Shadyside walk. Bag lunch at Fischer's house.

December 23 Merry Christmas No Ramble

December 30 Joan Roof 351-2061  
Churches of Homestead

## HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL-PITTSBURGH COUNCIL AYH MEETING SUMMARIES

### Annual Council Meeting, October 16, 1997

The meeting was called to order by President Marianne Kasica at 8:30 pm at the Pittsburgh Council Activities Headquarters at 6300 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh PA 15232. Notice of the meeting was published in the October 1997 council newsletter.

Kasica noted that a quorum of the membership was present.

Secretary Lawrence Laude read the minutes of the October 17, 1996 annual council meeting and called for any corrections or additions. A motion to approve the minutes as read was made by Joe Hoechner and seconded by Fran Fleming. The minutes were then approved as read.

Kasica reported on the nominations for 1997:

President	Marianne Kasica	Directors	Marc Reisman (2000)
Vice President	Maribeth Hook		George Schmidt (2000)
Treasurer	Roy Weil		Kevin Swenson (2000)
Secretary	Larry Laude		Will Eberle (1999)
			Joe Hoechner (2000)

Kasica asked for other nominations and, hearing none, declared the nominations closed. A motion to elect the nominated candidates by acclamation was made by Fred Mauk, seconded by Joe Hoechner, and passed unanimously by acclamation.

Kasica gave a status report on the Council with emphasis on the opening of the Pittsburgh International Hostel.

Kasica offered thanks to the many volunteers both for the hostel and for the activities program. She gave special thanks to Joe Hoechner for his efforts in supporting the Pittsburgh Hostel and the Council and in particular for volunteering many hours at the Council office and Travel Center. Kasica presented him with a Pittsburgh Council 'Volunteer of the Year' polo shirt.

Kasica also noted that this is the beginning of the Council's 50th Anniversary. The celebration is being coordinated by Patty Scheuring, and everyone is asked to help out.

No other business was brought before the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm and was followed by a social hour and astronomy show.

*Lawrence Laude, Secretary*

### May 1998 Board Meeting

The difficulties with getting the newsletter out on time were discussed. This is due both to other commitments of the editor and well as late submittals from the activities and others. The board discussed the continuing decline in the activities program. Bob Zavos is intending to cancel the Activities Weekend due to low interest by both participants and activity chairs. The delayed May newsletter also contributed.

Kasica reported on discussions with the park superintendant on the lease for Ohiopyle Hostel. The draft lease is being sent to the state for approval and will be sent to us for signature. There will be a list of items requiring repair, including a requirement to connect to city water and sewage when available. Kasica also stated that we need to provide additional support and volunteer relief for the hostel manager.

Ridenour reported on the status of Pittsburgh Hostel operations. There have been 2,388 overnights to date. May overnights were much lower than anticipated, but it's not clear why. There will be an increased emphasis on marketing. Street signs are badly needed. The signs on the facade will be installed soon. A major water leak has developed in the southwest corner of the second and third floors and will need to be repaired. The window subcontractor is threatening legal action due to non-payment. A letter will be sent in response explaining that the subcontractor should be dealing with the general contractor and also that the work has not been completed.

AYH National reported that there has been an expression of interest in a privately run hostel in Erie and wanted to know if this would conflict with any Council plans for a hostel in Erie. The board decided it did not have the capability to explore hostel development in Erie at this time and that we should not object to development of a private hostel. There also has been continuing interest from an individual interested in opening a hostel in Wheeling.

There was an extended discussion and deep concern regarding the lateness of tax returns, the audit, and other required reports, and a desire to take prompt corrective action. Kasica will discuss with the Treasurer. No specific action was taken at this time.

### July 1998 Board Meeting

Kasica discussed the status of the Ohiopyle Hostel and the status of negotiations with the superintendent of the state park on the lease for the hostel. There is particular concern with the requirement in the draft lease to provide ADA access, to repair the roof, and to install water and sewer lines due to the expense involved. Continued operation of the hostel would not be feasible under these conditions. Generally, it was felt that the state park should be requested to provide external major maintenance, while the Council would be responsible for minor maintenance and any required interior renovations. Otherwise the terms of the lease are supportive. The president was authorized to continue with negotiations on the lease and to sign the lease provided that the responsibility for external maintenance and financial support be satisfactorily resolved.

Ridenour reported on the status of the Pittsburgh Hostel. Overnights are improving, and we are receiving good writeups in Let's Go and other budget travel guides. This weekend is Allentown Community Day and the Great Ride, and the hostel will be supporting both. The recently published volunteer newsletter is helping with volunteers. There needs to be better signs to help hostellers find the building. New staff has been hired. Much progress has been made on the construction punch list, although several significant items remain. Ridenour stated that without periodic financial reports from the Treasurer, it is difficult to say whether expenses and income are on target with projections.

National Staff (Blaine Franz) attended the meeting and stated that the National Office is particularly concerned with the failure of the council to file financial reports and tax returns and expects the board to take corrective action in order for the Council to retain its charter. Schmidt stated that this is the most important issue before the board, and that timely reporting is essential to the operation of the Council and essential for the board to meet its responsibilities for fiscal oversight. Following extensive discussion, it was moved that all data and financial records, including copies of any associated computer files, necessary to prepare the Council and partnership tax returns be provided to the President in order to obtain the necessary assistance in preparing the tax returns. It was also moved to authorize expenditure of up to \$5,000 for accounting assistance to file the Council and partnership tax returns.

The Board continued to discuss methods of getting the needed assistance. The possibility of hiring a part-time bookkeeper, subject to the availability of funding, was discussed. Franz suggested asking the National Office's controller for advice and assistance. Franz also emphasized the need to continue to require the filing of routine financial reports.

### September 1998 Board Meeting (unapproved)

Kasica reported on the Pittsburgh Hostel. The open items from construction punch list are finally being closed out. The remainder of the loan from the URA needs to be drawn down in the next few months. It is likely that the project will end up about \$8,000 over budget. The remainder, including the operating deficit for the first few years, will need to be made up by the council. Ridenour reported that we will continue to get rave reviews on the hostel, overnights and group business still are not meeting projections. Additional marketing work will be required.

The Treasurer reported that the tax returns for the fiscal year ending March 1997 have been submitted, and that he is working on the returns for the fiscal year ending March 1998. Financial statements were distributed and discussed. A motion to update the signatures on one of the money market accounts was approved.

Kasica discussed the final lease for the Ohiopyle hostel. The state has agreed to be responsible for roof repair, installing the water and sewer lines, and for ADA access to the building. AYH will be responsible for other maintenance and repairs and for internal modifications for ADA access. Any repairs necessary for the health and safety of staff and hostellers will be made as soon as possible. The board authorized signing the lease. The board also allocated \$12,000 for Ohiopyle repairs and renovations. Grants will be sought to help with these expenses. Overnights at the hostel will reach a record high this year. This is attributed to increased group overnights and to the growing use of the rail-trail.

Laude reported that he expects that the 3 bicycle events this year will bring in some \$8,000 for the Pittsburgh hostel.

The newsletter editor asked for help in finding advertisers for the newsletter.

The need for clean up and repair of the activities building was discussed. The board noted with gratitude that Ben Brugmans and Ron Boone had repaired the eaves on the building.

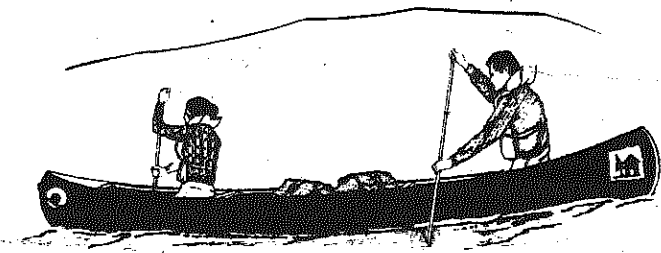


## CANOEING

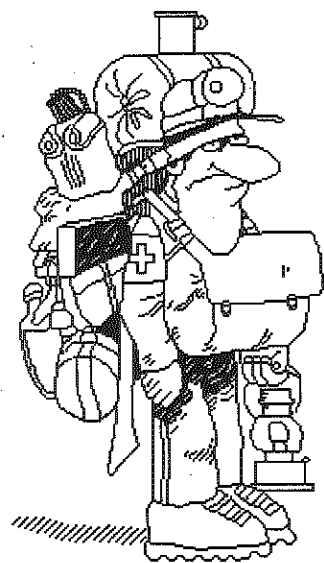
**Note: River Gages:** In addition to the river gage link to the army corps of engineers, the USGS has a site that provides this and other PA rivers including the popular West Branch Susquehanna and Pine Creek of the gorge fame. This link starts at [http://www.pah2o.er.usgs.gov/rt/rt\\_table.html](http://www.pah2o.er.usgs.gov/rt/rt_table.html)

## Upcoming Trips

- |   |                                |                    |                     |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>October 11</b>   | <b>Sunday</b>                  | <b>Joyce Appel</b> | <b>724-526-5407</b> |
| Paddle the grand river in Northeastern Ohio during their "Covered Bridge Festival." Class I daytrip or come for the weekend. Call for details.  |                                |                    |                     |
| <b>October 17-18</b>  | <b>Saturday &amp; Sunday</b>   | <b>Jon Maiman</b>  | <b>412-441-2306</b> |
| Class I-II Fall leaf trip. Call for details.  |                                |                    |                     |
| <b>October 30-November 1</b>  | <b>Friday evening - Sunday</b> | <b>Joyce Appel</b> | <b>724-526-5407</b> |
| Flatwater Canoe Camping. Paddle in your Halloween costume on the third annual "Masquerade Trip" down the Allegheny River. Join us for any or all days, meet us at the restaurant in costume, or spend an evening around the campfire. This trip is geared toward the fun of the season, so we will attend a haunted house or hayride in a small town along the river. Please bring a pumpkin to carve around the campfire. Call for details and reservations. |                                |                    |                     |



## HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS



- |  |                 |                         |                 |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>October 4</b>   | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>Allen Aliskovitz</b> | <b>781 3482</b> |
| Intermediate hike, 11 miles loop in Ohiopyle, of which 9 miles around Bockman's Rock and Sugar Loaf Mtn. <u>Sierra Club Hike (not an AYH trip)</u>   |                 |                         |                 |
| <b>October 10</b>  | <b>Saturday</b> | <b>Leo Stember</b>      | <b>681-1385</b> |
| Trail Maintenance, Rachel Carson Trail. We will probably work on high ground on the section between Crawford Run Road and Bailey's Run Road. Meet behind the Sheetz on Freeport Road just off exit 13 on the Allegheny Valley Xway (Route 28). Call Leo to let him know you're coming.   |                 |                         |                 |
| <b>October 17</b>  | <b>Saturday</b> | <b>Jim Ritchie</b>      | <b>828-0210</b> |
| Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail. Canceled due to schedule conflicts.  |                 |                         |                 |
| <b>October 18</b>  | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>Ed Divers</b>        | <b>828-5154</b> |
| Sugar Loaf to Confluence, part exploratory 8-mile hike. <u>Sierra Club Hikes (not AYH trip)</u>  |                 |                         |                 |
| <b>October 25</b>  | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>John Dern</b>        | <b>856-4642</b> |
| Hike 8 miles on the Baker Trail from Crooked Creek Dam to Cochran's Mill. <u>Sierra Club Hikes (not AYH trip)</u>  |                 |                         |                 |
| <b>October 31</b>  | <b>Saturday</b> | <b>Jim Ritchie</b>      | <b>828-0210</b> |
| Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail, Odds 'n' Ends. Today we will jump to a variety of locations, putting a fresh coat of paint on the blazes before the winter sets in. We'll probably visit several of the following locations: Heathville, Bethlehem Chapel, Redbank, McCrea Furnace, and Crooked Creek. If we're out late, we can stop for dinner on the way home. If we're done early, we'll track down some apple pie and coffee.   |                 |                         |                 |
| <b>November 1</b>  | <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>Luc Berger</b>       | <b>683-3131</b> |
| Easy 5-mile hike in the highlands of Penn Hills, See views from Lookout Mtn., and Halloween ghosts. <u>Sierra Club Hikes (not AYH trip)</u>  |                 |                         |                 |
| <b>November 7</b>  | <b>Saturday</b> | <b>Jim Ritchie</b>      | <b>828-0210</b> |
| Trail Maintainer's Holiday (like the Bugler's Holiday, Busman's Holiday, etc.—get it?). The Baker Trail is in pretty good shape. With a great year in the bag, let's go hiking on someone else's trail. Hiking only, no work. Let's go to the Laurel Highlands and do a loop hike near the old Laurel Mountain ski area. This will be an 8-mile hike; intermediate difficulty. The hike will leave at 8:00 am from AYH Headquarters. Call Jim for more information and reservations. |                 |                         |                 |

1999 Rachel Carson Trail Challenge  
Let's Get Started!!

Well, this is it. This is the call for volunteers to stage the 1999 Rachel Carson Trail Challenge (RCTC). If we get 25 volunteers by Thanksgiving, we'll go ahead with the Challenge. If not, it will be put under wraps for yet another year.

For those of you who don't know, the Challenge is a one-day, 34-mile endurance hike, starting at North Park and ending at Harrison Hills Park near Freeport. The Pittsburgh Council, Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels (HI-AYH) sponsors the event, held on the Saturday in June closest to the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. There will be 15 hours and 4 minutes of daylight available for hikers to complete the course, requiring a minimum pace of about 2.25 miles per hour. Hikers are self-contained and support is minimal; each person carries their own water, food and snacks, and any other gear that might be necessary on the trail: first aid, raingear, etc.

The first Rachel Carson Trail Challenge was on June 22, 1996: of 90 hikers attempting the entire 34 miles, only 5 finished—and they finished just as the last rays of the sun peeked over the horizon. The second Challenge, on June 21, 1997 had 77 hikers signed up to do the entire course, but this time there were 27 finishers!! Why the difference? There were probably three factors at work: (1) the temperature was 3 degrees cooler the 2nd year; in 1996 it reached 93%, in 1997 it only went up to 90%; (2) the course went from west to east in 1996 and reversed from east to west in 1997; (3) many of the 1997 finishers had experience in 1996 and refined their strategy for 1997.

The Rachel Carson Trail is a 34-mile long, primitive hiking trail. The trail is famous for its roller-coaster hills following the contours of Allegheny County up and down gas lines, power lines, through woods and fields, across streams, and up on the high bluffs overlooking the Allegheny River. Starting (or ending) in North Park, the Trail goes through the Hampton Nature Reserve, skirts Hartwood Acres, meanders across Indiana Township passing by Emmerling Park, up Rich Hill, down LaFever Hill, through Springdale, Frazer, Fawn, and Harrison Townships, ending in Harrison Hills County Park. Along the trail you will find brambles, nettles, Japanese knotweed or elephant ear, poison ivy, mud, dirt, dust, scree, talus, fallen trees, washed-out stream banks, devil's walking sticks, and a multitude of even more imaginative challenges.

So, if you would like to help out and be a part of the RCTC-99 team, give a call and let us know. Call Jim Ritchie at 412-828-0210 or Leo Stember at 412-681-1385. Call today or at least be sure to call before Thanksgiving.

## 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:** Thule car roof rack system. Rain gutter mounting feet w/ locks; 50" cross bars; two upright (front wheel on) bike racks; four vertical ski holders. Exc. condition. \$150 for everything. Call mike at 412-268-8830 (day) or mkb@cs.cmu.edu 7/98

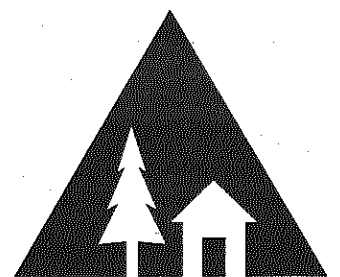
**FOR SALE:** PUR Pioneer Water Filter Small, light weight, and easy to operate. Used only once. Best Offer. Call Don at 412-824-3534 7/98

**For sale:** Sailboat. American classic O'Day Widgeon 15 ft daysailer w/ trailer and 2 sails. Blue/white in good condition. Will deliver. \$975 or best offer. Call 800-813-6336.

**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:** Tent - Sierra Designs "Clip-Flashlight", 2 person, superlightweight, footprint, extra pole, excellent condition, \$125. Sleeping Bag - North Face Littlefoot, Polyester, child/small adult, 20 degrees, excellent condition, \$60. Call 724-337-1366.

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



**HOSTELLING  
INTERNATIONAL**

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

The Pittsburgh Council Travel Store is open Mon. 10 to 4, Wed. 11 to 6 and Fri. from 10 to 4. Hours are subject to change, so it's a good idea to call the office at 412-431-4910 before coming in. We're in the Pittsburgh Hostel at 830 E Warrington Avenue in Allentown. All passes, ID cards, rail passes, and books are available.