



PROPOSED HOSTEL AT McCONNELL'S MILL

tion of hostellers in the program. He was asked by Marshall Stalley and Drs. Netting

Sometime around November of last year John Matthews, Chairman of our Board of Directors, attended a meeting regarding the development of the McConnell's Mill State Park and the participation

and Lewis of the Department of Forests and Waters if we would like to assist them in the scouting, locating and blazing of trail through the park. In return for the services rendered we were offered the use of one of the buildings in the park as a hostel.

Then the Activities Board, after hearing the reports of various investigating groups, voted to accept the proposal with all its advantages and responsibilities. They asked Betty Bierer to act as our liaison with State Park authorities.

Preliminary scouting trips have already gone out to mark the trails, and a work party is due to go up soon to put shutters on the windows of the building in the first step in the plan for its repair. Vince Roelf has volunteered to obtain estimates on work to be done, and several others have promised their tools and hands for the job. (which may take several years according to calculations)

Now the Activities Board must appoint a hostel chairman whose sole task will be the drawing up of a long-range plan and the organizing of committees for each of the projects: glazing windows, cleaning the well, etc.

(continued on page 2)

Justine Cline--Field Trip Visit

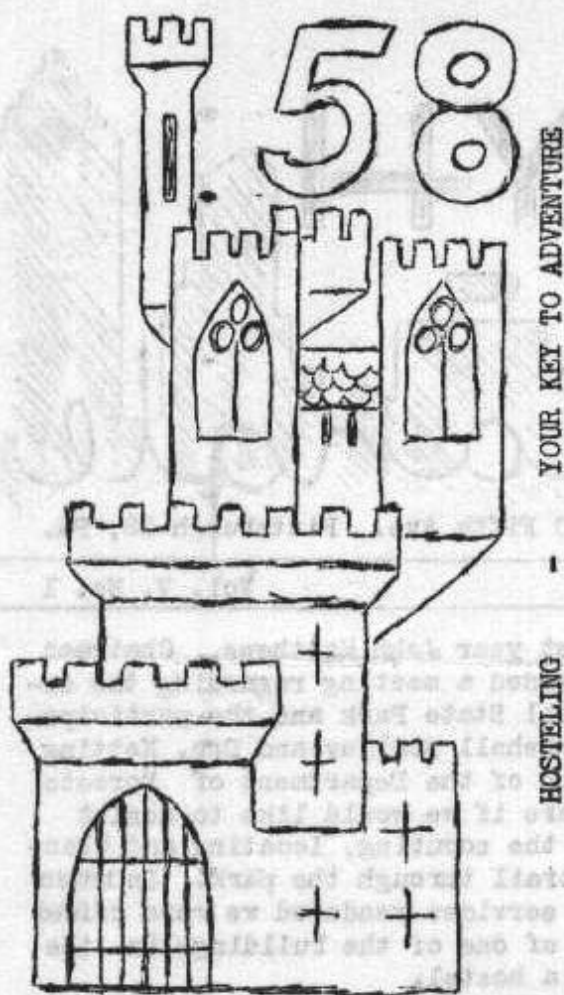
"The sloppy thinking and the sloppy attitudes toward exercise prevalent in our country today are real causes for alarm. Why should we have to put up with parents who say, 'You're crazy to want my child to go out on a day like this'....parents who are only reflecting the general opinion of so many others."

So spoke Justine Cline, Executive Director of AYH, at last Thursday's meeting of Advisors and council members in the Commons Room of the Arts & Crafts Centre.

"It is one of our jobs as hostellers to try to convince people that our program is not only good for them, but fun also. We have to change their attitudes, for all people need the challenges that hosteling affords in order to test themselves, otherwise, they will live only partially up to their real capabilities."

Not only this meeting (and slide show) was worthwhile...the one with the Activities Board the evening before proved highly profitable. Officers of the Council had a number of problems which Justine offered constructive suggestions toward solving.

We were glad to have had him here; glad he had a chance to meet our Advisors: Allen E. Risedorph, J. S. Rosenson, Joseph L. Schlosser, Dr. E. L. Peterson, Gilbert Love, W. T. Evans, Frank S. Curto, Bernard J. Henstock, and also John Matthews.



HOSTELING - YOUR KEY TO ADVENTURE

A.Y.H. opens exciting doors, gives you the thrill of discovering warm and friendly people wherever your bicycle or foot path take you.

A.Y.H. knows what to see and knows how to cover a tremendous variety of places and experiences.

To qualify for an A.Y.H. trip, you must be ready to spend your vacation traveling simply, living ruggedly (hard beds, cold water, vigorous exercise) and willing to do your part to make the trip successful. You must hold a valid A.Y.H. Pass or buy one when registering.

You never can be too old to go on trips, but you must be at least 15 for all trips in the U.S. and Canada and 18 for all other trips.

See the partial listing on the opposite side of this page.

COPY OF TRIP FOLDER IS ON BULLETIN BOARD AT H.Q.

WESTERN NATIONAL PARKS - Camping and cycling beginning at San Francisco and Portland: five weeks, leaving July 7 and July 14. \$360.00

TRANSCONTINENTAL ROLLING HOSTEL - Traveling in a specially-fitted railroad car, camping and cycling; starting points--New York, Cincinnati and Chicago; leaving June 21, June 28 and July 5 for 8 weeks. Cost: \$535.00

MEXICO - 7-Wk. bus and walking trip, leaving Laredo, Texas on June 30 and July 7. \$335.00

EUROPE - Via bicycle and train, a choice of eight different trips from 4 to 11 weeks long costing from \$625 to \$835. (see folder)

EUROPE VIA VOLKSWAGEN - 4 trips: Continental Circle, Iberian Holiday, Scandinavian Special, Mediterranean Odyssey. \$750 to \$775.

SPECIAL FEATURE: JAPAN - Travel by rented bicycle, train, and bus for six weeks in the fascinating Orient. Cost: \$1125.00.



Although not part of a chain, the proposed hostel has a number of attractions:

1. It will be in a State Park, fairly out of reach of cheap commercialism. The park itself will be maintained by the Commonwealth in its natural wilderness state, with an extensive network of trails and beautiful scenic gorge.
2. The location is within two miles of the proposed lake in the Muddy Creek area, where there will be boating, fishing and swimming.
3. Cycling from Pittsburgh will be possible in a day's journey. Being accessible to public transportation, the place will be ideal for local hostellers who can't get away for long vacations elsewhere.

The site has historical value.



PASSPORT PICTURES - In order to improve the appearances of passport pictures, the State Department has ruled that color photographs will be accepted beginning February 1 of this year. The same specifications regarding size and background as now apply to black and whites (still good) will apply.

The color photos provide more accurate identification, illegal substitution is more difficult, and furthermore, the State Dept. says, they are more appealing.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Pittsburgh Council, A.Y.H.

celebrating the occasion at the
TENTH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

February 22, 1958 at 6:30 P. M.

Bigelow Room - - - Royal York Apts.

Dinner Meeting \$4.35 Square Dancing

Visitors From Abroad

You'll probably remember what fun it was entertaining Isolde Enze, of Switzerland last year, on her visit as part of the European Leadership-Scholarship Program.

In 1958, for the tenth year AYH National is preparing to welcome five Hostel Leaders who will be representing their respective associations in the program.

Coming here to Pittsburgh will be Jacques Laurent from Belgium. He will be prepared to speak on hosteling in his own country and will probably bring along movies or colored slides of activities in his local region. He is 24 years old, single, is a sales agent for a Congolese Mining Company. His interest in hosteling and scouting has led him through most of Western Europe. He represents the Walloons, one of the two official Y.H. groups in Belgium. He lives at:

19 Gustave Demeurslaan,
Huizigen, Belgium

As a winner of a scholarship, he will have his trans-Atlantic transportation expenses Training Course fees, plus miscellaneous travel and emergency costs, paid by National. The total estimate is \$675. To fulfill the balance of the program local Councils like ours will contribute toward his traveling expenses.

If Jacques Laurent proves as interesting a visitor as have the leaders in other years, we are in for a treat when arrives some time after May 11.

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**HAMPTON HIGH YOUTH HOSTEL CLUB** - The project they're working on now at the school is the decorations for our annual banquet. Word has it that the centerpiece and favors are very unusual and attractive....we can hardly wait to see them. We hope the officers at least can be at the banquet.

## A Warm Welcome to- our most recent PURCHASERS OF PASSES



Harry Rhule  
Eleanor Wagner  
J. D. Myers  
Jerry O'Leary  
Helen MacGregor  
Ralph Weaver  
Elizabeth Weaver  
Herman Webke and Family  
Sam Spiegler  
Michael Pollak  
Hugh Gilmour  
Madelin Miles  
Lee Pezzuti  
Joan Schewe  
Ralph Ludington

### A.Y.H. HANDBOOK for 1958

--which everyone  
gets with a pass  
--is due to be  
published May 1.

## NATIONAL

MEETING -- REPORT

At the National Meeting of the American Youth Hostel in Pottstown, Pa., Mr. Henry W. Trimble, Jr. Secretary of IBM, was elected National President. In accepting the office he said it will be his aim to develop a nationwide sponsoring committee of leading citizens to support the extension and development of youth hostels and trip programs, both at home and abroad.

Tony Pranses was re-elected to the Board as one of the vice presidents. Betty Bierer was retained on the Board--her term is two years.

Among the measures agreed upon were:

- The present three-day limit of stay at hostels could be extended with permission of the house-parents.
- Foreign students or those with temporary visas would be encouraged to hostel by having to pay a 50¢ instead of the usual 75¢ overnight fee.
- Plans were laid for the celebration of AYH's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1959.

## INTERNATIONAL

**INTERNATIONAL YOUTH HOSTEL RALLY AND CONFERENCE** - On August 13-16, 1958 the I.Y.H.F. Rally will be held near Brussels, site of the gigantic World's Fair. On August 17-22 the IYHF Conference will be held at Diest, Belgium. Delegates from 49 countries will attend. In addition to excursions in the attractive moorland country around Diest, there will be a day's trip by special train to the World Exhibition in Brussels; a display of folkdancing and folk songs by various youth hostel teams will be given in the Esplanade of the Fair. (The first ASIAN Youth Hostel Conference will be held in Japan this coming April.)

**PAKISTAN** - In the Himalayan foothills last November the building of a new youth Hostel was completed at Sharan in Kaghan Valley more than 2,000 metres above sea level. The hostel has 32 beds and is situated in a beautiful fir forest. Nearby are numerous peaks of 3,000 - 4,000 metres, so the hostel is sure to be a popular resort for mountain climbers.

**UNESCO PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION** - The German National commission for UNESCO is sponsoring a European photo competition, open to participants under 25 years of age. Among the subjects which may be selected is, "Young People in Their Spare Time," showing youth hostel activities. The prizewinner from each country will be given a free 10-day tour of Western Germany. Further details can be obtained from the National UNESCO commissions in all countries.

**INTERNATIONAL CARAVAN** - Europeans and Americans alike are invited to join the trip, sponsored by National, through Northeastern United States and Canada, leaving New York on July 8 for four weeks. Going by station wagon and by camping you will share the experience with hostellers from all countries.





## Letter to the Editor

It appears from the latest communique from Metropolitan New York Council that it has added a new dimension to hosteling by approving the use of motor scooters.

We have been wondering what logic has been employed to include the scooter as a means of "traveling under one's own steam." Is it because the scooter is so unreliable that the hosteler is off, pushing, more than he is on, riding? Perhaps out west here we are behind the times...we think motor scooters still have gasoline engines. Perhaps the latest models take a cue from the historic Stanley Steamer and are really run by steam. In that case each operator is literally operating "under his own..." and is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a cycling hosteler.

This new policy must immediately introduce a whole host of problems: What name does one give it, scooting or scootering or, in honor of its sponsor, Vespa-ing?

The AYH Handbook will have to add a new section on, the etiquette of scooting; FIRST AID for scooters; planning a scootering trip (two canteens will become standard equipment...one for water, one for gasoline.) Future conferences will have to settle such burning questions as what a hosteler should do if he runs out of gas...will he be allowed to hitchhike to the nearest gas station? Will hostels be equipped with gasoline pumps and grease pits?

We can only hope the MNYC is open to the suggestion that they reconsider their hasty decision to allow scootering as a legitimate form of hosteling. We are afraid that since they are held up as a model to emulate, their decision will go a long way toward taking AYH off its feet and setting it on its gas-powered cans...wheels.

(signed) Myra Retort



SPEAK OF THE DEVIL, or....

GUESS WHO  
just popped up?

"Don't tell him I told you, but I saw the same, the identical same loden cloth coat that Jack Paskind brought back from Europe down at Seig's for only.....anything you want for camping: packs, tents, insect repellent, they have"

"If that slave driver Nancy Evans thinks I'm going to wash dirty pots every time we have sticky oatmeal, she has another think....What's the distance to the next campsite? I hope we have time for a swim before dinner--"

"Believe me, whoever voted for Mount Fitzpatrick for Treasurer ought to have his head examined. You'd think that pinchpenny was getting the money out of his own pocket.....charge everybody a nickel extra on all trips so we can buy that oriental rug for the office--"

"7:30! 7:30! I'll have to get up in the middle of the night to make it! Charles Richardson must be off his rock....at the side door and don't forget my mess kit. I left in your bar on the last trip--"

"Franny would kill me if she knew I was telling you this, but it is so funny I can't keep quiet. One night I went out to the john and there she was, peering down through one of the holes at a burning flashlight below.....one of the best weekends I ever spent at a hostel. We oughtta have more jointly-sponsored trips!"

Joan Walczak and Henry Rodriguez were married Feb. 8 in Ellwood City. They will live in Washington, D. C.

AYH welcomes a new friend from Wales, Iona Roberts.

Maybe we can get some helpful hints for hostelers planning a trip to England...it's a lorry, not a truck; cream comes in a jug, not a pitcher. It's fun---try it!

From time to time the cheerful face of Navis Walker shows up at H.Q.

Lois Ann Wagner is learning to use her dad's power tools...her present project is a cobbler's bench. Good luck,

Lois!

---Ruth Stacklin

Miscellany

Dear Gloria,



Box 243  
Sun Valley, Idaho

---I'm back for another season with hopes of finally learning to ski. My waitress job has only evening hours, 4:15 to 12:00 P. M., which leaves all day for the slopes. Couldn't be better. Every so often I meet a person who recognizes the A.Y.H. patch on my sleeve.

On the way up here I stopped at Las Vegas, Nevada. Honestly, what a town! People stand side by side for hours throwing pennies, halves, silver dollars into those slot machines, 24 hours a day. Blackjack, roulette, what-have-you, and with Christmas carols being played in the background. The disease is easily caught for I found myself putting my loose change into those crazy machines, mostly pennies cause they last longer.....

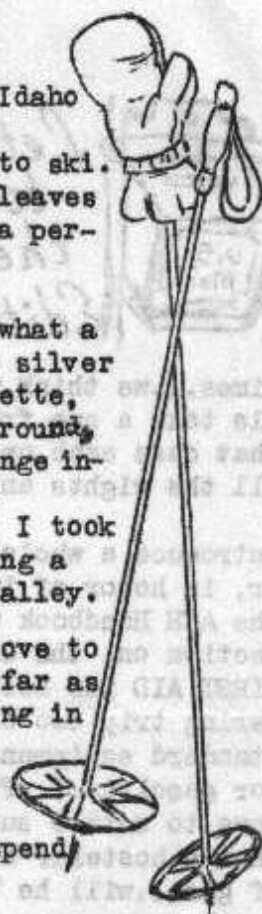
I took a bus ride out to the plush nightclub "strip" wandering around, taking a few pictures...took a three-day Grand Canyon Tour then came to Sun Valley.

---I do wish you could manage a trip out here, Gloria. I'd love to take you down Baldy. The first two weeks in January are best as far as small classes go. And the spring weather! Some persons were skiing in their shirt sleeves....

Love,

Betty Beck

(Note: Maybe it was this letter...but Gloria Fisher has decided to spend two weeks at Sun Valley in March.)



## HOSTEL NEWS NOTES

**NEW ZEALAND** - A report from Auckland states that a youth hostel has been opened on the South Sea island of Fiji, over a thousand miles north of New Zealand. The organizer is a Mr. Sinha of the Ba Pharmacy, Ba, Fiji. There are six beds and a members' kitchen available for travelers.

**UNITED STATES** - During 1957 AYH membership increased 6%; overnights 27% ahead; sponsored trips made a 6% gain.

**Ski Lodge Youth Hostel** - To meet the need for a good-sized ski hostel, AYH leased the Greenmount Lodge near Mt. Bromley, Vermont. Facilities are excellent: oil heat, hot showers, good beds. Cost for overnight and two meals is \$4.50 with your own sleeping bag. Write Mr. John Harttel, Greenmount Lodge Youth Hostel, Peru, Vt. AYH pass and \$2.00 a person per night is required for reservation. (Incidentally, AYH is negotiating for a floating youth hostel in Philadelphia. Like the idea?)

**Leader's Training Courses** will be held on June 8 to 17 and June 18 to 28 at Matamoras Pennsylvania. Those interested in trip leadership for 1958 should write Enid Garby, new AYH Travel Director. Assignments are still being made.

**BENELUX** - The hostel associations of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg are collaborating to produce a common handbook for 1958 in place of the former one for each country. Send orders to Nederlandse Jeugtherbcentrale in Amsterdam.



# TRIPS & TRAILS

SCHEDULE OF TRIPS FOR MARCH AND APRIL, 1958

March 1, Sunday - GEORGE WASHINGTON HIKE HERE near Camp Jumecville, so the locale has much historic interest. Our hike will be about 5 miles, led by Eileen Hagan, Ho. 1-4556. Meet 9:30; cost \$1.75.

March 8, Saturday - HAMPTON HIGH'S HOSTELING CLUB try their hands (thirty of them) leading a trip in the vicinity of Allison Park, Gibsonia.. Check with Nancy Evans, Fr. 1-7609 for details.

March 15-16 - Do-It-Yourself Trips: Gather a bunch of your buddies and go on a favorite excursion; talk it up on Thursdays...there's always somebody willing to go, OR join a work trip to McConnell's Mill (Betty Bierer) OR help set up the stoves in the Headquarters building (Vince Roof) OR get your bike in shape and yourself in condition for the first bike trip on April 13.

March 23, Sunday - PROGRESSIVE DINNER-Hike from Point Breeze going east, with stops at six places along the way for tasty tidbits prepared by the chef of the house, one for each course. We'll begin at Ruth Stacklin's...the remainder will be a surprise. Limit 36 people. Cost around \$1.25. Reserve with Ruth at Em. 1-3842. (Comfortable shoes a must)

March 30, Sunday - Looking for the first signs of spring on a HIKE TO CHESTNUT RIDGE around South Connells-ville in a section not before explored by the hostellers here. Check the postal card for starting time and price.

April 6, Sunday - EASTER (anyone for a stroll to the Spring Flower Show)

April 13, Sunday - No, it's not too early for a BICYCLE TRIP! This one will be led by Jack Paskind, veteran of European cycling trip, cyclecrafts chairman, two-bike owner, etc. Reserve on Thursdays or call Evans City 4-442. You can rent a lightweight bike if you have none of your own....it's \$1.50 a day, or else, you can buy one in our cycle shop. See Jack.

April 20, Sunday - HIKING IN SCENIC WEST VIRGINIA, where the views are second only to those in Pennsylvania. It's a one-day trip so we'll be leaving early. Bring lunch, meet at Headquarters with your cameras. Cost: around \$2.75. Leader: Chas. Richardson

This is a poll---a ski poll---to find out what your interest is in a European Ski trip for the Winter of 1959. National's Travel Department wants your comments so they will know whether or not to plan on this type of trip for next year.

The cost, based upon a 3-week period including meals, overnights, roundtrip air fare, Continental transportation, tows or lifts will be approximately \$475-500.

Check off your preferences and give the slip to Gloria Fisher so she can write and let them know someone from Pittsburgh Council is interested in such a trip.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

IDEAL LENGTH OF TRIP:

AREA:

DEPARTURE DATE:

---Ten Days

---Austrian Tyrol

---Christmas, New Years

---Two Weeks

---Switzerland

---February---March

---Three Weeks

---Mont Blanc area in France

# Openhouse

every THURSDAY at 8:15 P. M.

(On February 20 we'll have pictures of the lake country of England and Scotland..... Fred Monks, formerly of Sheffield, England now working at J&L, will show them.)

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL  
american youth hostels, inc.  
6300 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh 32, Pa.  
Ch. 1-0362



Form 3547 requested

Betty Bierer  
326 N. Neville St.  
Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

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