



GOLDEN TRIANGLE

American Youth Hostels, Pittsburgh Council

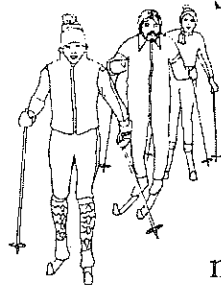
Hostelling International, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping all people, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling.

VOLUME 45, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER/JANUARY 1995/96



Features



Snow is filling the air, as well as covering the trails and it is time to make tracks,

cross-country ski tracks that is! Reserve a spot for one of AYH's three annual Winter Weekend Getaways at Wilderness lodge. Space for these trips always sells out early so make your reservation TODAY. Give one as a gift to that special person in your life or just treat yourself to a needed break at a tranquil snow covered mountain lodge with some fellow AYH'ers... See page 4 for details.

HI-Pgh hits the information super highway, point your favorite browser to;



<http://info.pitt.edu/~marianne/ayhpg.html> for the latest on activities, slide shows & local hostelling. This is one bookmark your browser shouldn't be without!!!

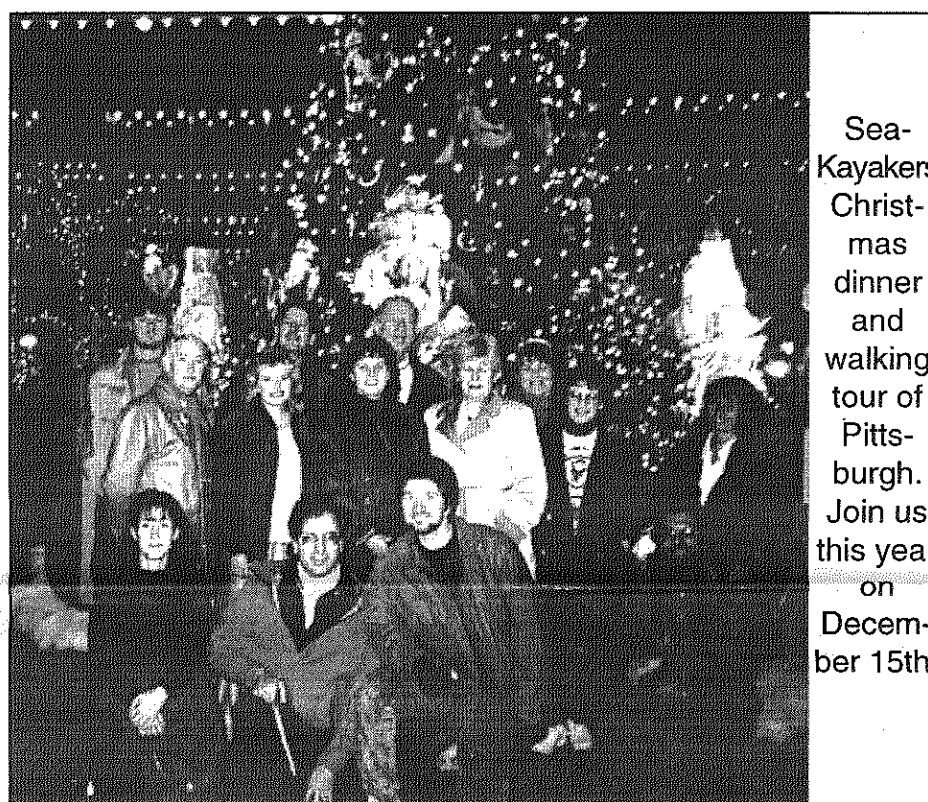
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.....And MORE!!!

Annual Holiday Party

Once again the Pittsburgh Council annual Holiday Party will be held at the home of Barbara Hanusa, 6966 Edgerton Ave in Point Breeze. This year it will be on Thursday Dec. 14. As in previous years, all attending are encouraged to bring a treat to share. We will be meeting at HQ at about 7:00 pm to warm up and the caroling "hike" to Barbara's house will leave at about 7:30. Volunteers are needed to "lead" the hike as well as to transport the goodies to Barb's house by car and shuttle people back to HQ. To volunteer or to ask questions call Marianne at 665-9554.



Sea-Kayakers Christmas dinner and walking tour of Pittsburgh. Join us this year on December 15th.

NOTICE

Please note that due to circumstances beyond our control, there was no "November 1995" issue of the Golden Triangle. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this has caused.

Also Please note, that the Golden Triangle has changed its frequency of publication. the new schedule is as follows.

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.
Number 10 issue -> Dec. / January

Deadlines for submission will remain as always the first Thursday of the month preceding the month of the publication (i.e., the first Thursday in January for the combined Feb/Mar issue.). Please consult page two of the "GT" for the actual dates of upcoming deadlines or call the office at (412) 422-2282.

Editor...

OHIOPYLE WORK PARTIES

Watch for party dates throughout the Year.

Please help volunteer for our Ohiopyle Hostel clean-up parties. If you can volunteer a few hours of your time to help paint, move furniture, clean, wash windows, do yard work or whatever talent you have, it will be very much appreciated. Free lunch for all volunteers and also, you can stay overnight for free but you must make a reservation in advance. We're also looking for some donated items: (Upright Piano, refrigerator and crib). We will meet at headquarters at 8:30 AM. and will be back around 6:00 PM.. Call the office to leave your name and number if you would like to sign up and our work party coordinator will contact you!

*ANY VOLUNTEER WHO WORKS 6 WORK PARTIES WILL RECEIVE A FREE OHIOPYLE SWEATSHIRT.
* ANY VOLUNTEER WHO WORKS 6 WORK PARTIES WILL be eligible for the "OHIOPYLE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR" AWARD
--Wm Eberle, Ohiopyle Director of Operations.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Make A "News Eve Resolution"!!!

Do you have extra hours to donate to the Council? Current volunteer opportunities in Pittsburgh Council are listed below. Contact the person listed or leave your name and telephone number at the office (412-422-2282).

Continued on page 4

AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
5604 SOLWAY STREET
PITTSBURGH, PA 15217

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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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Triangle Staff

Managing Editor ... Wm. Eberle
(412-574-2025)

Copy Editor ... VACANT
Mailing Labels ... Roy Weil
Production ... Don Hoecker
Advertising ... Wm. Eberle

Council Officers

President ... Marianne Kasica
(412-665-9554)

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lou Conley (98)
Wm. Eberle (97)
Joe Hoechner (97)
Maribeth Hook (98)
Marianne Kasica (98)
Larry Laude (98)
Terri Lorince (95)
VACANT (96)
Marc Reisman (97)
Roy Weil (96)
Ray Yutzy (96)
Bob Zavos (97)

Office Staff
(412-422-2282)
Jenny Swerdlow
Lisa Dugas

Oops...

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

MATERIAL...

All material to be published, should be sent to the address below. It Can be submitted on Disk in either IBM or Macintosh format, sent E-mail. or Type written. NO EXCEPTIONS. Call if you have questions.

Mail regarding this Newsletter should be addressed to:

American Youth Hostels
The Golden Triangle
5604 Solway ST.
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
Office: (412) 422-2282

**PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
ACTIVITY CHAIRS**

Chairman of the Activities Committee
VACANT###.####
Canoeing
Paul Henry 962-1511
Cross Country Skiing
Steve Tubbs 279-4866
Cycling
Wm Eberle 574-2025
Chuck Ejzak 466-6196
Family Activities
Barbara Hanusa 441-7205
Hiking / Backpacking
Veronique Schreurs.....422-0358
VACANT###.####
Kayaking
VACANT###.####
Ray Yutzy..... 341-5682
Midweek Rambles
Cliff Ham 687-4520
Rafting
John Orndorff 741-2021
Rock Climbing
Eric Bauer 687-0766
Sailing
Joel Hough 727-2807
Bob Zavos 241-0659
Sea Kayaking
Mark Mistrik344-8665
Alpine Skiing Coordinator
Wm Eberle 574-2025
Trail Systems
Glenn Oster 364-2864
Jim Ritchie 828-0210
Headquarters Programs
Luc Berger 683-3131
VACANT###.####
Storekeeper
Wm Eberle 574-2025

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

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

NOTICE

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

Feb / Mar
All copy, Jan 5
Binding/Mailing, Jan 26

April
All copy, Mar 2
Binding/Mailing, Mar 30

If your work is on computer,
Please contact Bill Eberle
@ 833-9732 or
76202.3051@Compuserve.com

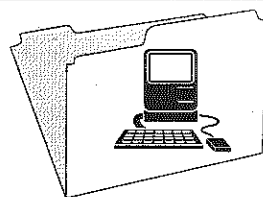
Moving?

If you move, or have any subscription problems, please notify us right away. Returned mail costs 52 cents for each piece, so we can save money if you let us know about any changes in your address. You can also phone in changes to the office at (412) 422-2282.

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
- 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"

December / January Slide Shows

Dec. 7: Glenn Oster, "Hiking In The Black Hills Of South Dakota"
Dec. 14: Holiday Caroling And Party. MEET AT 7 PM at Headquarters.
Dec. 21: Fred Mauk, "Devil's Sinkhole, Goodyear Blimp, Etc.". Early AYH trips.
Dec. 28: Christmas Holidays; no show.
Jan. 4: New Year Holidays; no show.
Jan. 11: Bob Madjaric, "In Photography, It's Nice To Fool Mother Nature". Amazing images of the natural world, captured with Bob's unusual equipment.
Jan. 18: Leo Stembler, "Kenya And Madagascar".
Jan. 25: Bruce Sundquist, "Rafting On The Yampa And Green Rivers In Colorado And Utah".
Feb. 1: Marilyn Ham, "The Netherlands By Bike And Barge".

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

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

Ohiopele AYH Hostel
Ohiopele State Park
PO Box 99
Ohiopele, PA 15470
(412) 329-4476

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

Charleroi Youth Hostel (SA)
Rego's Hotel and Restaurant
601 McKean Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
(412) 483-6200



Pittsburgh Council Board Meetings

The Board of Directors met
on July 18, 1995 at the Pittsburgh Council office.

Susan Lami, the architect for the Pittsburgh Hostel Project, presented an update on her plans for the building and received feedback from the board. * John Orndorff was appointed as rafting chair. John has been involved in rafting as a chair and trip leader in the past and is coming back to get rafting trips started again. *

Plans for renovating the bathrooms and shower area at the Ohiopyle hostel were discussed. * The date for the annual council meetings and elections were set for October 19th.

The next board meeting will be on September 19th, with another meeting to follow in November.

*Larry Laude,
Secretary*

AYH Sheet Sleeping Sac.... 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.



Pittsburgh AYH is accepting pledges and donations for the Pittsburgh Hostel.

Our Fundraising efforts are escalating to foundations and will include corporations as well. If any member is involved or knows of someone involved with these groups we would appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to let us know. Having a contact person really helps to get some attention. We need to raise a ton of money for this building and we need all the help that we can get.

Thanks for your interest and help.

Clip out the coupon below and make your pledge today.

Yes, I would like to make a pledge of support for a
Hostel in Pittsburgh in the amount of:

- ☐ \$2500
- ☐ \$1000
- ☐ \$500
- ☐ \$250
- ☐ \$100
- ☐ \$50
- ☐ Other: \$ _____



Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Mail your Pledge to:
AYH
Pittsburgh Hostel Fund
5604 Solway St.; Pittsburgh, PA 15217
412-422-2282

Annual Council Meeting October 19, 1995

The meeting was called to order by President Marianne Kasica at 8:25 pm at the Pittsburgh Council Activities Headquarters at 6300 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh PA 15232. Notice of the meeting was published in the October 1995 council newsletter.

Joe Hoechner agreed to act as secretary since Secretary Larry Laude was unable to attend. Hoechner noted that a quorum of the membership was present.

Kasica read the minutes of the November 10, 1994 annual council meeting and called for any corrections or additions. A motion to approve the minutes as read was made by Glenn Oster and seconded by Joe Hoechner. The minutes were then approved as read.

Kasica read the slate of candidates as presented in the October 1995 newsletter and asked for any nominations from the floor. Hearing no nominations, the nominations were closed.

A motion was made by Michel Fougères and seconded by Hoechner that the slate of candidates be elected unanimously. The following candidates were then elected by unanimous voice vote.

President	Marianne Kasica
Vice President	Maribeth Hook
Treasurer	Roy Weil
Secretary	Larry Laude
Directors	Lou Conley (1998)
	Marianne Kasica (1998)
	Maribeth Hook (1998)
	Larry Laude (1998)

Kasica gave a status report on the development of the Pittsburgh Hostel. There have been some delays due to funding sources but it is still planned for a summer 1996 opening.

Kasica offered thanks to the many volunteers both for the hostel and for the activities program. She gave special thanks to Jim Ritchie for his exceptional work on the Baker and Rachel Carson trails for maintenance and volunteer coordination and awarded Jim a 'volunteer of the year' shirt. Additional thanks were given to Chuck and Lynn Ejzak for 10 years work on the Mon Valley Century and to Bill and Jackie Eberle for 5 years of work on the SABRE ride.

No other business was brought before the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm and was followed by a social hour.

Joe Hoechner, acting Secretary

Youth Hostels in Europe

by Michel Fougères
INTERNET:mf0w+@andrew.cmu.edu

Between Luxembourg and Brussels, excellent trains run just about every 2 hours. You travel from a country where they speak German, French, English and Dialekt to one where they speak mostly French & Flemish, a local flavor of Dutch. The Flemish have always had a "affinity knack" to muddle through in German even without any formal training in that language. This ability gave them a tangible advantage over the Walloons during the German Occupation of WWII. For that reason and many previous and succeeding years of intense rivalry, there is no love lost between the French-speaking Walloons & the Flemish-speaking Flemish.

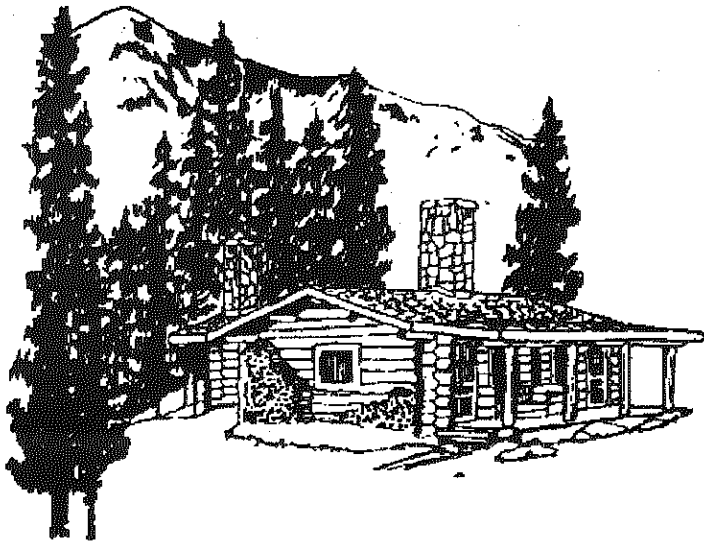
Vast numbers of Flemish manage to speak English fairly well while much fewer Walloons do. Certain alarmed Belgians will confide to you that "Brussels is fast becoming an all-Flemish-speaking city." Not quite, but since a number of years ago, when a law made it mandatory for all public servants to know both French and Flemish (at least in Brussels), many more Flemish than Walloons, it appears, obtained the coveted public servants positions.

If you are a foreigner & you speak English rather than French to Flemish people, generally they will like you (possibly treat you...) better. But one should not exaggerate: even in all-Flemish towns like Bruges, Gand or Antwerp, to cite just those 3, lots of (Flemish) inhabitants speak fluent French. In supposedly all-Flemish Youth Hostels, the staff will speak with you in English or French if needed.

When I arrived at Brussels, it was my intention, if possible, to stay at the JACQUES BREL hostel, "the newest & best", I had read.

Continued on page 7

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI WEEKENDS... AT WILDERNESS LODGE



Jan. 26-28
Feb. 2-4
Feb. 16-18

If you like your lodging rustic, and your ski trails tacked and groomed, these weekends in the Erie snow belt are for you. Nansie Janes' Wilderness Lodge is a perennial favorite of AYH cross-country skiers who enjoy miles of groomed trails. Peek'n Peak is

within skiing distance for those who want to ski downhill trails. After skiing come back to the lodge for a warm fire and your favorite beverage.

The cost of the weekend includes Friday and Saturday night lodging, a family style dinner Saturday evening. Vegetarian meals are available upon request. Breakfast and lunches are available at the lodge at an additional but reasonable cost. Rooms are mostly hostel style with 3-6 people in a room but there are three double rooms available for each weekend. Space is limited to 36 people per weekend. Cost does not include transportation, we will try to assist with carpooling.

Cost: \$55 per person for members and \$65 for nonmembers for the weekend for singles. \$130 per room (two people/double bed) for members and \$150 for nonmembers. Trail use is \$7. per day. Please be prepared to purchase trail tickets at the lodge.



Reserve early by calling Jenny at the office at 412-422-2282 to make reservations for the weekend you want. Send a check for the full amount ASAP afterward to guarantee your space. Make checks out to Pittsburgh AYH. We will keep a waiting list in case there are cancellations.

Please note: there will be no refunds after 21 days before each trip unless we can get a replacement for you. All weekend fees include a non-refundable \$10 per person.

Also: Feb. 16-18 is President's Holiday weekend, you may wish to make your OWN arrangements with Nansi to stay the extra day.

Wilderness Lodge Getaway

Name: _____

AYH pass #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Weekend:
[] Jan 26-28 [] Feb. 3-5 [] Feb 17-19

Enclosed is a check for: \$ _____

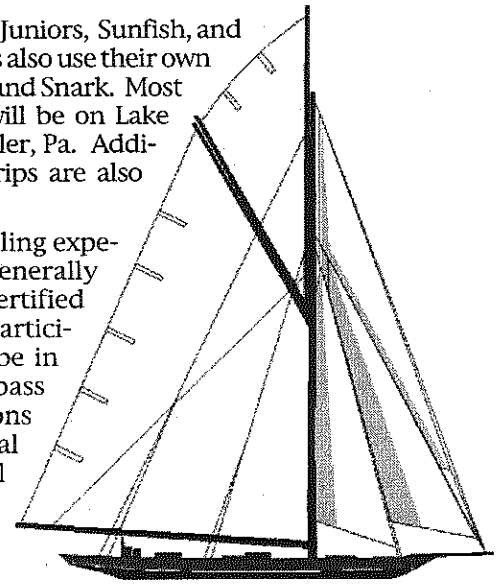
- [] I am driving and can take _____ passengers.
[] I need help finding a ride. (no promises but we'll try to help)
[] I will drive and meet the group at Wilderness Lodge.

Mail to:
Wilderness Lodge Trip
Pittsburgh AYH
5604 Solway St.
#202, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217.

SAILING

The AYH fleet includes: Flying Juniors, Sunfish, and an International 470. Several members also use their own sailboats including the Laser, Force 5, and Snark. Most of our day sailing trips and classes will be on Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park near Butler, Pa. Additional weekend trips and extended trips are also planned.

All trips require previous sailing experience unless otherwise stated. This generally means a minimum of a Red Cross certified Basic Sailing Class or equivalent. Participants for all sailing activities must be in good physical condition and able to pass minimum Red Cross recommendations for swimming competency. Personal Floatation Devices are required on all trips. Trip fees are \$13 per person per day plus the AYH activity fee (\$1 member, \$3 non member).



Day Sails at Lake Arthur

Sailing at Lake Arthur will resume in April or May, 1996

Racing Days at Lake Arthur

We will be racing our International 470 with the Moraine Sailing Club (MSC) in 1996. The 470 is one of eight sailboat classes used in the Olympic Sailing events. If interested in Sailboat Racing please check our schedule early next year.

Sailboat Maintenance

We will be working on several maintenance projects in the off season and can use help. Projects include rebuilding boat racks at Watts Bay, sailboat patching and painting, changing the standing rigging cables on the FJ masts, and possibly rigging new lines and sails. This will be an excellent chance to learn new skills and help out the sailing program at the same time. Call Bob Zavos at 241-0659.

Sailboat Rentals

AYH Sailboats may also be rented on a daily basis to AYH members who assist in the sailing program or current year sailing class graduates. These individuals must have demonstrated sailing ability plus be completely familiar with rigging and de-rigging our boats as well as caring for sails and hardware. Individuals who rent boats will be responsible for any damages. Daily fees are Sunfish \$25; Flying Junior \$30, International 470 \$40. Call Bob Zavos at 241-0659 for info.

Extended Trips

Jul. 27-Aug. 4, 1996 Sat. - Sun. Bob Zavos 241-0659
Olympic Sailing Events; Olympic Sailing ticket sales for Savannah harbor events have been delayed until February, 1996. We have also obtained a few tickets to some of the track & field events in Atlanta at the end of the previous week. Anyone interested should call as soon as possible due to the long lead times required for accommodations.

EASTERN PA HOSTELS

by Susan Thompson, Delaware Valley Council

Buy a brick for Bowmansville Hostel in Pennsylvania Dutch Country. They cost \$5 each and will go toward the renovation work at the hostel. Call Delaware Valley Council at 1-215-925-6004 for more information.

Delaware Valley Council is looking for a manager for Ironmaster's Hostel. We are also looking for substitute managers for our other hostels. Call Susan Thompson at Tyler Hostel at 1-215-968-0927 after 6 pm.

Tyler Hostel is offering a Lenape Village experience. The Village teaches about Indian life in the Delaware Valley. A \$30 fee includes hostel overnight and 4 hours instruction in the Indian village. Call 1-215-968-0927.

LaAnna Hostel reminds you that the autumn colors are in full glory and that the ski season will soon start. Call 1-717-676-9026 for a reservation.

Evansburg Hostel invites you to stay at the hostel during the autumn season. Call Beverly Levitsky at 1-610-489-4326.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED... from cover

*Southwestern Autumn Breeze Bicycle tour; Bill Eberle, 833-9732

*The Great Ride, Bicycle tour; Larry Laude, 665-9554

*Weekend bicycling trip leaders; Wm Eberle, 833-9732

*The Mon Valley Century bicycle tour; Chuck Ejzak, 466-6196

*MS-150 Bicycle tour; Bill Eberle, 833-9732

*Hostel development and fund-raising; Marianne Kasica, 665-9554

*Ohiopyle Hostel support and work parties; Jacky Eberle, 833-9732

*Travel and Hostel Editor for the newsletter, Larry Laude, 665-9554

*Office help answering phones and assisting hostellers;

Larry Laude, 422-2282

*Leading Pittsburgh Council trips; Wm Eberle, 833-9732

*Scouting trails for the next Hiking Guide Joe Hoechner, 422-2282

*Slide shows at the Thursday Open House; office, 422-2282

*Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail;

Jim Ritchie, 828-0210

*HQ Maintenance, minor routine maintenance on a regular basis.. 1-2 people are also needed to coordinate the work, track of volunteer time and to report on HQ to the board and to identify any problems or required major repairs. If you can help as little as one hour a month, please call Larry Laude at 665-9554.

BEES ON THE BAKER TRAIL**(Brushwacker Bruised by Big Buzzing Bees on BT)**

-by jim ritchie

Three organizations working together completed 172 hours of trail maintenance work on the Baker Trail over the weekend of September 15-16-17. Pittsburgh AYH, the North Country Trail Association, and the Butler Outdoor Club, joined together to tackle some tough trailwork on the six miles between the Allegheny National Forest near Marienville and Cook Forest State Park, near North Pine Grove. **Jim Ritchie** of AYH and **Brian Koehler** of the NCTA and the BOC co-organized the effort, attracting 16 trail maintenance volunteers using chain saws, brush hogs, weedwackers, loppers, bow saws, draw knives, and painting Baker Trail yellow and North Country Trail blue blazes that cut a path through an especially troublesome area along the two trails.

Volunteers included **Mort Kurman** and **Dee Garvin** (who smuggled pie out of the Bucktail Inn), **John Stein** (who came all the way from Hershey), **Brenda Adams-Weyent** (our personal ranger in the ANF), **John Weyent** (who loaned us Brenda), **Patti Scheuering** (who drove 600 miles on Saturday to work with us on Sunday), **Stevie Jones** (best man I ever saw on the draw knife), **Ted Pavicic** (who ran the hog), **Ed (WeedWacker) Comstock**, **Sue Ritchie** and **Billy Woodland** and **Kate Fissell** (painters extraordinaire), **Bob Roth** (who played the chain saw all day Saturday), and **John Farina**, who came down from Clarion University. Accommodations were in the extremely pleasant "Girl Scout" organized group campground, graciously donated by the Cook Forest State Park people, especially **Greg Burkett**, **Rich McKenna**, and **Gene Hart**.

What about the bees? On Saturday, the two work crews were up and out not long after the crack of dawn, on the trail, wacking and lopping and blazing and hogging and what not. The South Crew, working in Clear Creek State Forest, just past the northernmost swinging bridge (there are two) across Maple Creek, was wacking their way through a barely-blazed-at-all, armpit-high-brush open meadow when Ed weedwacked his way right over the top of a nest of yellow jackets (wasps) whose nest was a hole in the ground. Needless to say, they were just a little unhappy and promptly stung four of our party. Good soldiers that they were, the four stingeers grit their teeth and continued onward. On the way back out, we painted a dead tree stump with the word "bees" as a warning to all who follow.

The North Crew, who started within the Allegheny National Forest proclamation boundary, did some extensive work all the way to the junction where the BT meets the NCT and from there, proceeded both to the south toward Highway 66, and to the north, cleaning out some very confusing trailblazing along the NCT, probably left behind by two or three uncoordinated groups which had worked independently in past years.

Just so you know that trail maintenance is not all work and no play, I'll let you know we all went out for dinner, in small groups and bigger groups, at the Vowinkel Hotel in (how did you know?) Vowinkel. The food was good, the prices were good, and the company was the best. Brian provided the entertainment as he tried to pretend he didn't know who owned the truck in the parking lot with its lights on. When we gave his secret away, the restaurant crowd was hushed as all eyes in the restaurant were on him, as he got up and strode to the door to take care of the lights.

This may be it for big TM projects this year. As I write, the only stuff left is to spruce up the BT near Mahoning Creek Lake for the Armstrong County Fall Foliage Hike (October 14) and **Kirk Slater** already went through that with a chain saw last week. **Cindy Rogers** of Indiana, says her section is a "go". Keep your eyes to the Triangle, though, next spring, and watch for our trail maintenance events to be announced. Try it once; it's fun—it's like being outdoors and not being in a hurry to go anywhere; you get to enjoy where you are for awhile. See you then.

T-SHIRTS ARE IN!!! T-SHIRTS ARE IN!!! ATTENTION: ALL TRAIL MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS

-by jim ritchie

If you are an Adopt-a-Trail volunteer for the Baker Trail or the Rachel Carson Trail, you may remember some mention long ago that someday we may even have our own T-shirts. That day has now come: we have spanking new bright color T-shirts for all our TrailWorkers. The Baker Trail shirts are bright orange with bright green lettering and the Rachel Carson shirts are just the reverse: bright green with bright orange lettering. The colors are consistent with the official trail patches, also available at AYH (sew one on your backpack). The bright T-shirts serve to identify our TrailWorkers while you are out on the Trail.

To help me get all the shirts out, please give me a call at 828-0210; let me know you need a shirt, give me your shirt size, and at the same time, you may want to update me on anything new on your trail section. Shirts are free to all Adopt-A-Trail volunteers and are available for \$7.80 by mail or \$6.30 in person. The cost is \$5.88 for the shirt, 42 cents tax, and \$1.50 for mailing costs.

HIKING / BACKPACKING

Sat Dec 2 - Sun Dec 3

Claire Bunker 244-9788
Intermediate hike on Appalachian trail in Central PA: 13 miles each day. Stay at Iron Masters hostel. Meet at HQ Saturday at 7 a.m., return late on Sunday. Call for info & a reservation.

Sun Dec 10

Veronique Schreurs 422-0358
Short intermediate hike (5 miles) in Duff Park in Murrysville. A few steep hills. Call for info & a reservation.

Sat Dec 16

Joyce Appel 526-5407
Paul Henry 962-1511
Intermediate hike on Shenango trail in Mercer county along an old canal tow path of the Shenango river (historic & scenic.) Call for info & a reservation.

Sat Dec 16

Donna Allen 372-2993
Hike in the Laurel Mountains, explore some unused PA turnpike tunnels. Bring a flashlight. Call for info & a reservation.

Sat Dec 30

Steve Nydes 661-9357
Intermediate hike, destination to be announced. Call for info & a reservation.

Sat Jan 6

Joyce Appel 526-5407
Paul Henry 962-1511
Hike or X-country ski, possibly in game land near Moniteau (Butler Rte 38) or near Kittanning. Call for info & a reservation.

Sat Jan 13

Steve Nydes 661-9357
Intermediate hike, dependent on the weather. Call for info & a reservation.

Sun Jan 14

Veronique Schreurs 422-0358
Short intermediate 4 or 5 mile hike in Duff park in Murrysville. If there is enough white stuff, snowshoe 2-3 miles. Call for info & a reservation.

Sat Jan 20

Joyce Appel 526-5407
Paul Henry 962-1511
Hike or X-country ski somewhere. Call for info & a reservation.

Postcards from Helen Coyne

Joe and Cheryl Hoechner recently sent us postcards they've received from our own **Helen Coyne** as she travels by bicycle around the world.

Saturday, September 16th

Greetings from Crete- My how time flies! We are in Greece and I am finally getting around to sending my first post cards to my AYH friends in Pittsburgh. We have been travelling in Greece since the last week of August. Our plans are to do some small-island hopping from here (Crete), ferry to Turkey and return to Athens by late October to fly to Delhi, India. I have seen a lot of Europe - including England, Holland, Belgium, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Italy, and now in Greece. Tough bicycling in Greece - very mountainous! I'll try to send post cards more often. Say hello to all Pittsburgh AYH for me. I think of you all often.

Saturday, November 4th

Hello from Agra India. We arrived in Delhi India on October 22 after spending 5 weeks in Greece, including the islands of Peloponnese, Crete, Rhodes, Kos and then back to Athens to fly to Delhi. From Greece, we took a ferry to Turkey, rode bicycles from Bodrum (west coast) north to Izmir, a mini-bus tour of Pamakkale region and Cappadocia area. This tour of Turkey took approximately 3 weeks before we went back to Greece. Tomorrow on the bicycles again heading to Nepal and, time permitting, will do a trek in the Himalayas before we fly from Katmandu to Bangkok on December 2nd.

New Student ID Discount for 1996

Travellex, the world's largest operator of passenger-terminal Bureaux de Change, offers a commission-free foreign currency service to all ISIC ("student ID card") and ITIC ("Teacher ID card") holders. Also available is the Travellex Buy Back Guarantee. Exchange the equivalent of \$500 or more in a single currency, and on return ISIC/ITIC holders can exchange up to 30% of their unused currency at the same exchange rate that they bought it, commission free. Travellex services are available at airports and retail outlets in Australia, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom. Just look for the Mutual of Omaha / Travellex logo and present your ISIC/ITIC.

Call **Pittsburgh AYH** to get your student/teacher ID card as well as the Hostelling International membership card/hostel pass.

SEA-KAYAKING

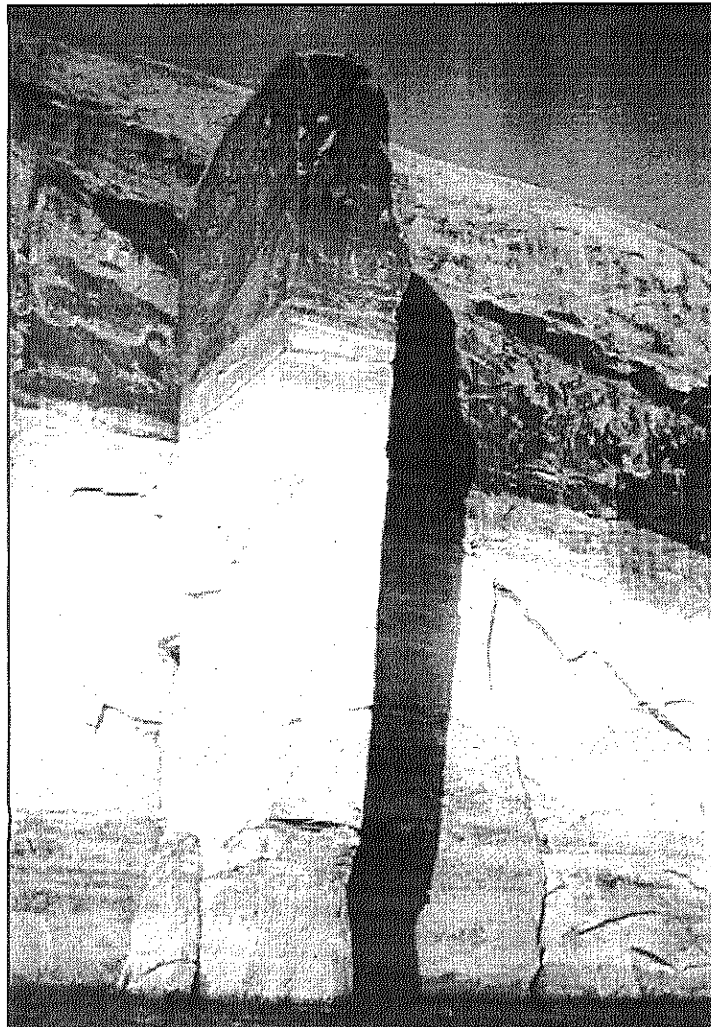
Sea-kayaking day, weekend and evening trips will start again next March and there should be one or more trips offered each week by summer. The following are the most ambitious trips in the 1996 sea-kayaking schedule. The remaining details will be discussed at the monthly dinners. These trips are open to anyone with sufficient skills to safely enjoy them, and it is fully possible to prepare for them in time next year, even if you have never kayaked before. Call if you would like more information; Mark Mistrik @ 344-8665 / 624-3446.

Friday evening December 15th.

Annual Christmas dinner at Station Square followed by caroling and a walking tour of downtown Pittsburgh to see the lights & store windows. Chocolate Fondues traditionally finish off the evening. Everyone welcome. For info call Vickie Gotaskie

Late January 1996

Sea-kayaking trip to sunny Florida. We're working on the details at the dinners. Call Ed Ostrovecky @ 224-1419 for info.



Typical redstone canyon architecture - pillar near the entrance to forbidden Canyon, Utah.

MAINE / NOVA SCOTIA

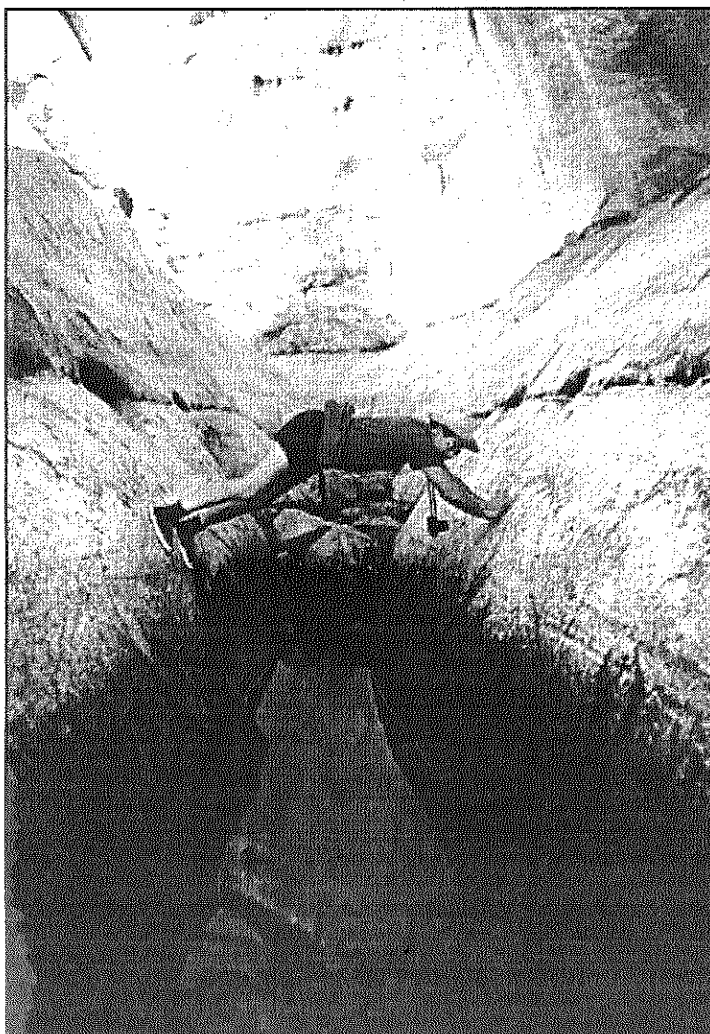
Probable date: Mid-July 1996

The exact destination(s) of this trip has yet to be decided. Options include going up to attend the Atlantic Coast Sea-Kayaking Symposium (probably the best and certainly the most famous gathering of sea-kayakers in the world), circumnavigating Isle au Haut in Acadia National Park (considered one of the most scenic spots on Earth) and/or going northeastward to Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Highlands (a place so Scottish, Nova Scotia got named "New Scotland"). At any rate, the nature of this trip will be as much cultural as physical - We'll visit the towns and villages as well as go for day paddles and hikes.

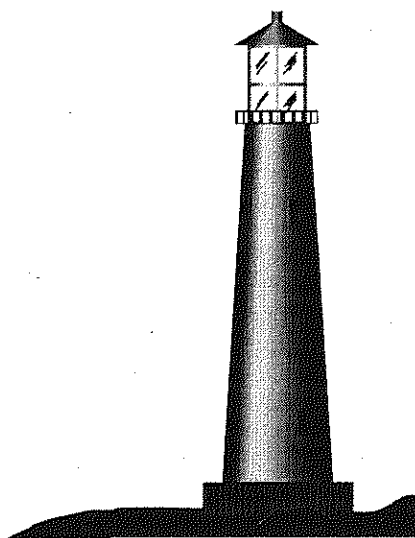
GLEN CANYON RECREATION AREA (LAKE POWELL), Southern Utah

Probable date: Late September 1996

Lake Powell is the 150+ mile long sinuous lake created with the damming of the Colorado - the same river that gives us the Grand Canyon - just South of the Utah-Arizona border. It's full of the scenery that makes Utah famous: tall buttes & mesas, deep gorge-like redrock canyons, Indian ruins and vast horizons. Watch the sun rise & set, lighting up the rock to a glowing red and casting interesting shadows. Camp in secluded spots along the canyon's edge. Swim in the warm lake water or relax on sandy beaches. Hike up narrow slot canyons, climb along the rocks or search for Indian ruins & artifacts. We'll use a houseboat on Lake Powell to travel from canyon and to carry food and gear. Then, using the kayaks you can explore the nooks and crannies of each canyon. This is the easiest of the week-long trips. We'll get to Lake Powell via a passenger van, stopping along the way to see many points of interest.



Pittsburgh AYH member Ben Brugman exploring a slot canyon at Lake Powell



Easter Weekend 1996

Sea-kayaking and sightseeing in Charlestown, South Carolina and vicinity. This is a historic and very scenic area to explore on foot and by Kayak. See one of the last remnants of the "Old South". Early reservations will be required. Attend one of the monthly dinners or call Mark Mistrik @ 344-8665 for information.

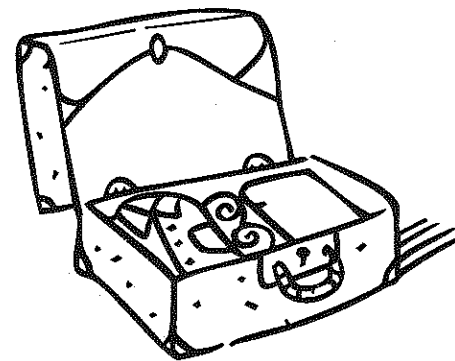
KILLARNEY PROVINCIAL PARK, Ontario, Canada

Probable date:

Early to mid-June 1996

The most technical and challenging of next year's trips - this will be a 6 day / 5 night self-contained wilderness journey into Killarney Provincial Park at the Northern extreme of the Georgian Bay. This is a land of ancient mountains and water so beautiful it attracted the attention of Canada's Group of Seven Artists. Ultimately, their paintings went on to inspire the creation of the preservation. As an added attraction, the drive up includes sightseeing along the Bruce Peninsula, a ferry ride on the Chi Cheeman ("Big Canoe") out of Tobermory, and a drive across Manitoulin Island. On the way back, We'll come down the eastern shore of the Georgian Bay, looking for future Paddling destinations.

Thirty Ways to Improve Your Travels



Whether you are new to independent travel or a seasoned wanderer, this 30-point list will help you avoid some of the problems of being on the road internationally. What do you think? Would you add anything? Leave anything out? Let us know. Write to "Thirty Ways" at the council office or e-mail lll@telerama.lm.com. In the meantime, Happy Travels!

Top 10 Things to Bring Along

1. Passport
2. Moneybelt
3. Credit card with PIN number
4. Travelers Checks
5. Durable travel backpack
6. Travel guidebook
7. Camera with plenty of film.
8. Hostel membership card
9. Combination lock
10. A sense of humor

Top 10 Travel Tips

1. Don't take anything you can't afford to lose
2. McDonald's have clean restrooms
3. Pack light
4. Keep an open mind
5. Take overnight trains to save money on lodging or night flights to save on airfare
6. When you're wandering around lost and confused, try not to look like you're lost and confused.
7. Avoid illegal drugs
8. Dress in layers
9. Wear a moneybelt at all times
10. Keep copies of your passport, travelers checks, prescriptions and other important documents in a safe place

Top 10 Health Items to Bring

1. Immunizations
2. Health insurance
3. Prescriptions only in labeled bottles
4. Band-Aids
5. Cold capsules that work for you
6. Extra pair of glasses and lens prescription
7. Sun screen
8. Water purification tablets (check your destination for other health hazards)
9. Roll of toilet paper
10. Insect spray

(from the North Texas Council newsletter)

"HOSTELS IN EUROPE" continued

But when I telephoned, a haughty voice promptly turned me down with some kind of an aristocratic French accent: "I regret, Monsieur, but we are all booked up for the season!" At the JEAN NIHON hostel, the phone was dead or the house full or closed, I don't remember. Finally, at the "all Flemish" BRUEGEL, they said yes there were rooms, indeed, in the dorms. (Very small dorms, maybe 20 beds at most in each.) So I took myself to that hostel. It is centrally located, at a small walking distance from the BRUSSEL CENTRAL train station — and next to the EGLISE DE LA CHAPELLE. A good bus nearby will take you quickly to the heart of town if you so desire. The stay per night was around \$16. Standard fare: clean bunk beds; you bring your own sheets or you rent some; breakfast and/or dinner optional, to be paid for separately. The staff [were] [was ?] delighted that the bearer of a French name spoke readily English with them.

In general, they (the staff of YH BRUEGEL) were not enthusiastically friendly or unfriendly, just businesslike. They DID host groups of French kids with their MONITEURS and MONITRICES & they did not mind that these could not utter a word of Flemish or English — since those groups were truly "all-French". They (the hostel staff) did not mind the extremely heavy smoking from the adults escorting the French kids, since smoking was allowed (and thick) throughout the hostel (except in the dorms, as seems to be the norm in most of Europe.) The optional breakfast was light years away from the generous & succulent one in Luxembourg: at YH BRUEGEL you receive a few pieces of nondescript bread, 2 or 3 minuscule squares of butter, a finger or two of jam, 2 meager slices of wurst or white cheese. To wash that stuff down, expect some dishwater-American-style coffee. Dinner was O.K. for the modest price but nothing to rave about and in a country like Belgium, where people love to eat well and quaff and be merry, the thing to do is go out and have some excellent food and drink in the midst of an ebullient crowd. [May I suggest an open air (standing) fish soup and mussel bar in one of the small streets in the center of town ?] [Of course, in Belgium one can also survive for quite a while on delicious and nutritive bread with butter or cheese — or even on chocolate, Co'ate-D'Or or Martougin brand, or whatever, as long as it is truly Belgian.]

One thing intrigued me during my stay at the BRUEGEL. One woman had rented a private room for herself & her boy of 4 or 5. At 10 every morning she started playing the most horrible music, some kind of pseudo rock-pop with no beginning and no end, no melody — just screaming, ear shattering nonstop noise. How could her little boy retain his sanity with that blasting sound all day & every day? Thank God she stopped her machine every day at 10 PM.

At the BRUEGEL hostel they would not call you at the phone or deliver messages. They might leave a card for you on a wooden board. Trouble was, some hostellers had no idea there was a note for them on the wooden board, since the policy of the place was not to tell anyone. For telephoning, the arrangement was like at the hostel in Luxembourg city: there was a pay telephone in the lobby but you had to use coins (Belgian change) to operate it. (Who carries giant bags of Belgian coins to make phone calls?) YH BRUEGEL did not have the wonderful service of "telecartes". I learned from the staff: "If you want to use a 'telecarte', you can use one of the two public payphones, 100 meters from here across the street." That was true, but the only working phone of the two was often monopolized by some Brussels' inhabitants with apparently endless phone calls. [At the hostel in Luxembourg City, you had to take a bus to the central post office to make long distance phone calls with a "telecaard".]

The wonderful telecard system lets you watch every franc or centime or mark or shilling (or whatever currency) you are spending, and if your card becomes empty, your phone call stops right there. and then and so does the hemorrhaging of your wallet.]

Brussels was its eternal self, rich (though technically broke), resourceful, bustling, sophisticated, with some beautiful streets, places & monuments & some decrepit areas generally blamed by the locals on "North Africans". Hordes of international tourists were looking for the sights & filling the hotels. Lots of beautiful stores, excellent restaurants, cafe's, dance halls, cabarets, theatres, a famous Opera house — LE THE'ATRE DE LA MONNAIE — and just about the two dozen most glorious beers in the world (yes, some with cherry or grenadine) — it all makes for some fun.

One night, from my bed in one of the dorms, I could hear a crowd having a big party down below — rather boisterous. Around 1:30 in the morning, I heard distinctly that crowd shouting: "Sieg Heil! Sieg Heil! Sieg Heil! Sieg Heil! Sieg Heil!" The vibrant shouting went on and on for a good 10 or 15 minutes, after which the participants apparently dispersed. I have no idea whether the yelling crowd was standing in the YH courtyard — or outside, "on" the street, next to the church walls. The next morning I searched the newspapers. No mention of any kind of "manifestation".

Der Umwelt zuliebe, bitte nehmen Sie nur EINE Serviette

Lewisburg Trips

For information on activities in the Lewisburg area, call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

1996 Mountain Bikers Almanac... Most Comprehensive Resource Ever Published!

Lake Tahoe, Nevada-

Never before has such a comprehensive resource been published on the sport of mountain biking! The first annual Mountain Bikers Almanac is a compilation of everything you could ever want to know about the sport, from how it all started to every major race result in history! Packed into over 250 pages are extensive manufacturer's and supplier's listings for bikes, parts, and accessories, as well as up-to-date rosters of clubs and organizations from all over the United States and Canada, as well as international listings.

The Mountain Bikers Almanac is not just a phone book. It has hundreds of exciting and inspiring photos from the world's greatest outdoor and mountain bike photographers. It has the most extensive glossary ever compiled. And, beautifully detailed maps of more than 50 of the country's best rides. There's also a huge listing of mountain bike resorts, destinations, and tours.

The Mountain Bikers Almanac also contains in-depth articles from the sport's founders, as well as some of the most important people in the industry; Charlie Kelly, Gary Fisher, Joe Breeze, Tom Ritchey, Jacquie Phelan, Tim Blumenthal, and Ned Overend to name a few. And "The Almanac's" staff includes some of the most accomplished mountain bike journalists in the sport; Brian Hemsworth, founder and former editorial director of Mountain Biking magazine; Mark Langton, former editor of Mountain Biking magazine; John Francis, former editor of Bicycle Dealer Showcase and Cyclist; and John Kodin, active in bicycle publishing since 1977, including Velo News, Bicycle Dealer Showcase, Bicycling, Cyclist, Bicycle Guide, Winning and Triathlete. The Mountain Bikers Almanac is a one-stop resource for any one interested in the sport of mountain biking, from novice to enthusiast. There's simply no other publication like it!

The premier issue of the 1996 Mountain Bikers Almanac will be available mid-November through major retail book stores, as well as retail bike shops and outdoor stores for only \$19.95 (U.S.). Charter advertisers in the Mountain Bikers Almanac include Cannondale Corp., Diamondback, Gary Fisher Bicycles, GT Bicycles, Jamis Bicycles, KHS Bicycles, Mongoose Bicycles, Ritchey USA, Rock Shox, Sachs, Schwinn, Scott, Shimano, Sigma Computers, Specialized Bicycle Components, Univega, Vittoria, Wilderness Trail Bikes, and Yeti Cycles. Grant Wolf, Inc. is an advertising agency and publishing company specializing in the bicycle industry.

TO ORDER BY CREDIT CARD:

Call 800-879-4214

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gary Thomas Edwards,
Grant Wolf, Inc.

E-MAIL: mbalmanac@sierra.net,

PHONE - (702) 588-5160

FAX - (702) 588-5443

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

FOR SALE: Feathered friends sleeping bag, Tern model, -10 degrees, goose down, gore-tex, like new, \$200. Call KIRK SLATER, 658-5904 evenings.

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

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

FOR SALE: Rowing machine with electronic monitor. Like new. \$75.00 or best offer. Call 823-5002.

FOR SALE: 2 Dolfino professional silicone dive masks; low volume, fog-free, double edge. Used once and in original box. (older snorkles free) \$35 Eileen 531-9610

For Sale: Cross-country skis, boots (size 44) and poles. "Trak" waxless skis. As new - used once. \$85 for all. Peggy 361-4781.

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

For Sale: 16 ft Canoe - Blue Hole style hull, ABS, with Bugby style gunwales and seats. \$300.00. Call Linda or Jim Roberts - daytime at 268-6731, Nights until 9:00 at 244-8332.

For Sale: 19' Albacore Sailboat with trailer. Main sail and jib in excellent shape (recently reconditioned and still in original box). A fun boat!! \$800.00 Call Helena at 784-0299 or Paul Egbert at Wind & Water 586-2080.

Distributing AYH brochures We are looking for places to distribute hosting brochures, primarily brochures describing hosting and how to purchase a Hosting International membership, but also some specific hostel brochures. If you have some suggestions on where we can display brochures for potential hostellers - such as colleges, travel agencies and travel bookstores, please call the office at 412-422-2282. We will be happy to deliver them.

Editor, The Golden Triangle
6300 5th Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

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, 5604 Solway St., Pittsburgh PA 15217

