

Golden Triang

Hostelling International-USA, 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.

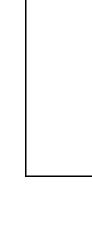
JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2004 VOLUME 54, NUMBER 2

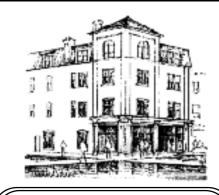
Message from the Editor

The Council Board of Directors and President have decided that there is no money to publish a newsletter or to pay for the use of the old headquarters building in Shadyside. Thus, there will no longer be a Thursday night meeting or slide show.

However, I will continue to publish the Rambles, Canoeing and any other trips here as long as possible.

TERNATIONAL PITTSBURGE P.O. Box Pittsburgh, HOSTELLING IN





Hostelling -**International** Pittsburgh PA



A 50 bed full service hostel in a commercial bank building. Free parking, travel store, handicapped



- 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 Heinz Field

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....And MORE!!!



Pittsburgh Council, Hostelling International-USA

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by the Pittsburgh Council of
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Oops...

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

Mail regarding the Newsletter should be addressed to:

HI-Pittsburgh Council
The Golden Triangle

1632 Denniston St. Pittsburgh, PA 15217

HI-Pgh on the information super Highway. Point your browser to : http://www.hipittsburgh.org/ or you can email us at golden_triangle@bigfoot.com



PITTSBURGH COUNCIL ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Chairman of the Activities Committee

VACANT

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Cycling VACANT

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Ray Yutzy724-926-4646 Midweek Rambles

Billie Woodland 886-1603
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NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for future issues of the GOLDEN TRIANGLE

> Sep-Oct-Nov ISSUE All copy, Aug 12

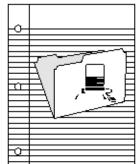
If your work is on computer, Please contact Joel Platt at golden_triangle@bigfoot.com

Moving?

If you move, or have any subscription problems, please notify us right away. Returned mail costs 42 cents for each piece, so we can save money if you let us know about any changes in your address.

About HI

Hostelling International is a nonprofit organization which promotes international understanding, educational and recreational travel, good citizenship and an appreciation of America. HI does this by bringing travelers of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities together in hostels and by providing low-cost travel programs. HI-USA is the US affiliate of Hostelling International (HI), (formerly named **International Youth Hostel Feder**ation (IYHF), which coordinates more than 4,500 hostels worldwide- the largest network of accommodations in the world.



Submissions Policy: Golden Triangle

Classified Ads:

- Classified ads 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 ads for non-members.
- Free ads 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 pro
- All Articles are to be, non-political and non-religious
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

General rules for submission

- No handwritten submissions
- Submissions Can be;

On computer disk (IBM), E-mail (Internet/compuserve), Type written material double spaced, faxed. NO EXCEPTIONS. Call if you have questions.

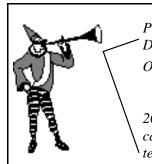
- Submitted before the deadline of the issue that submission needs to be run in. (See Editors Golden Rule)
- All Submissions are on a first come first serve basis, The GT makes no promises to print material received and all material received becomes the property of the GT.
- Standing Deadline; Deadline 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 for 2004 **Number 1** issue ->March/April/May **Number 2** issue ->June/July/August **Number 3** issue ->September/October/November

Number 4 issue -> December/January/February



Pittsburgh Council, HI-USA is a United Way Donor Option organization. Our Donor Option number is: **436**.

Editor...

2000 North American Hostel Handbooks can be picked up at the Activities Headquarters. Copies are free when picked up in person.

Sheet Sleeping Sack *DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT ONE!*

Required in all 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.



ActivityCo-Chairs

SEA-KAYAKING

Kelleys Island, Cape Henlopen and Presque Isle are just a few of the interesting and exciting places we visited last summer. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced paddler, we have a trip for you. So grab your

paddle and sunscreen and we will see you on the water.

Vickie 412-344-4929 Russ 412-331-2073

See

Sierra Clubs Hikes, at end.

Questions about membership?

Use the link below to get them answered! http://www.hiusa.org/membership/index.cfm



BICYCLING

IMPROMPTU BICYCLE RIDES EMAIL LIST

Our bicycle email list is up and running. We have been enjoying some good rides. The biggest need now is for people to announce rides.

If you would like to get on our bike email list our address is: letsbikenow-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL. YOU RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Glenn Oster continues to ride and report on various trails across the USA. Visit his website at http://www.intellweb.com/trails/oster.htm

UPCOMING SLIDE SHOWS



ROCK CLIMBING

Important Notice / Rock Climbing

We regret to inform our members that the Pittsburgh Council is no longer able to sponsor any rock climbing activities for insurance reasons. Our liability insurance is provided through the National AYH organization. After lengthy discussions with National's insurance carrier, we have been notified that a number of activities classified as "high risk" have been excluded from our coverage effective 1 April. While National was successful in negotiating the removal of several activities (such as iceskating and cross country skiing) from the initial list of exclusions, they were ultimately unsuccessful in being able to have rock climbing covered. While we are disappointed with this exclusion, we have no choice but to stop sponsoring all rock climbing activities. Thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted in the organization and operation of the rock climbing activity over the years. It would not have been possible without you. Discussions are underway with other activities organizations that may be able to sponsor rock climbing activities. For more information, please contact Chuck Jones at charlzjonz@excite.com or (412)766-4036 or Annie Jones at (412) 303-1793. Please call before 10 o'clock at night. http://www.wpfi.org/

While it is unfortunate that we will no longer be able to sponsor rock climbing, we would like to remind both members and non-members of the great activities that we sponsor, and encourage everyone's continued participation.

Rambles For Summer 2004

JUNE

June 2-Brady's Run Park in Beaver. Bag Lunch. Bill Phoennik. 412-279-5411.

June 9-Hilltop walk in Baldwin/Hays area. Ed Divers.412-828-5154.

June 16-Frick Park. Albert Farhy. 412-521-8226.

June 23-Sutersville: Youghiogheny River Trail. Bag lunch. Marian Fast. 412-241-2109.

June 30-Conemaugh Dam tour and hike. Bag lunch. Mary Ruth Aull. 412-795-7078.

JULY

July 7-Highland Park. Bag lunch. Genevieve Mann. 412-661-5947.

July 14-Hartwood Acres. Bag lunch. Marty Brigham. 412-521-1913.

July 21-South Park. Bag lunch. Mary Ann Brincka. 412-884-0383.

July 28-Boyce Park. Bag lunch. Joanne Winwood. 412-371-3167.

AUGUST

August 4-Riverview Park. Bag lunch. Jim Hurst. 412-276-0447.

August 11-McConnell's Mill Park. Bag lunch. Maureen Kelly. 412-821-5709.

August 18-Todd Sanctuary. Bag lunch. Dee Garvin. 412-322-4004.

August 25-Mt.Lebanon Cemetery. Sue and Dan Sebolt. 412-563-6987.

Rambles will begin at 9:30 A.M. in June, July, August

Meet in Mellon Park upper parking lot at Fifth and Shady Avenues. Carpooling is encouraged. Please pay driver \$1 to \$4.00, depending on the length of trip. Rambles are subject to change due to weather or other circumstances. Call trip leader for more information if you plan to meet at trailhead or to inquire about difficulty of the hike. Alternate phone numbers or for general information call Billie Woodland 412-886-1603.

SEPTEMBER-2004

September 1@10 A.M. Salamander Trail in Fox Chapel. Bag lunch. Teresa Honert. 412-683-0253.

September 8 "Falls Run Park. Bag lunch. Connie Black. 412-371-1062. **September 15** "Schenley Park. Bag lunch. Ruth Fischer. 412-421-9215.

September 22 " Cedar Creek Park. Bag lunch. Marian Fast 412-241-2109. September 29 " Bear Run State Park. Bag Lunch. Earl McCabe. 412-762-1844.

HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS

AMBLE HIKES ARE 4-6 MILES IN INTERESTING LOCATIONS AROUND PITTSBURGH. CONNIE BLACK HAS AGREED TO TAKE CALLS FROM THOSE WISHING TO LEAD AN AMBLE AS WELL AS THOSE WISHING TO GO ON AN AMBLE.

AS WELL AS THOSE WISHING TO GO ON AN AMBLE.
CONNIE'S PHONE NUMBER IS 412-371-1062 AND HER EMAIL IS
ceblack@libcom.com

ALLEGHENY GROUP - SIERRA CLUB - OUTINGS -- JUN 1 - SEPT. 19. 2004

- * Suggested carpool fee: 6 cents/ passenger-mile + a share of any tolls.
- * (Unless stated, car-miles are one-way from Monroeville.)
- * For more up-to-date listings, visit http://www.alleghenysc.org/
- * Hardcopy subscriptions to this list are \$2.50/ year (4 issues). Make check payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club and mail to Bruce Sundquist, 210 College Park Dr., Monroeville PA 15146-1532
- * E-mail subscriptions are free. Contact bsundquist1@juno.com
- * To join the Sierra Club (Allegheny Group, Pa. Chapter, and the National organization), contact Membership Chair Barbara Goff at 412-655-1662 or bargoff@hotmail.com
- * All participants on Sierra Club outings must sign a standard liability waiver. To read it before you participate in an outing, go to:

http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a hardcopy.

EVENING CONDITIONING WALKS

South Park (year-around). Thurs. evenings, 6:15 PM. Locations vary. Call Bonnie Thomas, 412-833-1068, for meeting place.

East End (during EDST): co-sponsored by the Sierra Club and the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy on Wednesday evenings in Schenley Park. Meet at 6 PM in front of the Visitors' Center. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

East Suburbs (during EDST): Tuesday and Thursday evenings in Duff Park near Murrysville. Call Nick Broskovich, 724-863-6707

DAY- AND WEEKEND TRIPS

Sat. (Noon-7) **OR Sun.** (Noon-5) **June 5 or 6** -- Farm Festival at the Neelys near Blairsville - llamas and other animals, demonstrations, food. \$3.00 carpool - 26 miles from Monroeville. Call Diane or Terry Neely, 724-459-3012.

Sat.-Sun. June 5-6 - Canoe/ kayak camping weekend on Allegheny River islands. \$10 if you don't have a boat. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 10 AM. \$2.00 carpool - 17 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sun. June 6 - Hike a 7-8-mile loop in Roaring Run Natural Area in Forbes State Forest. Fast-paced, 28 stream crossings. \$6.25 carpool - 45 miles. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519

Sat. -Tues. June 12-15 - Four days of backpacking/ base-camping/ hiking on Red Creek/ Roaring/ Flatrock Plains of Monongahela National Forest. Visit one of the highest, and most rugged, parts of the West Va. Highlands at the peak of the spring colors (mountain laurel, azaleas, pink Ladyslipper orchids). Prior backpacking experience is required. Total backpacking miles: 16. Limit: 10. \$22 carpool - 150 miles. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Sat. June 12 - Visit Casparis Cave near Connellsville. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$5.25 carpool - 40 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sun. June 13 - Hike, easy intermediate, in Ohiopyle State Park -- Ferncliff Peninsula trails, Great Gorge Trail and Meadow Run Trail. \$8.50 carpool -- 65 miles. Call Nick Broskovich 724-863-6707

Sun. June 20 - Hike 10 miles in the Mt. Davis area of Forbes State Forest. We'll see if we can catch the Mountain Laurel in full bloom on Pennsylvania's highest point. We've never been there on a clear day - maybe we'll luck out this year. \$11.50 carpool - 86 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat.-Sun. June 26-27 -- Easy overnight backpacking trip on the J.P. Saylor Trail in the Clear Shade Wild Area of Gallitzen State Forest, near Johnstown. In on Saturday, out on Sunday. No more than 6 miles to the campsite. Limit 10. \$10.00 carpool - 83 miles. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210.

Sun. June 27 -- Hike - strenuous (long) and slightly exploratory -- mainly along the Laurel Highlands Trail between Route 30 and Route 31, crossing the Pennsylvania Turnpike on the LHT footbridge (wave to the truckers!). \$8.00 carpool - 65 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat.-Mon. July 3-5 - Rain date for the Dolly Sods North backpack trip originally scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Sat. July 10 - Visit Coon Cave. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$4.25 carpool - 35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sat. July 10 - Swim, snorkel and boat on a private lake near New Stanton. \$3.25 carpool -- 25 miles. Call Nick Broskovich 724-863-6707.

Sun. July 11 -- White Water Rafting near Ohiopyle on the Youghiogheny River. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. July 17 -- Bike 40 miles (round trip) from Connellsville to Ohiopyle then hike 4 miles round trip to Baughman's Rock. The bike trail should be at its best, and the view from Baughmans Rock is one of the best around. We'll take a side trip on the way back to bike over to Pecham for a unique dining experience. \$5.25 carpool - 45 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sun. July 18 -- Hike a strenuous and exploratory loop from Lick Hollow over Pine Knob (views) to Cabin Rocks and toward White Rocks (views), crossing Redstone Creek and utilizing Whitetail Trail. \$8.00 carpool - 64 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat. July 24 - Bike an easy 6.5 miles on the West Penn Bike Path and hike an easy 2 miles on Bow Ridge at the end of the bike trail near Conemaugh Dam. Bring a bike lock and lunch. \$3.00 carpool -- 26 miles from Monroeville. Call Diane Neely, 724-459-3012.

Sun. July 25 -- Fast-paced half-day hike at Beechwood Nature Farms. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 9 AM. \$1.00 carpool. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519.

Sat.-Sun. July 24-25 -- "The hottest days of the year" easy overnight backpacking trip to Oil Creek State Park. In on Saturday, out on Sunday. Two miles in to the campsite. We will stay in Appalachian-style backpacker shelters -- no tent needed. Limit 10. \$10.75 carpool - 90 miles from Cranberry Mall. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210.

Sat. July 31 -- Umpteenth Annual Youghiogheny River Valley inner-tube hike from Johnson's Run to Camp Carmel (3 miles on foot on the Yough River Trail; 3 miles in inner-tubes). Weather must be hot and sunny or the trip will be postponed one week. Those who wish to can bicycle in from Connellsville on the Yough River Trail (7 miles each way). Great scenery, fun rapids, quiet pools, sandy beaches, clear water, bald eagles, hooded merganser ducks. \$7.00 carpool - 54 miles. Limit: 18. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737.

Sun. August 1 -- Bike the Ghost Town Trail from Dilltown to Nanty Glo. We'll go by a well-preserved iron furnace and along Black Lick Creek. Most of the trip is very pretty but we'll go by some slag piles that are gradually being restored by local conservation groups. They've done a lot of planting and building settling ponds to clean up the creek. If we take the spur it's 32 miles but there is a very steep grade for about 4 miles that make it a pretty good workout. If we have time afterward we could go over to the National Flood Memorial at St. Michael. Several Victorian "cottages" have been restored and if we get there early enough we can go in one. \$6.00 carpool - 50 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582.

Sat. or Sun. Aug.7 or 8 (depending on weather) -- Hike, exploratory, 10+ miles in Lower Indian Creek Valley from Rt.381-Mill Run Reservoir to the Youghiogheny River, to find a 60 ft. rock face above Lower Indian Creek Valley near the Yough River. See what's left of the 1850 ghost town of Hampton. We may see the Hawkins Hollow Big Blue Holes. Swimming an option. \$7.50 carpool-56 miles Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027.

Sun. August 8 -- Hike at Moraine State Park. We'll take the usual trail over to the lookout on the other side of Rt. 528 but on the way back we'll take a turn and walk along the lakeshore. We'll go by the beach near the end of the hike so we can go swimming. The total distance will be about 17 miles. \$3.25 carpool - 27 miles from Cranberry Mall. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582.

Sun. August 8 - Bad-weather data for the Inner-tube hike of 7/31/04. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737.

Sat.-Sun. Aug. 14-15 -- Overnight backpacking trip to Heart's Content in the Allegheny National Forest. About 8 miles to campsite along the Hickory Creek Trail. In on Saturday, out on Sunday. Limit 10. \$21.00 carpool - 150 miles. Call Jim Ritchie, 412-828-0210.

Sat. Aug. 14 - Bike an easy 6.5 miles on the West Penn Bike Path and hike an easy 2 miles on Bow Ridge at the end of the bike trail near Conemaugh Dam. Bring a bike lock and lunch. \$3.00 carpool -- 26 miles from Monroeville. Call Diane Neely, 724-459-3012.

Sun. Aug. 15 -- Hike about 8 moderate (but fast-paced) miles on a scenic loop route near West Winfield -- some along Buffalo Creek. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 9 AM. \$2.50 carpool - 20 miles from Harmarville. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519

Sat. August 21 - Visit Lemon Hole Cave. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$4.25 carpool - 35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sun. August 22 - Hike about 9 miles on some of the trails in the Mountain Streams area of Forbes State Forest on the west slope of Laurel Ridge near Rt. 31 and PA381. Intermediate. \$5.75 carpool -- 42 miles. Call Donna Allen, 412-372-2993

Sun. August 22 -- Hike from the north end of the LHHT south until we feel like turning around. My goal will be to do at least 20 miles total. \$6.00 carpool - 51 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. August 28 - Canoe/ Kayak Get-Together on Nicholson Island above Freeport, including hiking nearby. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 10 AM. \$2.00 carpool - 17 miles from Harmarville. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154.

Sat. August 28 - Bicycle, easy intermediate, on the Yough River Trail from Boston to West Newton and back (28 miles round trip). Possible dinner at Riverfront Restaurant (trailside near Boston). \$2.00 carpool - 15 miles from Monroeville. Call Nick

(Continued on page 5)

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(Continued from page 4) Broskovich 724-863-6707.

Sun. August 29 -- Hike a strenuous and exploratory loop in the valley of Roaring Run Natural Area of Forbes State Forest. Countless stream crossings (maybe wet, maybe dry), along Painter (Panther) Rock Ridge (viewpoint), past the historic 1896 monument memorializing a sleighing accident. \$7.00 carpool - 53 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat.-Mon. Sept. 4-6 -- Backpacking - base-camping - hiking trip to the backside of Spruce Knob (el.4860) in Monongahela National Forest. 7 total miles of backpacking, all along upper Seneca Creek. Base-camp at Judy Springs. Spend the rest of the free time visiting the surrounding scenic ridge tops, stream sides and high mountain meadows -- or just enjoy the immediate surroundings of the Judy Springs campsite. Possible visit to the Sinks of Gandy on Monday. Prior backpacking experience is required due to remoteness of the area. \$25 carpool - 175 miles. Limit: 10. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737.

Sun. Sept. 5 -- Hike an easy 8.5 miles on the Baker Trail from Crooked Creek Dam to Cochran's Mills. \$6.00 carpool -- 50 miles. Call John Dern, 412-856-4642.

Sun. Sept. 5 - Hike from the warming hut on Laurel Mountain to Wolf Rocks via Spruce Run. Retrace the most scenic cross-country ski trail around in the summer. Total distance is 12-14 miles. \$7.00 carpool - 57 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. Sept. 11 - Hike an easy 8-9 miles from Sugarloaf Mountain down to Confluence via some abandoned farms. Meet at Monroeville (Gateway Middle School) at 10 AM. \$9.75 carpool - 76 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154.

Sun. Sept. 19 -- Hike a strenuous and exploratory loop from Wharton Furnace (a historic 1839 iron furnace) to Quebec Run Wild Area, along the remote valleys of Laurel Run and Mill Run. \$9.00 carpool - 73 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sun. Sept. 19 -- Bike the Montour Trail from Coraopolis until we turn around. We'll go at least 50 miles. Meet at the trailhead. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

ADVANCE NOTICE:

Sun. Oct. 24 - Canoe from Connellsville to Layton on the Youghiogheny River. A perfect trip for enjoying the last of the fall colors. \$5.25 carpool - 40 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

NOTES: Ask the leader for names and phone numbers of trippers for you to arrange a car pool. Reserve at least 36 hours in advance. If you leave your phone number on the leader's answering machine, give it slowly and clearly. Notify leader to cancel your reservation. Bring lunch, rain gear, water, first-aid kit, small flashlight and extra clothes for changes in weather. If you have a cell phone, bring it along. Cell phones have saved the day on several trips when accidents have required evacuation of trippers. Sierra Clubbers planning to lead outings during 09/01/04 -12/15/04 should contact Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737, bsundquist1@juno.com by 08/05/04.

HEADWATERS GROUP, SIERRA CLUB, OUTINGS - THROUGH AUGUST 29, 2004

Don't forget rain gear. Share carpooling expenses. Call the outings committee chair, 814-255-4775 if you cannot reach the trip leader. If you are from the Allegheny County area, ask the trip leader about possibilities for carpools from Allegheny County. Johnstown is about an hour's drive east of Pittsburgh, but some trips are less than an hour's drive from Pittsburgh.

Sun. May 23 - Enjoy an afternoon hike on portions of the old PW&S railroad line and the Laurel Highlands Trail. This is a pleasant loop hike with two fine vistas. Meet at Benscreek at 1:30 PM. Call Ed Statler, 814-255-4775

Sat. June 5 - A bicycle ride on Allegheny Highlands Trail from Rockwood to Markleton and return. The trail has varied scenery that includes portions of the Casselman River. Meet at Benscreek at 8:30 AM. Contact Ed or Karlice Makuchan at 814-255-2676

Sat.-Sun. June 19-20 - Overnight camping trip to Black Moshanon State Park - a park with a variety of hiking trails and a swimming beach. Canoes available. Contact Jean Rigo at 814-255-1180

Sun. Aug. 29 - Annual Sierra Club Picnic at Shawnee State Park Picnic Area #6 near the East Beach parking lot. Gather at 2:30 PM for a short hike or, if you prefer, a swim. This is a good opportunity to compare vacation experiences. A charcoal grill will be available. Pack a picnic lunch with a dish to share. Call Ed Statler, 814-255-4775

HELP WANTED:

Allegheny Group's Outings Chair (Bruce Sundquist) has held that post since 1976 -- much too long. Running the outings program involves 32 well-defined tasks. Most are done quarterly; some monthly. About 12 could be done without any experience, and could be divided among several people. If you are willing to share some of these tasks, please contact Bruce at 724-327-8737 or bsundquist1@juno.com

SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP INDUCEMENT

If you join the Sierra Club on one of our outings, your \$25 introductory membership will get you a free hip pack. Call 724-327-8737 for application form and pack.

ALLEGHENY GROUP MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly meetings of Allegheny Group are now held at Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center on Shady Avenue just south of Fifth Ave. Driving south on Shady from Fifth, turn left at the second driveway into a parking lot in front of the Scaife Unit of the Arts Center. Parking there is metered (quarters only - 25 cents per hour). Follow the cobblestone driveway back to the Garden Center. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. The first 30 minutes is a business meeting, the main program begins around 8 PM. A social hour follows. We must vacate the building by 10 PM.

Wed. June 9 -- Sean Saville of the SE Utah Wilderness Alliance presents a nationally-toured slide show on this endangered area. The federal Administration is itching to get more drilling rigs into these fragile protected areas. Come prepared to take action.

Wed. July 14 -- We will be having an unconventional "wind-power" meeting. If you have any models or demonstrations of commercial wind power machines, we'd love to see them. Otherwise, we're going to be flying kites and picnicking as individuals, groups or families. Bring your kites and your supper and join us by the skating rink on the big hill in Schenley Park. There are literally hundreds of sources of kites, but a good one is Four Winds Kites in Seattle (www.fourwindskites.com). Under \$20 will put you in the sky!

Wed. Aug. 11 -- We'll be talking about the Pennsylvania State Wildlands programs and its links to wolf reintroduction and other top of the food chain issues, and the Audubon Society's exciting Important Birding Area program. They're all tied together.

Wed. Sept. 8 -- Come to the annual "Member Adventure Trip" program, with members who have been on national or international Sierra Club trips... or other wild expeditions... presenting on their experiences. If you qualify or know someone who does, let Don know. Donald Gibbon, 412-362-8451, dongibbon@earthlink.net.

Sat. Oct. 16 -- Enjoy a re-run of 1999's great Spirit and Nature Conference. This will be all day on Saturday. If you have an interest in helping to plan or run such a conference or know of outstanding contributors, please let Donald Gibbon know. This will be co-sponsored by the Rachel Carson Institute and the Western PA Field Institute.

NEED MAPS AND TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS OF THE FOOT TRAILS OF SOUTHWESTERN PA.?

The ridges of southwestern Pennsylvania--Chestnut Ridge, Laurel Ridge and Allegheny Front--contain the bulk of the scenic public lands in the region. Nowhere else in southwestern Pennsylvania can you find large expanses of nature-oriented and outdoor-recreation-oriented public lands for public enjoyment. The best way to gain access to the scenery and natural values of the region is by way of the roughly 550 miles of foot trails that blanket the 218 sq. miles of state forests, state parks and state game lands of the "Laurel Highlands".

The Sierra Club's guide "The Laurel Highlands: A Hiking Guide"** gives you all the information you need to enjoy this major recreational and natural resource. This 288-page Guide describes opportunities for hiking, backpacking and ski-touring on 446 miles of foot trails on the public lands of these Laurel Highlands. It omits the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail because that is described in a separate guide devoted exclusively to that trail. It also omits some trails in the Mt. Davis area of Forbes State Forest, the 26-mile Lost Turkey Trail on Gallitzin State Forest (which offers a map and brief guide), and some trails on State Game Lands #51 adjacent to Ohiopyle State Park. Covered

in this guide are the foot trails of the following public lands in the Laurel Highlands:

State Parks:	(sq. miles)
Ohiopyle Par	rk 30
Laurel Ridge	24
Coopers Roc	k 20
Blue Knob	9
Laurel Hill	6
Linn Run	1
Kooser	0.4
State Forests	
Forbes	86
Gallitzin	30
Other Public I	Lands:
Bear Run Na	ture Res. 8
Lower ICV 7	Γrail 4
Total Public I	ander 218 sa

Total Public Lands: 218 sq. miles

Peaks on ridges in the Laurel Highlands are at altitudes between 2500 and 3000 ft. Allegheny Front is the "backbone" of the Appalachian Mountains in this part of the country. It is the highest, the most rugged, and the most remote from major centers of population. Laurel Ridge is closer to population centers and contains an amazing wealth of public lands--state forests, state parks, and state game lands. It is probably the most popular region for outdoor recreation in western Pennsylvania. Chestnut Ridge is closest to major population centers but contains less public land so it is not as popular among outdoor recreationists as Laurel Ridge. All of these ridges are heavily forested, largely because the steepness of the ridge slopes makes them poor sites for urban developments.

Besides trail descriptions, this 6x9" soft-cover Guide provides 26 pages of USGS topographic maps showing trail routes. Trail routes on the maps are keyed to the descrip-

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

tive text to make using this guide as easy as possible. This Guide gives other information as well:

- * How to get to the trailheads
- * Ski-touring and backpacking in the Laurel Highlands
- * 32 photographs of some of the scenery along the trails
- * Ratings of scenery/ condition/ difficulty (hiking and skiing)
- * Altitude changes, stream crossing and other maps
- * Information on public organizations that use foot trails
- * foot-trail maintenance, water purification, and hiking ethics

To get your copy of "The Laurel Highlands: A Hiking Guide" send \$11.95 plus \$1.50 for book-rate postage and handling, plus any applicable sales tax, to Bob Roth, 80 Roseleaf Road, Pittsburgh PA 15220. Please make checks payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club. Allegheny Group also published "Hiker's Guide to Laurel Highlands Trail" (Edition 5, 128 pages, 24 pages of maps, \$6.00) and "Allegheny National Forest Hiking Guide" (Edition 4, 192 pages, 49 pages of maps, \$9.95).

** Authors: Monika Dalrymple, Mark Christy, Jan Frissora, Kim and Tom Metzgar, Tom Beebee, Palvina & Chavaya Beebee-Galvao, Judy Rodd, Bruce Sundquist

Other Outdoors Clubs

Butler Outdoors Club

BOC runs the same sorts of trips as Allegheny Group. Contact Dave Adams, 724-453-1685 DaveEAdams@aol.com or Bob Tait, 724-287-3382 BobTait@zbzoom.net or visit http://www.butleroutdoorclub.com Some trips by BOC

BobTait@zbzoom.net or visit http://www.butleroutdoorclub.com Some trips by BOC and North Country Trails Assn. (NCTA) are listed below.

Wissahickon Nature Club

If you enjoy nature lore, look into the meetings and field trips of Wissahickon Nature Club. They meet every other Saturday at 6 PM (except June-August) at Community Presbyterian Church, 7501 Church Av., Ben Avon. Contact Chuck Tague, 412-488-8760 or 432 Olympia Rd, Pgh. 15219

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

BSWP offers field trips in spring, summer and fall to look at and learn about the enormous variety of plant life that western Pa. offers. Everyone is welcome on field trips; amateurs, professionals, non-members, and anyone who is curious about the natural world. Trips are often at a leisurely pace, but may require hiking and traveling through wet/muddy areas. For information, e-mail your address for sample newsletter and membership information to yoree@sgi.net, or call Loree at 724-872-5232.

WPW (Western Pennsylvania Wheelmen) Bicycle Club

Home Page: http://wpwbikeclub.org Ride Hotline: 412-422-2234 Various length and difficulty rides scheduled each weekend and some during the week. Monthly meeting usually the 2nd Monday at 8pm at the Frick Environmental center on Beechwood Blvd in Squirrel Hill. See home page for details.

Moraine Sailing Club

MSC offers sailing opportunities for new and experienced sailors at Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park. They have an active education program for all ages, numerous sailing related social events, Day Sailing at Lake Arthur, and a very active sailboat racing program. For more information see the MSC Web Page at www.morainesailingclub.org or contact Chris Neuwirth 412-441-5590, email to: cmn@andrew.cmu.edu

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIELD INSTITUTE -- TRIPS

For information on WPFI events, contact Sean Brady sbrady@wpfi.org 412-255-0564 or visit http://www.wpfi.org/ All events open to the public. Fridays, Noon-12:50 PM Nature Walks starting in Market Square, Downtown Pittsburgh, Cost: Free

Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pennsylvania

Outside Adventures 2002 Paddling Schedule
Call 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310 for information or to sign up for any event.
www.outsideadventures.org or www.outsideadventures@Yahoo.com
More outings continuously offered. Call for Updates: 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310.
Outside Adventures Sea-Kayaking Program "Sea-Kayaking Taught From Scratch"
Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pa. is a non-profit educational organization committed to introducing individuals to safe and enjoyable recreational outdoor pursuits. The sea-kayaking program specializes in teaching all levels of sea-kayaking skills and organizing trips from our evening introductory classes for new paddlers up to advanced expedition tours. Outside Adventures welcomes participation from individuals, families, youth organizations and outings clubs. Sea-kayaks, or touring kayaks are versatile, fun, human-powered watercraft that enables us to do all these things and more. They are sleek and fast, more efficient than canoes, more comfortable and stable than whitewater kayaks, have hatches to swallow loads of gear, and steerable rudders that enable even beginners to control the boat with ease.



CANOEING

Activity Co-chairs: Paul Henry (724) 347-3282 Brian McBane (724) 443-8972

AYH Canoe Calendar June-August 2004

June 1 Tuesday Evening Canoe School. Learn to paddle tandem with

basic instruction on the Allegheny River. This is the last of 4 weekly sessions. Canoes, paddles, PFD's provided. Bring something padded for kneeling. Call Brian McBane (724-

443-8972) for details.

Saturday, June 5 Brian McBane 724-443-8972

Moving Water School

Thur-Sun,June 10-13 Conemaugh River Sojourn sponsored by Conemaugh

Valley Conservancy (814) 536-6615.

Sat., July 24 Kate Fissell 412-683-2157

Kate is negotiating a dam release for Mahoning Cr, ClassI

Sat., Sun.- July31, Aug 1 TRPC sponsored Turkey Bash Clinic

Sat., Aug. 7 Brian McBane 724-443-8972

Class II. Middle Yough if streams are low.



SAILING

The AYH no longer owns its own sailboats or runs trips but Bob Zavos will help coordinate sailing interests with other area organizations. The Moraine Sailing Club (MSC) is the largest local sailing group. Most activities are on Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park

which is about 35 miles North of Pittsburgh. They offer education, social events and run a youth summer sail camp. They also have a large racing program and sponsor a Community Sailing Program for people without their own sailboats. They help organize/publicize Cruising Trips, but do not officially sponsor them. More information is on their website at **www.morainesailingclub.org**. Big boat sailors may want to check out the Erie Yacht Club: **www.erieyachtclub.org** or the Erie Bayfront Center for Marine studies: **www.goerie.com/bcms**

Moraine Preservations Fund (MPF), is looking for volunteers to help with the 50 passenger pontoon boat which they run on Lake Arthur in the Summer. It is used for scientific hands-on field trips for students and summer and fall tours for the public. They are looking for people interested in becoming volunteer mates and captains. You will need to have a boater's safety class, which you may already have taken or is easily available locally. To be a mate you must be 16 and 18 to be a captain. The boat training is given by experienced MPF captains, and you will be tested and licensed by the Fish and Boat Commission. The times and amount of time you would volunteer is completely by your choice. Even limited help is appreciated. If you have questions or would like to sign up, please contact Ruth Roperti at 724 843 7046, or email: missionmorain@zoominternet.net

The 6^{th} annual **Lake Arthur Regatta is scheduled for August 14 &15**. This is one of the largest water and boating related activities in the area. Mark your calendars and look for more information later in the season on the MSC Website or the Butler County site: www.visit-butler-county-pennsylvania-pa.com/

Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail Trail Maintenance Opportunities for 2004

The Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, conceived and built the Baker Trail in the late 1940's and dedicated the Trail in 1950. It was built by returning war veterans who envisioned a network of "youth hostels" along the Trail where the youth of the world could find safe, inexpensive shelter while touring rural America on foot. Today the Trail is 141 miles long and extends from Freeport, PA to the Allegheny National Forest, and traverses Cook Forest State Park, several State Game Lands, Kittanning State Forest, the Mahoning and Crooked Creek Army Corps of Engineers projects, and several local recreation facilities. All AYH members are asked to spend one day a year helping us maintain the Trail. The Baker Trail is 100% volunteer-supported. We use no Federal, State, or Local government fund-

Right now the trail needs AYH members who would like to participate in trail crew maintenance activities. Please contact Steve Mentzer SGMentzer@TrueCommerce.com

Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers needed. We also need volunteers to become trail stewards who are willing to adopt a 3-5 mile long section of the Baker Trail. Trail stewards will be independently responsible to work on their section of the trail on their own schedule. Responsibilities include painting yellow blazes on the trail once a year, picking up debris and trash off the treadway, and trimming vegetation away from blazes. Optional skills include chain saw work, shelter repair (we have 10 overnight shelters on the trail that require yearly maintenance—adopt a shelter as your own personal project) and/or you can build bridges, sidehill supports, benches, and other trail amenities. Regardless of the level of your effort, you would be expected to walk your trail section twice a year, preferably once in the spring (April, May) and once in the fall (September, October). All expenses for supplies-paint, brushes, etc.-are reimbursed.



Baker Trail/Rachel Carson Trail Resources

Rachel Carson Trail website: www.rachelcarsontrail.com; this website has information about the Rachel Carson Trail, the Baker Trail, and the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge.

Baker Trail website: www.geocities.com/bakertrailpa; this website has some abbreviated information concerning the Baker Trail.

Hostelling International website: http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/; general information about the BT/RCT sponsor organization.

Keystone Trails Association: http://www.kta-hike.org/; has information about all Pennsylvania hiking trails

"Guide to the Rachel Carson Trail"; this is a trail guide, with topographic maps, and some interpretive information about the 34-mile long trail, available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.

"Baker Trail Guide Book"; a trail guide with topographic maps, and interpretive information about the 141-mile long Baker Trail. Available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.

*****HIKER ALERTS*****Current hiker alerts for both the Rachel Carson Trail and the Baker Trail may be found at www.rachelcarsontrail.com.



Ordering / HI-USA Hostel Membership Application

Include \$1.50 for postage

Memberships and merchandise also available at Headquarters and the office (see below). Discover, MasterCard, and Visa accepted. Please allow two weeks for delivery of mail orders. Priority or Overnight shipping is available; call for information

Mail to:

Phone:

HI-USA, Pittsburgh Council

P.O. Box 53067

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Name: Address:

Sex (M/F):

(day) Birthdate: For hostellers: I need my hostel pass by:

[] I need a free copy of the USA Hostel Directory

[] MasterCard[] Visa[] Discover[]

Credit Card Number

Signature

Expiration Date _

Application for Complimentary

of current pass. Provides access to 4,500 Hostelling International hostels around the world. Includes free handbook of USA hostels upon request (see below) and 12 month subscription to Pittsburgh Council newsletter. **Adult Renewal** \$28.00

Valid for 12 months from date of purchase. Renewals valid for 12 months from expiration

HI-USA Memberships (No Tax on Memberships)

Adult (18-54) \$28.00

Youth (17 and under) FRE

Senior (over 54) \$18.00

Life (all ages) \$250.00

Group Membership (not-for-profit organiza-

tions).....call for application FREE

Student/Teacher ID Cards Student ID Card (ISIC) \$22.00

Teacher ID Card (ITIC) \$22.00 GO 25 ID Card (IYTC)

Universal student identification card issued by STA Travel (formerly Council Travel) earns you discounts worldwide.

Qty	AYH Membership	Unit Price	
	(Type:)		
		Total	

Pittsburgh Council Weekly Open House

Pittsburgh Council has a weekly Open House every Thursday evening from 8 pm to 10 pm at Fifth and Shady Avenues in Shadyside. Look for us next to Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. A slide show at 8:30 pm is followed by announcements of the weekend's trips. Hostel Passes, guide books and more available.

Council Office and Travel Store

The Pittsburgh Council Office and Travel Store is currently closed. but all passes, ID cards, rail passes, and books are available at the weekly Thursday Open House meetings. For more information or directions email to pittcouncil@hotmail.com