Hostelling, Travel and Outdoor Recreation From American Youth Hostels



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 3

MARCH 1995



Features

FreeWheeling Easy, in Western PA. If you love Bicycling along a scenic trail, then you won't want to be without this new guidebook; See Freewheeling on page 3 for details.

Glenn Oster is at it again and regales us with yet another of his many tales, in "Big Bend National Park" on page 3.

North Freedom Shelter. Jim Ritchie brings us up to date on the Baker Trail and the N.F. Shelter. See page 5 for details.

Notice to all Trip Leaders: If you are a trip leader, then you will want to check up on the reminder on page 6

Volunteers are always needed. If you have ever wanted to donate some time and effort to the Pittsburgh Council, but never knew who to call! Be sure to check out the volunteer oppurtunitys listed on page 7

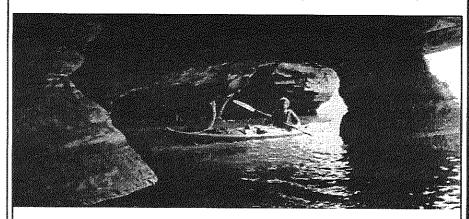
Watch this issue and future issues for the 1995 activities planning meetings

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.....And MORE!!!

Pittsburgh Council gears up for 1995 activities Season



Sea-Kayaking is just one of the many adventures the Pittsburgh Council Has to offer. See Inside for other eye opening experiences

Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels has nearly 50 hostels located near downhill ski areas.



HI- Mississippi Headwaters in Minnesota's Itasca State Park features more than 25 miles of cross-country ski trails that start from the hostel's front door. HI-AYH also has hostels near Colorado's more famous ski resorts such as Aspen and Snowmass. Ski Pennsylvania's Poconos or Vermont's well-known areas such as Killington.

A Reminder: The best things in life are Free!

Since April, 1994, Hostelling North America has been distributed at hostels free of charge to all hostellers to promote hostel usage among people who are in an active travel mode.

AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL 5604 SOLWAY STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15217

Dated material —please deliver promptly Address correction requested

Pittsburgh Hostel Update

On February 9, the City of Pittsburgh Zoning Board gave preliminary approval to the use of the Integra Bank building at Arlington and Warrington for use as a hostel. The hearing was necessary due to the "A1" zoning status that the site currently carries and due to some modifications to the building to suit its use as a hostel. The consensus of the Zoning Board was that the use of this building as a hostel was a "good fit" in the community.

Marianne Kasica

OHIOPYLE WORK PARTIES

Sunday, March 12 Jacky Eberle, Work Coordinator at 833-9732 Watch for other work party dates throughout the summer.

Please help volunteer for our first Ohiopyle Hostel clean-up party for 1995. 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, refridgerator and crib). We will meet at headquarters at 8:30 PM. and will be back around 6:00 PM.. Call Jacky Eberle if you have any questions or would like to sign up!

*ANY VOLUNTEER WHO WORKS 6 WORK PARTIES WILL RECEIVE A FREE OHIOPYLE SWEATSHIRT.

* ANY VOLUNTEER WHO WORKS 6 WORK PARTIES WILL

WORKS 6 WORK PARTIES WILL be elegible for the "OHIOPYLE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR" AWARD

Watch in future editions of the "GT" for details

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PITTSBURGH PA 15217-1458



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Serving Western Pennsylvania & West Virginia Panhandle Since 1948, Incorporated 1955

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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 Mactintosh 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**

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Glenn Oster
Jim Ritchie 828-0210
Headquarters Programs
Tom Rodgers 621-6310
Chris Kline 441-7352
Storekeeper
Wm Eberle
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

and

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

April All copy, Mar 2 Binding/Mailing, Mar 23

May All copy, April 6 Binding/Mailing, April 27

If your work is on computer, Please contact Bill Eberle @ 833-9732 ог Larry Laude @ 665-9554 or; 73467,3201 on CompuServe

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-Internations 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 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 improporly submitted will not be listed Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission 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 I hursday 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 or my part"

March Slide Shows

March 2 Backpacking in the Wind River MTS- of Wyoming and the Olympic Mts. of Washington- Hosted by: Walter Vox

March 9 Canoeing the Boundary Waters of Minnesota and Canada - Hosted by: Joyce Appel and Paul Henry.

March 16 Open House

March 23 Newsletter Prep Night-join us for a little work followed by socializing at a nearby restaurant,

March 30 Open House.

> Doors open: 8PM. Slide Shows: 8.30PM Share your Slide Show trip! To schedule a show call: 422-2282(daytime) or 362-8181 (8-10 PM Thurs.)

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

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

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

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



FreeWheeling Easy In Western Pennsylvania

A new guidebook to rail-trails and other easy motor-free bicycling, walking, and jogging paths in western Pennsylvania and nearby Maryland has just been published. FreeWheeling Easy in Western Pennsylvania includes 23 developed and undeveloped trails over 500 miles — with 100 pages of text and maps.

Trail descriptions include detailed maps of trail routes, descriptions of trails, directions to trailheads and parking, history and local attractions, development plans, and amenities such as water, food, bike rentals, and rest rooms.

FreeWheeling Easy complements existing guides. On the one hand, it contains more detail and covers a smaller area than RTC's Pennsylvania's Great RailTrails. On the other hand, it does not replace very detailed guides to specific trails such as Trail Book '94 for the Youghiogheny River and Allegheny Highlands Trails. Unlike other guides, FreeWheeling Easy emphasizes how to find trailheads and facilities on the frail, which is the information people most often ask about.

FreeWheeling Easy was written by Mary Shaw and Roy Weil, the editors of the AYH Canoeing Guide to Western Pennsylvania.

For your copy, send \$7.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and sales tax to Pittsburgh AYH / 5604 Solway St Room 202 / Pittsburgh PA 15217. Copies are also available at Headquarters and the AYH Office.

Rail-Trail Guide Now Available

The new guide to Pennsylvania's Great Rail-Trails has valuable information on 60 rail-trails in the state. Containing maps, photographs, trail descriptions, and historical background, this guidebook covers more than 700 miles Every rail-trail offers unique adventures. You

can explore rugged rail-trails in Pennsylvania's Northern Tier, venture along the systems of rail-trails in the Laurel Mountains, or utilize close-to-home rail-trails that help take you about your daily

Designed to fit in your shirt or coat pocket, bike bag, or glove compartment, this guide-book has a two page description for each trail, or for the longer trails, for each section of trail. The guidebook is published by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and is available for \$12.95 through the Pittsburgh Council office. See the order form on the back cover for details.

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.

	\$2500 \$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other: \$	HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL
	n also volunteer in Fundraising Architecture or Desi Construction Public Relations Clerical help	
Name		
Address		
Telephone		
-	Mail your Ple AYH Pittsburgh Ho 6604 Solway St.; Pittsl	stel Fund

GOOD SAM WATCHES OVER BT NEAR MT. TABOR

by jim ritchie

I was doing some Baker Trail scouting in mid-January this year (too warm to ski), in preparation for another full year of trail maintenance when I discovered the BT must have a secret guardian angel. My route for the day was from a couple miles east of McWilliams, a little town with 10 buildings near the town of Distant, PA (Route 28 en route to Brookville or Clarion), up past the village of Mt. Tabor, through North Freedom, Langville, past the old Zion Cemetery, and into the valleys of Red Run (soon to become Red Bank Creek) and Tarkiln Run. Just past the old Zion Cemetery, the trail plunges into the woods along an old gas line, and in a quarter mile encounters a heavily rutted dirt road. The Trail follows the dirt road for a short distance, another quarter mile or so.

It occurred to me that nobody had been maintaining the Trail (that I knew of) in this area. I expected it to be overgrown, difficult to find blazes, and expected to spend most of my time searching for one blaze and then the next. Lo' and behold, the paint was nearly fresh!!! And beyond my dirt road, where a huge stripmine had been freshly dug, no doubt obscuring whatever trail had existed, there were no less than 15 blazes, carefully marking the route from tree to tree, up along the side of the strip mine and into the woods.

Fresh, bright, thick, paint.

All along the stripped area, which extended for the next mile or so, and which had mercilessly ripped out any possible landmark, the bright, yellow blazes continued, carefully following the perimeter of the mined out property and very carefully keeping out of the heavily posted property just 10 feet to the west of the trail. Somebody out here cares!!!

The blazes continue to a genuine "Baker Trail" wooden bench at the 1681 foot summit (see pages 25 or 27 in you Baker Trail Hiking Guide), down the hill, meticulously blazed, finally leading into the unstripped, wooded, and sheltered valley of Tarkiln Run.

Nobody has adopted this section, but someone is doing a terrific job of keeping the trail open for all. The Baker Trail truly has a life of its own, extending beyond the care and control of us here in Pittsburgh AYH. That's quite a remarkable discovery.

If you are the Good Samaritan, watching over the BT in this area, please give me a call (412-828-0210) and let me know who you are so we can acknowledge more appropriately your good efforts. Thanks.

BEEN TO BIG BEND? (NATIONAL PARK, THAT IS)

By Glenn Oster

Big Bend National Park is one of the largest of America's parks and the least visited, but it holds a special place in my memory. Yes, it is huge, more than 1100 square miles, almost as large as giant Yosemite, and, yes, relatively few ever visit it. Have you? Bet not. And why do most tourists avoid it so consistently - 'cause, as they say, you can't get there from here - it's too far from virtually everywhere.

My first exposure to the park was in 1982, but I couldn't get enough hiking in over a weekend and resolved to return when I could stay longer. This was the year to do just that. I advertised it as an AYH trip and two members took me up on the idea, Mort Kurman and a lifetime friend, Jack Grab. We rented a mini-van, and on February 5, 1994 headed for the Southwest. It took a lot of heading - over 2,000 miles all the way to the Rio Grande River in Texas. It's about 420 miles equi-distant from San Antonio and El Paso. In between there isn't much.

You might wonder why February for such an outdoors trip. Simple climatic conditions. From April to November I would not like to be wondering around in the park's intense heat. Why not March, the weather should be ideal? Right. Of course. Only, overwhelmingly "only", that's where the students from Texas and the surrounding states go for Spring break, usually 30,000 of them, (they know how to get there from here) and the park is pressed far beyond its limits. I can't begin to imagine the accommodations nightmare. Yes, the desert is in bloom then, but-

The weather was warm and sunny when we arrived at the park, and at that time of the year you have no trouble finding a choice campsite - even in the most popular area known as "The Basin". This was a real advantage, because it is near to the lodge where they have a restaurant and a TV to help certain people in my group through the long winter evenings. Roughing it? My buddy, Jack, was my tent mate for one night - thereafter reclining one of the seats and sleeping in the van - humph. At least, he didn't move up to the lodge.

He must have had a premonition of what was to come. A couple nights later my tent door zipper broke, and I could only fasten it in the middle leaving openings on both sides of the zipper slider. No problem - too early in the year for creepy/crawlies to get in. That seemed like enough to get me by until I could get home and have it replaced (surely couldn't get it taken care of in less than a full day's drive from the park). Right? You can probably guess the answer to that. Huh uh. At about one a.m., I was awakened to the feel of something in my tent brushing by my head -imagination? Dreaming? No. I slowly reached for my flashlight - and there in the light in all its beauty and fragrance was -- a skunk. Oh groan! What to do? Fortunately, the skunk didn't seem to be bothered by the light; so I just focused it at one of the openings. It continued to walk around sniffing to see if he could find any food (anyone who has tented with me knows that was futile) and finding none, he left whew! Well, now that he knew there was no food I could get a good night's rest. Right? Sure. At about three a.m., I went through the exact same scenario with a different skunk (could tell difference in its odor). After that, I piled everything loose in the tent against the door, and that was that. No more intruders for the rest of the week's stay.

See OSTER, page 7

About Sea-Kayaking

A sea-kayak is a small, versatile human-powered watercraft. Their hull designs allow for a balance of maneuverability and straight tracking. They are faster, more efficient and more stable than canoes. Sea-kayaking is quiet. There is no effect of your passing and you can move freely in any direction. Properly paddled, sea-kayaking is an excellent low-impact aerobic exercise for the entire upper body. The double-bladed kayak paddle balances your power without the need for corrective paddling strokes, and you sit comfortably in a seat at 'Water level, instead of kneeling on your knees (Ouch!) or destabilizing yourself sitting higher above water level. Most sea-kayaks have ample cargo space to allow for extend-d camping trips, are comfortable, and will take you almost anywhere, whether it's across a flatwater pond or through six foot ocean waves. It depends on your level of ability.

The AYH program is organized on an annual basis, with easier trips planned for early in the season, instruction in the warmer summer months and more challenging trips run in the late summer and autumn. Trips are planned around three basic criteria: scenic, technical, and instructional trips. Sea-kayak touring trips range from short paddles around downtown Pittsburgh to week-long camping voyages, taking everything in the boat. The technical trips provide greater challenge both physically and in paddling technique. Instructional trips are the most common, where you can learn basic paddling on up to kayak safety, rescue, navigation, and the kayak roll.

The AYH owns a fleet of 9 sea kayaks, expressly to teach and equip members, and our rental rates are about one-quarter of the industry prices. Trip leaders are volunteers who plan each trip's destination, degree of strenuousness, and ability level. Beginner level trips are suitable for almost anyone - you don't even have to know how to swim. Each trip is unique, so you must talk to the trip leader about what to bring, how long the trip will last, and its cost. We have monthly dinners where you can come and talk at length about any trip we're involved in, or discuss the trip when you sign up, on the phone. Knowing what to expect and being prepared will only improve your (and our) enjoyment of the trip.

And finally, sea-kayaking is an exciting sport, still in its infancy. The people who pioneered the sport and literally "invented" it are still active paddles, writers, and teachers. and remain accessible to many new seakayakers today. How sea-kayaking finally develops will depend on those who learn about the sport now. Call us if you're interested... we'll teach you how, Mark Mistrik, 344-8664

TUESDAY EVENING 21-March, 1995

Monthly Activities dinner. Outdoor-related conversation and a new restaurant every month. Open to everyone. Please call several days in advance for restaurant information and reservations. Mark Mistrik 344-8665.

FRIDAY Evening 24-March thru SUN EVENING 26-MARCH 1995 Weekend sea-kayaking trip to the Tidewater region of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay. Two day paddles, two overnights in a Condo/Hostel/Resort and incredible Belgium waffle breakfast. Beginners accepted on this trip, Call for more information. Mark Mistrik 344-8665.

SATURDAY I-APRIL, 1995

Annual April Fool's Day Paddle and Kite Flying -Revived! This one started with Cathy Lynch {361-3707}several years ago, and tea at high noon is customary. We'll provide the hot water. Marraine State Park, if the ice is gone. Beginners welcome. Mark Mistrik 344-8665 MEETS: HQ at 8:00 AM SATURDAY MORNING.

MONDAY Evening 10-APRIL, 1995

Monthly Activities dinner. 6:30 PM. Call for more information and to reserve. Mark Mistrik 344-8665

FRIDAY EVENING 21-APRIL thru SUN EVENING 23-APRIL, 1995 Annual AYH/Sierra Club Sea-kayaking and canoeing Spring Weekend. We'll paddle down the Clarion river if conditions permit or the West Branch of the Susquehanna otherwise. Beautiful campsites, great campfires, and Ed Diver's Ginseng Muscatel are features of this trip. Open to beginner paddlers with camping experience. Mark Mistrik 344-8665

FRIDAY EVENING 28-APRIL thru SUN EVENING 30-APRIL, 1995 Annual Pennsylvania Grand Canyon trip. Canoes and Sea-Kayak weekend down the very scenic Pine Gorge. Bald Eagles and small rapids keep this trip interesting. Primitive tent camping overnight. Mark Mistrik 344-8665

FRIDAY 12-MAY thru SUNDAY EVENING 14-MAY, 1995

Chesapeake Bay Sea-Kayaking Symposium in Elk Neck, Maryland. This is an intensive weekend of class instruction, workshops, and demos and there is a boat beach option where you can try out almost any commercially available kayak on the market. Partially sponsored by the Trade Association of sea-Kayaking (not organized by the AYH). This is a must-attend event if you are considering buying you're own boat or want to learn more about the various aspects of sea-kayaking from teams of professionals. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE ONE TO TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE TO GUARANTEE ACCEPTANCE. Mark Mistrik 344-8665

FRIDAY EVENING 26-MAY thru-MONDAY EVENING 29-MAY, 1995 Memorial Day weekend sea-kayaking roadtrip. We will either go to Assatesque Island National Seashore or Georgian Bay Islands National Park in Ontario, Canada. We'll discuss the choice at the March Activity dinner. Call for more information. Mark Mistrik 344-8665

LATE ARIL or EARLY MAY, 1995

Evening Sea-kayaking Intro trips resume. These easy weekday evening trips are a good way to become aquatinted with the sea-kayak, Basic instruction and an overview of the sport will be covered, along with actual paddling on a lake or river. These trips are a pre-requisite for almost all other sea-kayaking trips (after mid-May) and recommended if you haven't been in one lately. Call for more information and to reserve a kayak. Mark Mistrik 344-8665

MID-WEEK RAMBLES

March 1	Walk in Frick Park with John Hartman
---------	--------------------------------------

- March 8 Explore the Strip District with Margaret Krest. Plan to eat together at the Spaghetti Warehouse.
- March 15 Walk to the Highland Park reservoir, likely with a walking group from Vintage. Leaders: Dick and Ruth Fisher. 421-9215.
- March 22 Ramble in Homestead area with Walter and Peg Patton.
- March 29 Hike from Millvale to Herrs Island (aka Washington Crossing) and return. Leader:
- April 5 Forest Hills area with Leo and Pat Clougherty
- April 12

 Beechwood Farms nature walk, with John and Alberta
 Hartman. Bring a picnic lunch. Possible slides from their
 trip to Costa Rica.
- April 19 Duff Park nature walk with Marge Patterson.
- April 26 Trillium Trail in Fox Chapel, with George Westcott.
- May 3 Wild flower walk in the Raccoon Creek Wild-flower Re serve, near Raccoon Creek State Park Leaders: Judy and Jim Hurst
- Walk the Squirrel Hill Railroad, ending up in Oakland at the home of Cliff and Marilyn Ham. Please bring a bag lunch; drinks will be supplied. Slides of a trip to Israel with Walter and Peg Patton.
- May 17 Walk in Coraopolis with a local group there. Lunch provided.
- May 24 Emerging nature in South Park.
- May 31 Check out a new addition to Dark Hollow Woods (or Settlers Woods) in Oakmont, Plum Creek.

NOTE FOR ALL TRIPS: Meet in the upper parking lot, Fifth and Shady Avenues by 10 A.M. We will carpool to save energy and enjoy each other's company.

Trips are normally three to four miles in length, at a leisurely pace. Trips are subject to change due to weather, the leader, or the choice of the group. We will walk in all conditions of weather, so be prepared.

From time to time, usually on the second Wednesday, we will schedule lunch at a restaurant, or a brown bag lunch. These are optional.

Call Cliff or Marilyn Ham for more information about a trip, or to let them know you are planning to walk with the group at 687-4520, but not after ten o'clock at night. Note: during March and April call the AYH office during its business hours: 422-2282 .

HIKING / BACKPACKING

Sunday March 12 Joyce Appel 526-5407 Paul Henry 962-1511

Intermediate hike 12+ miles on rugged terrain between Moraine and Jennings. Unmarked section of North Country trail. Call Joyce or Paul for details and reservations.

Saturday March 18 Joyce Appel 526-5407 Paul Henry 962-1511

Depending on weather and abilities, 6 to 13 mile hike. Mill Creek park near Youngstown Ohio. Beautiful scenery and you wouldn't believe it is near a city.

Saturday March 18 Steve Nydes 661-9357

Intermediate hike from Rte 31 to Seven Springs and back (5 miles each way). Call for a reservation

Saturday March 25 Glenn Oster 364-2864

Hike scenic Cook Forest State park. Be awed by tall trees in a virgin forest cathedral and enjoy the view of the Clarion River valley from Seneca point. Intermediate, 8 mile distance with 3 major climbs and descends. Call for information and reservation.

Sunday March 26 Maynard Hansen 751-7615

Friendship Hill National Historic site. Preserve of country estate of Albert Gallatin - 8 miles, overlook Mon river, 7 waterfalls. Meet at Southland shopping center near Rte 51 (Wendy's) 8:30 a.m. Free tour of house if interested.

Saturday April 1 Joyce Appel 526-5407 Paul Henry 962-1511

Possibly section of Warrior Trail that is south of Pittsburgh. Trail goes from PA to Ohio. Call for details.

FRIDAY EVENING 5-MAY thru SUNDAY LIVENING 7-MAY, 1995 Cranberry Backcountry Hiking, Sightseeing, and Ramp-eating Weekend Getaway in Southern West Virginia. Easy to moderate hiking in the Cranberry Wilderness area. Stay in a condo in Snowshoe, West Virginia, with a working fireplace. Mark Mistrik 344-8665

THE NORTH FREEDOM SHELTER LIVES...KIND OF...

by jim ritchie

While on my mid-January excursion of the Baker Trail from McWilliams to just below Heathville, I went searching for the old North Freedom Shelter. Word was the Shelter had been burnt down, not just once but several times, and was moved in the process of trying to find a safe location.

The Baker Trail Hiking Guide shows the shelter location correctly on the map; the written instructions, however, were developed before the road going past the shelter was rerouted, so ignore the written instructions. The shelter was located along Little Sandy Creek just outside of an obscure settlement called Langville, on a little bluff directly over the flowing water, in a grove of hemlocks and white pine. The location is spectacular.

The shelter itself is another story; the walls of the shelter are gone, presumably burnt down and the roof now sits directly on top of the floor. If you are planning to backpack the area however, I would strongly encourage you to use the site with your tent; it is too pretty to miss.

To locate the shelter on the little gated side road just before you reach the bridge (northbound on the trail) off the main dirt road, you walk past the gate, and around the curve in the road to the left. Before you crest the little hill on the curve itself, look to the right into a grove of hemlocks and pines between you and the Creek. You will see a natural walkway through the trees; follow it to the top of the bluff overlooking Little Pine Creek.

If the shelter here were ever rebuilt, it would probably be worth the time to try to relocate it in a not-so-accessible area. But I will surely hate to give up that beautiful spot.

AYH Book News FIFTY HIKES IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Walks and dayhikes from the Laurel Highlands to Lake Erie.

Second Edition
by Tom Thwaites
Photographs by the author
208 pages, 6x9, topo maps with trail overlays.

"Tom Thwaites' new book, as his legions of fans fully expected, is a joy to read. Even for hikers who never expect to set foot on any of the trails described in <u>Fifty Hikes in Western Pennsylvania</u>, the book will provide hours of pleasant relaxation. Each hike description is so laced with humor, anecdote, fascinating bits of history, natural lore, and plain good writing that its enjoyment is independent of any hiking plans".

This quote, from the summer 1983 issue of the <u>Keystone Trails</u> <u>Association Newsletter</u>, captures the style of Thwaites' book better than any other of the many complimentary reviews it received when it is first published. The second edition, just issued by Backcountry Publications, Woodstock, Vermont, is everything the first was - plus new hikes and a thorough updating by the author.

This completely revised edition of Fifty Hikes in Western Pennsylvania describes seven brand-new excursions, including Glacier Ridge Trail, Minister Creek Trail, Anders Tract Natural Area, Enlow Fork, Schollards Wetlands, Browns Run, and Petroleum Center. Three hikes-New Florence Game Lands, Goddard State Park, and Oil Creek State Parkhave been revised and the author has exhaustively updated the rest of the text to reflect the latest trail information, resulting in 25 new or corrected maps and more than a dozen new photographs.

This book is much more than just a trail guide. Thwaites introduces his hikes with an account of the geological history which produced western Pennsylvania's relatively gentle terrain and throughout the hikes brings geological features to the hiker's attention.

And there is Thwaites the naturalists. Spring wildflowers, he notes, are "a particular delight of western Pennsylvania's trails," and he guides the hiker to places where they blanket the ground "like a late snowfall." Several hikes take the walker through majestic stands of virgin timber. Thwaites also tells the hiker where to find the shy pileated woodpecker, wood ducks or the rare massasauga rattlesnakes.

You can order your copy of "Fifty Hikes in Western Pennsylvania" Now from Pittsburgh Council AYH! Use the handy order form on the last page of this Newsletter. Cost is only \$11.95, plus \$1.20 postage and our new 7% local sales tax for all Pennsylvania residents. Wholesale/Dealer discounts are possible, call the AYH office at 412-422-2282. Thank You

DOWNHILL SKIING

Seven Springs Saturday evening ski trips, 4:30-11:00 PM

Saturday	Mar 4th, 1995	(ski 5:00	- 11:00 PM)
Disc	ount tickets		\$13.00
Ski r	entals (skis, boots ar	id poles)	\$ 9.00
Less	on	-	\$ 4.00
Snov	vboard rental		\$15.00
Snov	vboard lesson		\$10.00
AYH	Alpine Trip Fee		\$ 1.00

Money due one week in advance of trip.

Skiers meet at Seven Springs (carpooling is not being organized,)

Call Nancy Yuliano 898-4662 (h) for reservations and
more information.

CANOEING

The AYH Canoeing Program offers a variety of paddling for a wide range of skill levels and interests. Western Pennsylvania offers canoeing on whitewaters of the mountains, to flowing rivers of the valleys, to lakes nestled in the rolling hills. The region abounds with canoeing opportunities suited to almost every taste. Most recreational canoeing in Western Pennsylvania is on moving-water rivers ranging from narrow creeks that are canoeable only after heavy rains to major rivers with year-round flow. They cover the complete spectrum from still through swift, from pristine through industrial, and from easy through difficult.

This program emphasizes open-canoeing paddling. Trips start in May. We use solo and tandem canoes having different designs and characteristics so paddlers can gain experience using equipment rented at a reasonable fee. Basic instruction on Wednesday evenings, weekend day trips on flat and whitewater, whitewater I & II schools, solo school, camping, river trips and exploring marshes are scheduled with the leader who qualifies you for their trip. Basic instruction is a pre requisite for whitewater paddling so be sure and take the class.

April 5 Canoe Program Planning Meeting Wed 7:30 PM Paul Henry 962-1511

Anyone Interested in Canoeing activities is invited to Bugby's home for this planning meeting. We will discuss issues effecting canoeing, equipment maintenance and develop the SCHEDULE of classes and trips for the 1995 paddling season. We do allow enough time to enjoy Jan's food. Canoeists do need to keep up their strength. Please call Jan/Gordon Bugby 371-4233 for directions

Bon Voyage to Helen Coyne

Well, Helen's on her way around the world! Helen Coyne, our office manager for the last 3 years, has joined a group of AYHers and other intrepid folks on a cycling trip around the world. Her adventure starts March 1st in San Diego and will end up back in San Diego October 1st, 1996. In between, she and her friends will be cycling and seeing all the sights the world has to offer. We've enjoyed having her working with us in the AYH office and we'll miss her and wish her the best. For those of us who want to travel along vicariously, Helen's promised to send back messages by e-mail from time to time and we'll be publishing those in the newsletter. Here's the planned agenda:

March - June 1995 July - October 1995

November 1995 December 1995 - January 1996 January - April 1996 May 1996 June 1996 June - October 1996 San Diego to New York City London to Athens via Eastern Europe and Turkey Delhi India to Katmandu Nepal Bangkok Thailand to Singapore Sydney to Perth Australia New Zealand Cook Islands Anchorage to San Diego

The total mileage? Anywhere from 15,000 to 27,000 miles, depending on what everyone wants to do. It seems the only constraints are the flights from continent to continent.

Have You Ever Wondered What It's Like - Being Stuck Upside Down In a Sea-Kayak Fending Off SHARK ATTACKS, while enjoying a great dinner?

Tuesday evening march 21, 1995 Monday evening April 10, 1995

Then join us for our monthly Activities dinners. Try a different restaurant each month. Sea-kayaking uses these monthly "Gourmandizing Events" in lieu of a traditional annual planning meeting; our dinners are fun and informal, and our program stays active throughout the year. We'll talk about anything Outdoor related. This is your chance to exchange ideas and tips on buying functional clothes and equipment, what to expect on trips, and finding the best places to go. Plan new sea-kayaking trips (usually over dessert) along with hiking, backpacking and sightseeing trips. Canoers and poke-boaters are welcome on many of our excursions.

Dinners are open to everyone. Please call for reservations and information about each month's restaurant. Mark Mistrik 344-8665.

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

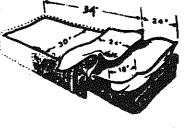


pillowcase. Regular sleeping bags are not allowed at hostels due to public health regulations.

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.



Required in all youth hostels, the sleeping sack serves as your top & bottom sheets, with a built-in

BAKER TRAIL-ADOPT IT FOR 1995

by jim ritchie

This will be the second year of the AYH Adopt-A-Trail program in which you have the opportunity to adopt a section of the Baker Trail. Last year, the Rachel Carson Trail was put up for adoption, in roughly 2- to 3-miles pieces. Fifteen sections of the RCT were adopted, covering the entire length of the Trail from end to end, North Park, 34 miles to Harrison Hills Park. Blazes were painted; weedsespecially brambles and knotweed were cut; trash was picked up, and blowdown was cut up and moved, once again rejuvenating Allegheny County's rugged and challenging Rachel Carson Trail.

For 1995, we want to adopt out the Baker Trail. The following information will help you decide

if you would like to join up with us.

What is the Baker Trail? Baker Trail is a hiking trail, extending from Freeport, PA on the northeastern tip of Allegheny County, 141 miles to the Allegheny National Forest, near Marienville, passing through Cook Forest and Crooked Creek on its way north. The Trail runs on the crests of the bluffs overlooking the Allegheny River, along the shores of Crooked Creek Lake, through Christmas Tree Plantations, past Mahoning Creek Reservoir, through Amish Country, and along the Clarion River.

Who owns the Baker Trail? Only small portions of the Baker Trail are on public property. The Baker Trail was built in the tradition of the Appalachian Trail: crossing private property with the verbal permission of landowners. Much of the Trail follows little-used rural dirt roads. The Baker Trail is an AYH trail: built by the Pittsburgh AYH around 1950 by a fledgling organization.

Why should I adopt the Baker Trail? The Baker Trail is a challenging and exciting resource for all the people of Western Pennsylvania and beyond. Unlike trails such as the Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail, located mostly on State-owned property and maintained by the State using tax dollars, trails like the Baker, the Rachel Carson, and the prior to public ownership, the Appalachian Trail, will disappear without the support of hikers and outdoors enthusiasts like you. You will gain the personal satisfaction of having contributed to a recreation you yourself treasure.

What do I have to do? When you adopt the Baker Trail, you are making a commitment to hike your section of the Trail two times during 1995; the first time should be around the beginning of May when you will paint fresh yellow blazes along the route. The second, around the beginning of June, will be to check on vegetation, looking for problems where brambles or knotweed have overgrown the trail,

and cutting away what you are able to do.

What do I get out of it? Nothing; except fresh air, exercise, love of the outdoors, personal satis-

faction, beauty, peace of mind, friendship.

What else can I do? If you can't get out on the trail, I need some help designing and ordering incentives such as t-shirts, ball caps, patches, etc. with Baker Trail logos on them. If enough help is available, I'd like to organize an annual meeting of AYH trail maintenance workers, maybe at an outdoor cookout location along one of our trails. I would like to find a volunteer with experience writing grant applications; there are several programs through which the Baker Trail may be able to attract funding for things such as permanent plastic trail blazes. I also need some assistance from hikers who are willing to hike some of the remote sections of the Trail and then update the Baker Trail Hiking Guide, the map and the text.

How do I get started? Call me, Jim Ritchie, at (412) 828-0210; if I'm not there, leave me a message on my answering machine and I'll call you back. Ask me any questions you may have about being a "maintainer", a Trailworker. I especially would like to identify people in Armstrong County, Clarion County, Jefferson County, and Forest County who are willing to assume responsibility for

portions of the trail near their homes.

Is there any training? I will provide a personal trail maintenance orientation for every volunteer. We'll walk the trail, learn how to follow it, talk about painting blazes, cutting weeds and blowdown, tools to use, and keeping the trail clean. I will be setting dates now for weekends in April, May, and June.

ADOPT MELL I NEED A GOOD HOME! (Baker Trail Sections)

Section 1: Garver's Ferry to Godfrey, Gilpin Twp., Armstrong

Not Available; already adopted.

Section 2: Godfrey to Center Valley, Armstrong County Mostly dirt roads, two sections through woodlots; climbs out of the Allegheny River valley to high

ground; skirts farms, small rural settlements.

Section 3: Center Valley to Route 66, Bethel Twp., Armstrong CountyThis section includes the only "ladder trail' on the BT; Cook's Summit; the Crooked Creek

Backpacking Shelter; ends on Rt. 66 at the Llama Farm next to Crooked Creek.

Route 66 to the Crooked Creek Dam, Armstrong Section 4: County Mostly through the woods; some steep ups

and downs; along Crooked Creek to the dam, up the hill; ends at the picnic shelter/rest room

complex.

Section 5: Crooked Creek Dam to Cochran's Mill, Armstrong

County Starts by the picnic shelter/rest room complex by the dam, and then skirts the edge of the reservoir, into some deep hollows and out again. This is a long section, about 8-9 miles long, so it would be ideal for two or more people, run ning a car shuttle. One person could do it, going in and out the same route, doing one half at a time. This section is scheduled for a major rehabilitation in July, 1995 with the Keystone Trails Association

scheduling a weekend-long TrailCare camping and trail maintenance extravaganza, being led by Mary Pitzer and likely to attract some of Pennsylvania's

hiking legends.

Other Sections: To adopt any of the above sections, or any other sections with which you are familiar, call Jim Ritchie, (412) 828-0210 to hear about the details.

Each volunteer will get a personal orientation on

the trail section they adopt.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL **BACKPACKING TRIP**

Want to tackle a rugged section of the AT? You can, by joining Glenn Oster this summer. He's planning to backpack south from Monson, Maine 178 miles into northern New Hampshire. In order to minimize the difficulty of the climbs, descents and rocky terrain, the average daily distance will be kept to eight miles.

The time frame for the entire trip is July 21 through August 21. However, if you can arrange for your own transportation, there are fourteen different trail segments you can select ranging from four days to twenty-three days' duration and distances as short as thirty-three miles.

The hike will cross the impressive Mahoosuc Range with its superb scenery. Bring you camera.

Call Glenn for information and reservations (412) 364 - 2864.

REMINDER TO TRIP HEADERS

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

BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA BACKPACKING OR CAR CAMPING TRIP

JULY 1 - 15, 1995

If you've ever driven the Needles Highway through the Black Hills of South Dakota, you know at least two things - the scenery is magnificent and the hills are more than hills. Looks like a backpackers paradise. Each time I drove that highway I promised myself that I would one day do some serious hiking there. This is the year.

Detailed plans are not finalized, but put this on your calendar for July 1-15 (van touring leaving Friday

evening at 6:30 p.m.)

In addition to the backpacking, we'll visit as many area scenic wonders as we can, such as Mount Rushmore, Chief Crazy Horse mountain carving, Custer State Park wildlife preserve (huge herds of buffaloes, wild burros, deer and more), Jewel Cave National Monument, Wind Cave National Park, Devils Tower National Monument and The Badlands.

If you aren't up to backpacking, but would like to car camp or motel and spend time relaxing, day hiking and sightseeing in the area, you would be welcome to come on the trip. We will need someone to drive the van to our backpacking end point and pick us up after our hike.

This has the makings of a great trip. If you'd like to talk about it give me, Glenn Oster, a call at (412) 364 - 2864.

Sea-Kayak for SALE

The Sea Kayaking Program would like to sell one of its club-owned sea-kayaks. Two choices are available. We have a Red Hydra Sea-Runner with fore and aft deck rigging, rear bulkhead and hatch, and new foot-braces. This is a very stable, high cargo-capacity Sea-Kayak well-suited for carrying more gear or larger paddlers. The other boat is a yellow Aquaterra Chinook. This remains the world's most popular seakayak model blending easy handling characteristics and efficiency with very good stability. Both kayaks are rotomolded plastic, fully sea-worthy as-is and available on any trip for a test paddle. A two year state registration license will be included. Minimum bid for either Kayak is \$250.00. We also have used Werner San Juan Paddles Available (call for condition and price). Mark Mistrik 344-8665.

T-Shirt Sale

94 MVC T-Shirt \$6, 94 SABRE T-Shirt \$6, 93 MVC T-Shirt \$3

The Pittsburgh Council "I'd Rather Be Hiking... etc." T-Shirt is also available in vibrant yellow or coral and also in purple and heather gray for a special price of \$7 each.

Add \$2 postage for one T-Shirt or \$3 for two or more T-Shirts

Also, water bottles from 93 MVC and 94 SABRE — \$2 including postage

Remember, all T-Shirt sales help support Pittsburgh Council projects, including the new Pittsburgh hostel!

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE!

Buy a gift membership for that student travelling to Europe for the holidays or for the spring semester abroad. Don't forget to include an international hostel directory, a Let's Gobook and perhaps a Eurail or BritRail pass. See the back page for details or call the office for suggestions.

OSTER, from page 3

Our first foray into the park was to Santa Elena Canyon to see how the Rio Grande had cut vertical walls through the Sierra Los Encinos mountain; looking west, the entrance to the canyon is surely impressive. Terlingua Creek flows into the Rio Grande at this point, and, happily, we were able to rock hop across (my other time here, the water level was higher, and I had to cross knee deep in brown, sticky mud-yuck muck!). We explored here for a while and started back.

We visited ruins of buildings used by farmers in the 1800s who raised crops in the fertile Rio Grande valley. The reason they are no longer farming? They grew abundant, high quality crops but couldn't get them to large enough markets on a timely basis to make farming viable -economics at work even in that remote location so long ago.

Next, we aimed for Cerro Castellan, one of the most imposing buttes I've ever seen, towering a good 8000 feet above the surrounding desert land. Photographers' heaven. Another reason for going in that direction was lunch at the Gastelon Village (spelled differently from the nearby butte). While we were eating, we watched a ranger indoctrinating a group of about fifteen volunteers in what they would be doing by way of manual labor in working on trails and other park needs. The sky was becoming overcast, admittedly, but those bright yellow rain suits they wore surely looked like overkill to us. Despite the outfits, the volunteers appeared to be all fired up and ready to get to work.

Hiking was supposed to be our primary activity, but we had been in the park for nearly twenty hours and had not done any real hiking; so, The Lost Mine Trail got the nod. Up we went, climbing 1250 feet in 2+ miles with distant views getting better the higher we climbed. Especially scenic was the view over The Basin to La Ventana (the window). La Ventana is a steep cleavage in the wall of rock where Oak Creek finds its way out of The Basin. Breathtaking too was Green Gulch, the valley through which the access road climbs. On the way, you could look up to the ponderous Casa Grande, a massive rock monolith that, incidentally, was off limits to hikers as a safe haven for nesting peregrine falcons. Once at the crest of the trail, there is a sweeping view of Juniper Canyon to the east, and to the north there's a great view of where the lost mine is supposed to be - obviously still lost. Hiking back down the trail was not as much fun - rain and mud. On the other hand, the rain did give us an excuse to pamper ourselves; we had dinner at the lodge restaurant - wimps. As the evening wore on, we were unenthusiastically thinking about getting into the wet tents, because it began to rain harder, mixed with gigundas sloppy snow flakes, and the wind added to the joy of the night. Not to worry, the tents did just fine; I slept very well.

Next morning - crisp with ice on the tents, but clear and beautiful. The site is unusual with mountains all around The Basin. That morning the sun was shining brightly on the western walls. The night's snow deposit in the higher elevations accented the general grandeur. Surely was chilly when the wimps made breakfast at the campsite picnic table.

Then off for the day's activities-the first, walking the Chihuahuan Nature Trail where we saw all manner of prickly, jaggy desert plant life, such as century plants, ocotillo, prickly pear and cholla cacti, lechuguilla, sotol and candellita to name only a few. It was interesting to learn the names of so many types of cactus and the many other shrubs we saw everywhere. Mentioning prickly, jaggy desert plant life reminds me of a story that I just have to digress and tell. On my previous trip to the park, I climbed The Lost Mine Trail just as we had done on this trip the previous day, but that time dressed in hiking shorts and T shirt. At the crest, I was trying to get better composition of a picture of the mountain reportedly hiding the lost mine when - ohhhhhh! I backed into a prickly pear cactus. Instant misery! There had been a sizeable number of hikers on the trail that day, and I felt that I should be very discreet as I reached inside the back of my shorts and under pants to extract those painful spines which were now taking residence in my buttocks. I was able to get out several without being caught in the act and believed I had them all. It only took two steps to disabuse myself of that notion; there were more. Well a man has to do what he has to do. At that point, those little devils hurt so much that the decision was easy - the shorts had to come down-even though I might be jailed for indecent exposure. I could feel the spines better without the encumbrance of clothing and pulled out every one. Ahhh, how do you spell relief? Happy buns. And no one turned up to be horrified; I didn't have to go to jail.

Boquillas Canyon came in turn, and we hiked into it as far as one can, at times in tunnels of bamboo trees. The same as at Santa Elena Canyon, you eventually reach the point where the sheer rock walls and the river meet -there is no room for a trail. On the way, the little Mexican town of Boquillas could be seen across the Rio Grande. A Mexican citizen provides row boat ferry service as his livelihood, but we elected to pass on that opportunity. By now, it was hot, visiting Boquillas would take too long and we had much more on the existing agenda.

On a day as hot as this had become, the last thing I wanted to think about was hot springs, but that's where we went after lunch. The two mile narrow dirt entry road with large rocks jutting from the right and a sharp drop off to the left was a bit of a challenge for Jack, whose turn it was to drive. Nevertheless, he managed without scratching the van or falling into the arroyo. We parked and poked around the ruins of whatwas a thriving resort in 1909, built around its hot springs. At the turn of the century, hot springs were strong drawing cards wherever found across the USA, ostensibly for their healing properties. Hot Springs Resort even had its own post office. Their "hotel" rooms (9x12 feet in size without electricity or plumbing) were each decorated by a painted mural depicting life in that part of the world - amazing that they were still quite visible eighty-some years later, especially considering that there had been no doors to close for who knows how many decades. On we went down to the Rio Grande and to the hot springs themselves. Some of the more knowledgeable park visitors wore bathing suits and when we arrived were luxuriating in the hot water, afterwards taking a dip in the river to cool off. We passed that up too-didn't think we'd be welcome in our skivvies.

On the way back to camp, we saw some "beep beep" roadrunners hard to believe that they can really run as fast as they do. Then, when we reached camp, lo and behold there were several javelinas grazing in our campsite, although it is difficult to determine what in this barren place they could find that would make their mouths water. Javelinas, also known as collared peccary, are piglike animals with triangular, pointed heads. I had understood that they had mean dispositions, but these guys looked docile to me. We surely didn't annoy them at all when we reclaimed our campsite. Sunny, turning chilly and time for jackets, but even wimps couldn't rationalize dinner at the lodge that evening.

Glenn will conclude this article in the next issue of <u>The Golden Tri-</u> <u>angle</u> telling of their more serious hikes and their bouts with the wind and desert washes.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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).

*Typing articles for the newsletter into a computer; Bill Eberle, 833-9732

*Hostel development and fundraising; 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 Thurs-

day Open House; office, 422-2282 "Trail Maintenance, Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail; Jim Ritchie, 828-0210

*HQMaintenance, 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

CLASSIBLED

Laude at 665-9554.

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: 92' Geo Metro. Automatic. 2-door hatchback. Radio and tape cassette. 15,000 miles. great condition. Terrific gas mileage. \$5,375 or best offer. Call Vickie. 344-4929.

FOR SALE: Queen size waterbed with waveless mattress, six drawers in bedframe, heater. \$200 or BO. Barbara 371-2506

FOR SALE: Stereo components - Dual turntable, Sony STR-VX250 receiver, EV speakers. \$150 or BO. Barbara 371-2506

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

I will be traveling to Vancover & Alaska in May of 95 and was interested in sharing cruise costs to Alaska Inside Passage and rooming in Vancouver. Anyone interested in Travel for Approx. 21/2 weeks please contact: Jan Herczak at 921-35656 and leave a message.

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: Coleman Tent Trailer - Basic trailer, no stove, sink, etc. All new canvas. \$300 or BO. evenings 371-1384.

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

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HI-AYH Products and Membership Application

Outdoor Recreation Books

Allegheny National Forest Hiking Guide describes more than 250 miles of trails for hiking, backpacking and ski touring in the 800-square mile Allegheny National Forest. It also describes ski touring opportunities and points of scenic interest. Published by the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club. 192 pages, 49 maps, 33 photos. Third Edition (1990) \$8.00

AYH Outdoor Food Book contains menus, recipes, food preparation tips and food planning ideas for canoeists, bicyclists, backpackers, ski tourers and other outdoor-oriented people. 144 pages, 25 photos and

Baker Trail Guide describes the 141 miles of the Baker Trail from Allegheny National Forest to Freeport PA. 38 pages with complete topographic maps. Published by AYH. 35th Anniversary Edition (1987) \$4.00

Canoeing Guide to Western Pennsylvania and Northern West Virginia contains information on 270 canoe trips on 3,040 miles of streams in western Pennsylvania and northern West Virginia. 480 pages, illustrated. Published by AYH. 8th Edition (1991) \$13.95

Fifty Hikes in Western Pennsylvania by Tom Thwaites describes 50 of his favorite hiking trails in western Pennsylvania. Fifty Hikes contains lots of interesting background material on the history and geology of each area. 206 pages, 60 pages of maps, 48 photos. 2nd Edition (1992)......\$11.95

Hikers Guide to Laurel Highlands Trail describes the 70 miles of the trail from Ohiopyle park to Conemaugh Gore atop Laurel Ridge. Published by the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. 128 pages, 24 pages of maps. New 4th Edition (1992)...... \$5.00

Monongahela National Forest Hiking Guide describes more than 160 Forest Service trails in 1,350 square miles of the Mon National Forest - one of the best areas for hiking, backpacking and ski touring in this part of the country. Published by the West Virginia Conservancy. 320 pages, 60 maps, 39 photos. 6th Edition (1993)\$9.95

Pennsylvania Hiking Trails describes more than 290 trails and hiking areas throughout Pennsylvania. Published by Keystone Trails Association. 224 - pages, 94 maps. 11th edition (1993)\$7.00

Rachel Carson Trail Guide describes the Rachel Carson trail from North Park

Fifty Hikes in Central Pennsylvania by Tom Thwaites. Another excellent book in the Fifty Hikes series covering day hikes and backpacking in the heart of Pennsylvania. Includes the Tuscarora Ridge, Alan Seeger, and John P. Saylor Trails as well as other favorites. Second Edition...... \$11.95

Canoeing and Kayaking Ohio's Streams - An access guide for paddlers and anglers. Maps, hazards, portages, shuttles, history and game

Appalachian Trail in Pennsylvania, Ninth Edition (1994). A revised edition of the official guide to the 232 miles of the AT in Pennsylvania. 200

Appalachian Trail Maps (PA). Set of 12 monochrome topo maps covering the AT in Pennsylvania. Published by the KTA. Maps and elevations on six sheets of Polyart. (1992)\$5.00

For Fastest Service! Visit The AYH Travel Store! Pittsburgh Council, AYH

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Travel Books (10% discount for members)

International Hostel Handbooks A complete listing of the Hostelling International Youth Hostels with descriptions, prices, addresses, and

Volume I Europe and the Mediterranean\$10.95

Let's Go The famous series of books for the budget traveler published by Harvard Student Agencies

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Let's Go USA	
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Travel Accessories

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Cotton Sheet Sack Comfortable cotton blend	\$13.00
Nylon Sheet Sack Lightweight Nylon	\$12.00
Advance Booking Postcards Set of 10	\$1.00
Hostel Stamp Book Use to record your hostel Visits	
Hostel Pass Cover Plastic cover for your membership card	\$0.50
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Universal student ID issued by CIEE. Good for worldwide student d	liscounts.
Send 1-1/8 x 1-3/8 photo, name of your country of citizenship a	
that you're a student. Or ask for a free brochure.	•

HI-AYH Memberships

Valid for 12 months from date of purchase. Renewals valid for 12 months from expiration of current pass. Provides access to 6,000 Hostelling International hostels around the world. Includes free handbook of North American hostels upon request (see below) and 12 month subscription to Pittsburgh Council newsletter.

Adult(18-54)	. \$25.00
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Senior(over 54)	
Family	
Family Renewal	
Life (all ages)	
Non-Profit Org. (Request application)	

Eurail Passes / Europass / Britrail Passes

The economic solution to rail travel in Europe. Valid throughout all Europe except Britain. Available only in the U.S. The more popular passes are described below. Ask for a free brochure on other Eurail and Single Country passes. Credit cards accepted but require two-day delivery. Cash or money order required for immediate delivery. Youth is defined as under 26 years of age.

Eulan rass i monunummuu (youun)	\$370.00
Eurail Flexipass 5 daysfirst class travel in 2 months	\$348.00
Eurail Flexipass 10 days first class travel in 2 months	
Eurail Flexipass 5 days travel in 2 months (youth)	
Eurail Flexipass 10 days travel in 2 months (youth)	
Eurail Saverpass 15 days travel with 2 or 3 friends (per person)	
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Other passes available	CALI

Ordering / HI-AYH Hostel pass Information

Eurail Base 1 month unlimited (youth)

Include 10% for postage (\$1 minimum). Pennsylvania residents must also include 7% sales tax. Postage and taxes not required for AYH memberships and Eurail Passes. Memberships and merchandise also available at AYH Headquarters and the AYH office. Cash or money orders required for Eurail Passes. Please allow two weeks for delivery of mail orders. Collect 2 day delivery by UPS available for additional charge.

Mail to:

AYH Room 202 5604 Solway Street Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

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INTERNATIONAL

Name:			
Address:			
Phone:			
,	(day)	(eve)	
Birthdate:		Sex (M/F):	
For hostellers:	I need my he	ostel pass by:	

[] I Need a free copy of the North American Hostel Directory

AYH 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 is open Mon. Wed, and Fri. from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. We're in Room 202 of the Wightman School Building at 5604 Solway St. in Squirrel Hill, near the intersection of Wilkins and South Negley. All passes, ID cards, Eurail Passes, and books are available. For Info Call 422-2282.