

HOSTELLING  
INTERNATIONAL

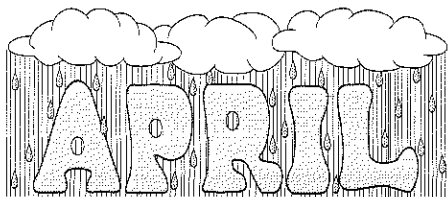
# GOLDEN TRIANGLE

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 47, NUMBER 2

APRIL 1997



Spring is upon us, and once again the Pittsburgh Council's Sailing Program is at full sail. Our sailing classes fill fast, so be sure and check out page 4 for the latest details.

The Second Annual Rachel Carson Trail Challenge is June 21st. Last years' event was a huge success, be sure to join us this year! See page 7 for an application and all of the latest details.

The Pittsburgh AYH needs volunteers more than ever this year! With the opening of our hostel and our extensive activities program, we need you more than ever. Volunteer your time today by calling our office!

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



<http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/> for the latest on activities, slide shows & local hostelling or you can email us at [ayh@trfn.clpgh.org](mailto:ayh@trfn.clpgh.org)

## INSIDE

Activity Chairs; Page 2  
Slide Shows; Page 2  
Sailing; Page 4  
Cycling / Pres. Corner; Page 5  
Hiking / Backpacking; Page 5  
Rambles / Canoeing; Page 6  
Hiker Alerts; Page 6  
Sea-kayaking; Page 8  
Rambles / Classified; Page 11  
Council Travel and Book Store;  
Back Cover

.....And MORE!!!

## Pittsburgh's Hostel Opens Next Month!



### US Hostel Handbook Update

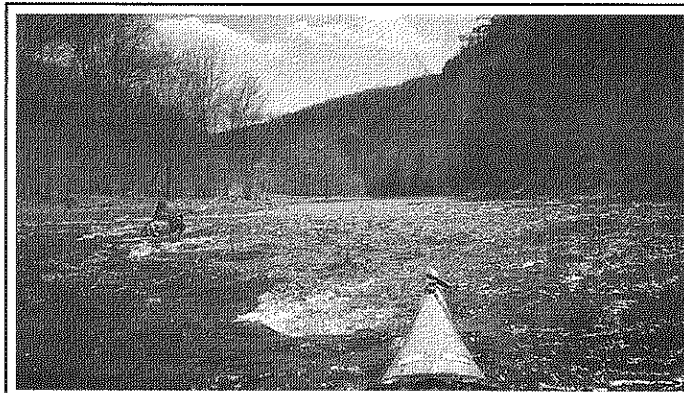
The '97 US Hostel Handbooks are now available and again this year include the hostels in Canada. When you renew, send in the postcard that comes with your membership or pick one up at Headquarters or the Office. Two corrections, however:

The phone number for the HI - Al Lester Hostel in Conway New Hampshire should be 603-447-1001.

The phone number for the HI - Bar-G Ranch Hostel in Estes Park Colorado should be 970-586-3688.

### TRANSLATION HELP WANTED

To help promote the future Pittsburgh International hostel, Joe Hœchner needs to translate information into French, German, Japanese and Spanish. If you Can help with a few paragraphs please call Joe at 242-0781. Thanks!



Gliding Downstream:  
Our Annual Pine Creek Sea-Kayaking trip about to enter the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon.

### HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL-AYH  
5604 SOLWAY STREET #202  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15217-1268

Dated material --please deliver promptly  
Address correction requested

NON-PROFIT  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #127  
PITTSBURGH, PA

PASS# SPECIAL- 1427

AYH

JOEL PLATT  
AYH LIBRARIAN  
1632 DENNISTON AVE  
PITTSBURGH

PA 15217-1458

## HOSTELLING


**Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.**

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

The **Golden Triangle** is published monthly by the Pittsburgh Council of Hostelling International, American Youth Hostels. Contents are at the discretion of the editor. All Material within is Copyrighted by Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.  
All Rights Reserved

**Triangle Staff**

Managing Editor ... **Wm. Eberle**  
(412-921-1932)

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

**Council Officers**

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

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Lou Conley (98)**  
**Wm. Eberle (97)**  
**Joe Hoechner (97)**  
**Maribeth Hook (98)**  
**Marianne Kasica (98)**  
**Larry Laude (98)**  
**Kathy Radkoff (99)**  
**Joel Platt (99)**  
**Marc Reisman (97)**  
**Roy Weil (99)**  
**Ray Yutzy (99)**  
**Bob Zavos (97)**

Office Staff  
(412-422-2282)  
**Amy Sincline**

# Oops...

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

Mail regarding this Newsletter should be addressed to:

**American Youth Hostels**  
**The Golden Triangle**  
5604 Solway ST. #202  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-1268

Office: (412) 422-2282  
or

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


**PITTSBURGH COUNCIL  
ACTIVITY CHAIRS**

Chairman of the Activities Committee	
Ray Yutzy.....	341-5682
Canoeing	
Paul Henry .....	347-3282
Brian McBane .....	443-8972
Cross Country Skiing	
VACANT.....	###-####
Cycling	
Wm Eberle .....	921-1932
Chuck Ejzak .....	466-6196
Family Activities	
Barbara Hanusa .....	441-7205
Hiking / Backpacking	
Veronique Schreurs.....	422-0358
VACANT.....	###-####
Kayaking	
VACANT .....	###-####
Ray Yutzy .....	341-5682
Midweek Rambles	
Marilyn Ham .....	687-4520
Rafting	
John Orndorff .....	741-2021
Rock Climbing	
Woj .....	322-4524
Vernon Miller .....	935-3434
Sailing	
Bob Zavos .....	241-0659
VACANT .....	###-####
Sea Kayaking	
Mark Mistrik .....	361-2943
Alpine Skiing Coordinator	
Wm Eberle .....	921-1932
Trail Systems	
Glenn Oster .....	364-2864
Jim Ritchie .....	828-0210
Headquarters Programs	
Luc Berger .....	683-3131
VACANT .....	###-####
Storekeeper	
Wm Eberle .....	921-1932

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

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

# NOTICE

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

**MAY**

All copy, April 3  
Binding/Mailing, April 24

**JUNE**

All copy, May 1  
Binding/Mailing, May 29

If your work is on computer,  
Please contact Bill Eberle  
@ 921-1932 or  
[76202.3051@Compuserve.com](mailto:76202.3051@Compuserve.com)

**Moving?**

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

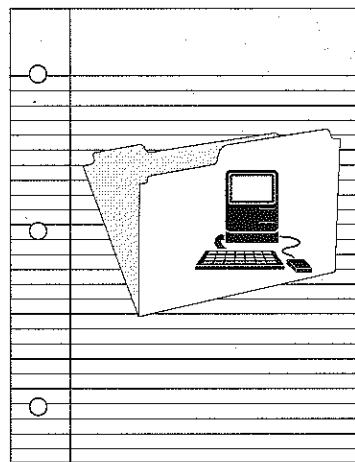
**About AYH**

American Youth Hostels is a non-profit organization which promotes international understanding, educational and recreational travel, good citizenship and an appreciation of America. AYH does this by bringing travelers of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities together in hostels and by providing low-cost travel programs. AYH is the US affiliate of Hostelling International (HI), (Formerly named International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF)), which coordinates more than 5,400 hostels worldwide-the largest network of accommodations in the world.

# Submissions Policy: Golden Triangle

**Classified Adds:**

- Classified adds are free to Current members of HI-International
- All requests for classifieds must be made in writing via the Council Office. Request Must include full Name, address, phone number and Membership number of member. Members are not permitted to place adds for non-members.
- Free adds may not be for commercial gain.
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission


**Trips**

- All trips must be approved by authorized co-chair
- Trip leader must be a council approved leader
- Trips must be submitted through co-chair, for that activity. Trip leaders, are not to submit trips directly to editor or office, any trips improperly submitted will not be listed.
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

**Articles**

- Members are encouraged to write articles, about travel abroad and in the states, and about activities and outdoor sports in which the council has a program
- All Articles are to be, non-political and non-secular
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

**General rules for submission**

- No handwritten submissions
- Submissions Can be;
  - On computer disk (IBM / MAC), E-mail (Internet/compuserve), Direct Modem, Type written material double spaced, faxed. NO EXCEPTIONS. Call if you have questions.
- Submitted before the deadline of the issue that submission needs to be run in. (See Editors Golden Rule)
- All Submissions are on a first come first serve basis, The GT makes no promises to print material received and all material received becomes the property of the GT.
- Standing Deadline; Deadline for the GT, has always been, and will continue to be the First Thursday of the month, prior to the month of the issue. (See Editors Golden Rule)
- Please always check in advance with office, to confirm schedule.

**Editors Golden Rule**

- "Lack of planning on your part, does not constitute an emergency on my part"

**Please note**, the Golden Triangle frequency of publication.

**Number 1** issue ->February / March: **Number 2** issue ->April: **Number 3** issue ->May:  
**Number 4** issue ->June: **Number 5** issue ->July: **Number 6** issue ->Aug.  
**Number 7** issue ->Sept: **Number 8** issue ->Oct: **Number 9** issue ->Nov:  
and **Number 10** issue ->Dec. / January

Editor...

**Upcoming Slide Shows**

**April 3:** Truman Kohman, "Chasing The Northern Lights". This chase leads by train to Churchill, Manitoba, on the shores of Hudson's Bay.

**April 10:** Kevin Swenson, "Windjammer Sail Around Grenada and Saint Vincent Islands".

**April 17:** Joyce Appel, "Canoeing On the Allegheny River On Halloween Weekend". Costumed masquerade on the water, pumpkin carving at night, even haunted hayride. Also, other local trips.

**April 24:** John Stephen, of Friends Of The Riverfront, "Greenways and Trails in the City of Pittsburgh".

**May 1:** We show the video "A Journey Through The Alps". See Zermatt, Lucerne, and the biblical play at Oberammergau.

**May 8:** Kathleen Donnelly, "Mysteries Of A Medieval Irish Monastery". Archeological digs off the western coast of Ireland.

**May 15:** Helen Coyne, "World Wander By Bicycle: Delhi To Singapore". See Nepal and Thailand.

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

# Pittsburgh Council Hostels

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

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





## TRAIL MAINTENANCE ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING AT THE CROOKED CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

The first-ever, Annual Meeting of the AYH trail maintainers took place on March 1, at the Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center. In spite of the "mixed-bag" weather, warm but on the verge of rain all day, twenty trail people (21 counting Shane Hummell) participated in the meeting. Trail people tend often to be private types, keeping to themselves out in the woods, or at least that is the stereotype, so 20 was a good number. This was the first time many of these maintainers have met their own kind face-to-face, so it was a good experience.

The agenda included personal introductions, a review of trail activity during last year, 1996, and a look at the objectives for 1997. The discussion of objectives revealed the Gerry Vaerewyck can solve about half of our problems single-handedly. I thank Gerry for coming and offering his assistance and "we will be in touch". A couple of new volunteers showed up, Steve Theiss, from Sharon, PA and Chuck and Sally Martin, from Pittsburgh. Steve just wants to get involved and Chuck and Sally want to adopt a section of the Rachel Carson Trail and promote an extension of the trail to the Harmony Trail in the North Hills.

As a matter of information, it was noted that 66 individuals participated in AYH Trail Maintenance last year, contributing 851 hours of labor (not including travel time to and from the work sites). There are 18 open slots on the Baker Trail, out of a total of 29, and there are 6 open slots on the Rachel Carson Trail, out of a total of 16. So, if you have an interest in taking care of your own section of the Baker or Rachel Carson Trails, give me (Jim Ritchie) a call at 412-828-0210.

After the formal meeting, a short hike down to the two new bridges constructed last year by Walter Teresciewicz and installed with help from Patti Scheuering, Bob Roth, and Brian Koehler, gave us all a chance to stretch our muscles a little. We were also able to see the old gondola cable used by Apollo Gas Company to cross Crooked Creek; we are considering the use of this structure to replace the now-defunct cable bridge at Cherry Run, a pet project of Vince Roof.

Soon it will be time to get on the old clothes, open up the can of paint and get out there and put on the 1997 coat of paint. It was emphasized at the meeting, the blazes make the trail a trail and that is why it is so important to get the blazing done each year. Watch the AYH Golden Triangle over the next 6 months for a variety of "maintenance hikes" you can sign up for, including a couple of weekend camp-out projects.

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



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

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



### ENGINEER WANTED

The trail maintenance group of AYH seeks an experienced engineer to provide professional consultation on a volunteer basis for the reconstruction or replacement of the bridge over Cherry Run, Armstrong County, near Ford City. The last bridge was a two-cable (upper and lower) walking bridge; an alternative involves moving and installing an existing gondola cable from upstream on Crooked Creek, or building a suspension bridge on an existing railroad bridge abutment. If you have the proper qualifications (i.e. you "know how to do this"), please call Jim Ritchie at (412) 828-0210. Leave a voice mail message if necessary. Or send e-mail to [jlr@vms.cis.pitt.edu](mailto:jlr@vms.cis.pitt.edu).



## HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

### PROJECT MANAGER WANTED

The trail maintenance group of AYH seeks an experienced project manager to provide oversight and direction on a volunteer basis for the reconstruction or replacement of the bridge over Cherry Run, Armstrong County, near Ford City. The last bridge was a two-cable (upper and lower) walking bridge; an alternative involves moving and installing an existing gondola cable from upstream on Crooked Creek, or building a suspension bridge on an existing railroad bridge abutment. If you have the proper qualifications (i.e. you "know how to do this"), please call Jim Ritchie at (412) 828-0210. Leave a voice mail message if necessary. Or send e-mail to [jlr@vms.cis.pitt.edu](mailto:jlr@vms.cis.pitt.edu).

### Pedal Pennsylvania is offering 3 tours in '97:

Revolutionary War Battlefields, June 28 - July 5;  
Pittsburgh to Philadelphia, July 19 - 26;  
and Erie to Philadelphia, August 9 - 17.

If you'd like more info, please point your browser to Pedal PA's website, complete with photos (<http://www.pedal-pa.com>).

Happy biking,

For More information on the Baker Trail check out our publications price list on the back page of this newsletter. The Trail Guidebook is only \$5.00 plus shipping and local 7% sales tax.

Can't hike out West? Check out our Local Trail Guides available on the last page!!!

## Central Susquehanna Hostellers

### CSH Meetings

Meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm at the Lewisburg Area Community Center at 100 North 5th Street in Lewisburg.

### Bike Rides

In addition to longer weekend rides, there are normally shorter bike rides every Thursday evening. Call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

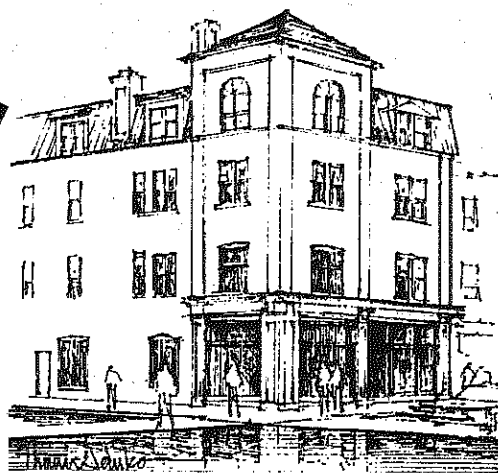
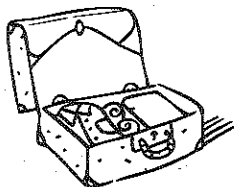
### CSH Information

Call Chris Olsen at 717-523-8471.

### Lewisburg Trips

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

**MAKE YOUR  
RESERVATIONS  
TODAY!**

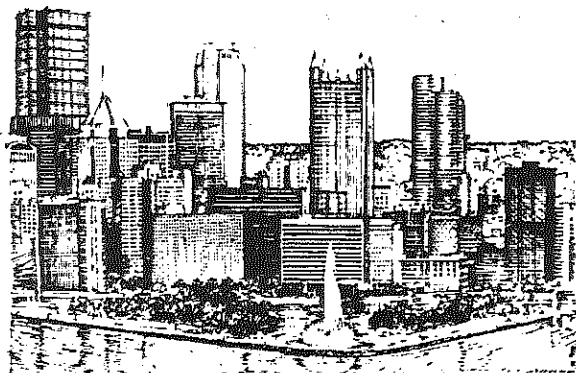


## Hostelling - International Pittsburgh PA



**New for Spring 1997:**

A 60 bed full service hostel in a converted bank building. Free parking, travel store, handicapped accessible!



**Be Sure To Visit:**

- Andy Warhol Museum
- Station Square
- Nearby Southside
- The Downtown Cultural District
- Riverfront Bike Trails
- Nearby Universities
- The Carnegie Science Center
- The Zoo & National Aviary
- Phipps Conservatory
- Historic Point State Park
- Three Rivers Stadium

For information, reservations, grand opening date, or rates contact the Pittsburgh Council AYH office at 412-422-2282, fax 412-422-2509 or <http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/>

### ADOPT THE BAKER TRAIL

Do you have an interest in Trail Maintenance??? You must love hiking and the outdoors; you must be responsible enough to assume personal responsibility for blazing, clearing, and cleaning a section of the Baker Trail on your own time, once a year. I will provide a personal walk-through orientation on your section. AYH provides or reimburses you for paint, brushes, and other needs. Right now there are sections available near Crooked Creek, Indiana County (near Elderton and Plumville), Armstrong County (near the Mahoning Dam), and Jefferson County.

Reply to Jim Ritchie,  
(412) 828-0210, or send e-mail to  
[jlr@vms.cis.pitt.edu](mailto:jlr@vms.cis.pitt.edu)

## SAILING

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

All trips require previous sailing experience unless otherwise stated. This generally means a minimum of a Red Cross certified Basic Sailing Class or equivalent. Participants for all sailing activities must be in good physical condition and able to pass minimum Red Cross recommendations for swimming competency. Personal Floatation Devices are required on all trips. Individuals with their own sailboats are encouraged to join our program.

**May 10 Sat Lake Arthur Bob Zavos 241-0659**  
DAY SAILING. Opening day of sailing if the weather permits. If you have a wet suits be sure to bring it along. Prerequisite: Basic Sailing Class or demonstrate equivalent skills.

**May 17 Sat Lake Arthur Bob Zavos 241-0659**  
RACING DAY. Moraine Sailing Club's (MSC) first day of sailboat racing. Prior racing experience is required.

**May 24 -26 Sat.-Mon. Chesapeake Bay Cruise**  
**Bob Zavos 241-0659**

We will try to charter a boat around 30' for a few days or take some day sails in a larger sailboat near Baltimore or Annapolis. Details will be available by mid April and an advance deposit will be required shortly thereafter

**Fees:** Day sail fee at Lake Arthur is \$14 plus the AYH activity fee of \$1 for members and \$3 non members

### Introductory Classes

We offer introductory Red Cross Certified classes for those who have never sailed before or anyone who desires to brush up on their skills. Participants must be at least 13 years old (anyone under 16 must be accompanied by an adult), in good physical condition, be comfortable in the water and know how to swim. Classes consist of two evening classroom sessions, and two full day on the water sessions. We use the Red Cross Start Sailing Right textbook and offer Red Cross Certificates to those who complete all requirements. On the water sessions take place at Lake Arthur and Classroom work is at the Pittsburgh AYH Activity HQ or the new Pittsburgh Hostel. Sailing classes fill up fast. Send in your application early to insure a space. Enrollment will be closed once we reach maximum class size. AYH reserves the right to cancel or reschedule classes due to weather or low enrollment for a full refund. Individuals may cancel up to 7 days prior to the first meeting and receive a full refund minus a \$10 administration fee.

Following is the tentative 1997 schedule.

### 1997 SAILING COURSE SCHEDULE

Shore School	Shore School	On Water Classes
Class 1 Wed. May 28 7-9PM	Wed. June 4 7-9PM	Sat. & Sun. June 7&8 9AM-6PM
Class 2 Tue. July 8 7-9PM	Tue. July 15 7-9PM	Sat. & Sun. July 19& 20 9AM-6PM

In the event of bad weather for the Water Classes we may reschedule for the following weekend or by appointment in subsequent weeks.

Please use the following form to enroll in classes. If you are not an AYH member you may fill in the application form that appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Fees include a textbook which will be sent to each student upon enrollment.

### 1997 SAILING CLASS REGISTRATION

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.(H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Check class desired: Class 1\_\_\_\_ Class 2\_\_\_\_

Fee Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to Pittsburgh Council AYH)

Class Fee: \$85 AYH members, \$95 non-members;

\$10 discount for two people registering together.

Mail this form along with your check to:

Robert Zavos  
1007 Savannah Ave.  
Pittsburgh PA 15221

## HIKING/BACKPACKING

**April 5-6 Sat-Sun Claire Bunker 244-9788**  
**Shenandoah in April (better than Paris?)** Sat April 5: Hike the Appalachian trail in Shenandoah Nat. Park Manassas Gap to Compton Gap, 14 miles. Sun April 6: Enjoy rugged hiking and scrambling on Old Rag Mountain in Shenandoah NP, 11 miles. Car camping. Call Claire or email; bunkerc+@pitt.edu

**April 12 Saturday Veronique Schreurs 422-0358**  
**Easy joint hike in Duff park** in Murrys ville with the Botanical Society. Meet at the park at 1pm, and learn about wildflowers. On 22 East, drive through Murrys ville & turn left at the Sheetz gas station. Entrance is at 1/8 mile to your right. Call for a reservation. (The pace will be very slow!!)

**April 12 Saturday Jim Ritchie 828-0210**  
**Rachel Carson Trail, The Roller Coaster.** This is the third of four hikes on the Rachel Carson Trail covering all 34 miles of the Trail. We begin in Springdale and tackle the Roller Coaster all the way to Tawney Run Road. But the hills don't quit there. Experience Mile 14, Rich Hill, and the drop into Long Run. Ends in Dorseyville. About 10 miles, definitely strenuous, not recommended for beginning hikers. Meets at 8:00 AM in the Ames Plaza in Harmarville. Call Jim to make a reservation.

**April 13 Sunday Jim Ritchie 828-0210**  
**Rachel Carson Trail, North Hills Section.** This is the fourth and last of four hikes covering the 34-mile Rachel Carson Trail end-to-end. We will start in Dorseyville at Cedar Run Road, go through the Hampton Nature Reserve, the beautiful Crouse Run Valley, and into North Park where the hike ends at the Beaver Shelter. About 8 miles, only moderately strenuous. Be sure you've gone 8 miles before, don't make this the first time. Meets at 8:00 AM at the Ames Plaza in Harmarville. Call Jim to make a reservation.

**April 19-20 Sat-Sun Claire Bunker 244-9788**  
**Sat April 19: Golden Eagle trail, 9 miles. Sunday April 20, Black Forest trail, 10 miles.** Car camping. Call Claire or email; bunkerc+@pitt.edu

**April 27 Sunday Pat Rossi 335-5067**  
**Easy/intermed TREES & FERNS hike** on a private 105 acres wooded farm near Templeton, complete with Beaver dams. Owners Joe & Ron Des Lauriers have agreed to be our guides. Meet at HQ at 9:30am or at Kensington Gardens off Rte 366 at 10am. For details, call Pat Rossi.

## CYCLING

**April 26 C George Schmidt 521-1538**  
**Pittsburgh Hostel Ride** Ride to the new Hostel in the Allentown section of the city. With luck, the hostel will be open. About 20 miles with one significant hill (Mt Washington). Leaves from AYH HQ. Call George for more info.

**May 3 C Joe Hoechner 242-0781**  
**Pittsburgh Hostel Ride** See the ride description above, except call Joe for more info.

**June 14-15 A/C Joan Roof 795-8345**  
**Stanford House Hostel** In the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area (in Ohio). This whole area is a bicyclists delight. Ride on rail trails going in many directions. Stanford House is a wonderful hostel that has long been a favorite destination for Pittsburgh AYH trips. Call Joan for more info and to reserve

**June 29 C Joe Hoechner 242-0781**  
**Pymatuning Ride** around all or part of the reservoir in an area that does not have many big hills. Lots of quiet rural roads. Swimming and some other sightseeing are options. Call Joe for details and to reserve.

**July 27 A/B/C 422-2282**  
**The Great Ride** Famous tour of the city. Call AYH office for more details

**August 9-10 B/C Judy Menosky 242-1573**  
**Bedford Hostelling or camping** in Schellsburg which is just west of Bedford. Camp at Shawnee State Park. In addition to great biking, there is swimming at the park.

**August 24 A/B/C Lynn and Chuck Ejzak 653-3257**  
**Mon Valley Century Bicycle Tour** Choose from a challenging 100 miles, 70 miles, 50 miles and 35 miles. Rides start in Elizabeth, PA. Call AYH office (after July 1) for an application or get one at AYH. Discount for registrations received by July 31. We are looking for volunteers for this ride. If you or someone you know would volunteer, please contact Lynn or Chuck.

**October 5 A/B/C Bill Eberle**  
**SABRE (Southwestern Autumn BReeze)** Southwestern Allegheny county and Washington county. 100 km (65 mile) and 50 km (35 mile) rides offered. Rides start at Settler's Cabin Park. Registration includes marked roads, map, snack stops and a picnic lunch at the end. Call AYH office (after Aug 1) for an application or get one at AYH. Discount for registrations received by Sept 15.

**Oct 11-12 C Pat Rossi**  
**Wilderness Lodge** Off road and On road riding near the New York / PA border. Stay overnight at the lodge. Contact Pat for more details.

**Ride Class: A Adv. (50+ miles), B Inter. (30-60 miles), C Easy (15-40 miles), D Beg. (10-20 miles)**

**All Trips:** Trips are generally open to riders of all ages, subject to the trip leaders' approval. (Most riders tend to be between ages 18 and 70) AYH Members are given priority over nonmembers for trips with limited space. Bicycle Helmets (ANSI or Snell approved) are required on all rides. Riders are responsible for their own equipment.

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

### Greetings and Happy Spring!

We are keeping our fingers crossed that April 25th will be the date that construction of the hostel is finally done. After inspections, we can plan for a Grand Opening in May. We will be planning at least one Open House for all members and the community at large and a Sleep-over.

Holly Ridenour has been hired as our Hostel Manager. She comes to us from the San Francisco HI-AYH Travel Store. She has experience at the Hostel at Union Square as well as the new Sacramento Hostel. She has just spent nearly three months in Eastern and Central Europe hostelling and has good ideas about what works and what doesn't. She visited Pittsburgh the first week of March and tells me that she is looking forward to getting started.

On the activities side, Ray Yutzy has taken over coordination of the Activities and is off to a good start helping with the budgeting and planning. There are some interesting extended trips being planned by Mark Mistrick and Glenn Oster for the coming year. Jim Ritchie is again coordinating AYH's heroic effort to maintain the Rachel Carson and Baker Trails. Pittsburgh Council is being recognized by the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau for our work on the Baker Trail. Good job everyone!

Speaking of good jobs, notice that John Stephen from 'Friends of the Riverfront' is going to be giving a slide show on April 24 called "Greenways and Trails in the City of Pittsburgh". I encourage you to attend and support the efforts of this group. They have been instrumental in cleaning up the riverbanks and greenspace in the city as well as directing attention to the fact that these spaces are important for the quality of life here in the city. I hope to see you there.

Marianne Kasica

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

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

Thanks for your interest and help.

Clip out the coupon below and make your donation today.

Yes, I would like to make a Tax - Deductible  
 donation of support for the  
 Hostel in Pittsburgh in the amount of:

☐ \$2500  
☐ \$1000  
☐ \$500  
☐ \$250  
☐ \$100  
☐ \$50  
☐ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Donations of goods, furnishings or services are  
 also needed! Please drop us a note describing what  
 you have available.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your Donation to:

AYH

Pittsburgh Hostel Fund

5604 Solway St. #202; Pittsburgh, PA 15217-1268  
 412-422-2282



**MID-WEEK RAMBLES**

- April 2** North Park. Bag lunch. Dick and Ruth Fischer 421-9215
- April 9** Braddock, including history of the area and Carnegie Library. Bag lunch. Joan Roof 795-8345
- April 16** Allegheny Cemetery. Fred Mauk 361-6299
- April 23** Duff Park. Bag lunch. Marge Patterson 823-4218
- April 30** Raccoon Creek Park. bag lunch. Jim Hurst 276-0047
- May 7** Riding Meadow Park. Bag lunch. Luc Berger 683-3131
- May 14** Glassport Area Steel Heritage Trail. Lunch at restaurant (optional) Walther Patton 672-0213
- May 21** Mayview Biodiversity Area. Bag lunch. Marilyn Ham 687-4520
- May 28** Herr's Island. Bag lunch.
- June 4** Swisshelm Park. Mary Frances Garrison 341-5683
- June 11** Deer Lakes Park. Bag lunch. Don Hoeker 243-8298
- June 18** West Mifflin Architectural Ramble. Fred Mauk 361-6299
- June 25** Frick Park. Bag Lunch. Eat at Thelma Moroso's new home. Margaret Laske 421-5219

**NOTES FOR RAMBLES!**

Meet in Mellon Park upper parking lot at Fifth and Shady Avenues by 10 A.M. Carpooling is encouraged. For trips over 10 miles, please pay driver \$2.00.

Call trip leader for more information, especially if you plan to meet us at the trail head. Please do not call after 10 P.M.!

**CANOEING**

**Weekends in April** Brian McBane 433-8972  
When the temperature is above 60 degrees, and clear skies are forecast, call for details on day trips to cure your cabin fever.

**April 7 Monday evening** Paul Henry 347-3282  
Brian McBane 443-8972

Canoe inspection and repair night. Meet at the AYH headquarters building in Shadyside at 6:30 pm to help make the fleet ready for a new season. Bring any or none of the following: buckets, sponge, tools, gloves, vacuum cleaner etc. Everyone is welcome, and any help would be truly appreciated.

**April 25-27 Fri. evening through Sun.** Paul Henry 347-3282  
Class II canoe camping. Join us as we make our annual float through Pine Creek Gorge (also known as the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania). We will take our time and search for porcupines and bald eagles. Optional side hikes will bring us to waterfalls and scenic overlooks. Those wary of Class II rapids will have the opportunity to portage or line the canoe, but moving water skills are a must. Call for details and reservations.

**April 26 Saturday** Frank Bruns 561-8579  
Whitewater II school. A refresher to review strokes, eddy turns, river reading, and rescue. Tandem and solo boaters are welcome. See if your wetsuit still fits, then phone early for reservations.

**May 3 Saturday** Paul Henry 347-3282  
Class I school and trip on French Creek with the Butler Outdoor Club. Call for details.

**May 4 Sunday** Don Hoecker 243-8298  
Class I+ trip on Red Bank Creek. Call for details.

**May 6, 13, 20, 27 Tues. evening** George Schnakenberg 731-3046  
Basic canoe school for those with little or no experience. Prepare for moving water schools and river trips. Learn the strokes and the jargon as you practice paddling on the Allegheny River. The complete program is repeated each week, so plan to attend any or all of the classes. Call early for reservations.

**May 10 Saturday** Paul Henry 347-3282  
Class I trip on the Shenango River in Mercer County, Call for details.

**May 11 Sunday** Brian McBane 443-8972  
Class II+ trip on the North Branch of the Potomac River, near the West Virginia- Maryland border. Possibility of camping on Saturday evening, so call early for details and reservations.

**May 17** Jim Porcelli 271-4776  
Moving water school will give you a chance to brush up on your skills or expand upon what you have learned in the basic canoe school. Class size is limited, so call early.

**May 31** Becky Heimberger 242-7179  
Class I trip. This trip is open to people who have attended both basic canoe school and a moving water school. Call for details and reservations

**July 3-6 Thu eve.- Sun.** Jon Maiman 441-2306  
Class I-II canoe camping. Mark your calendars now.

**Oct. 17-19 Fri eve.- Sun.** Jon Maiman 441-2306  
Class I-II Fall leaf trip. Mark your calendar now.

**HIKER ALERT UPDATES**

Here is a quick update on Hiker Alerts (!) still in effect on the Baker Trail and the Rachel Carson Trail as of this newsletter deadline, March 6, 1997.

**BAKER TRAIL**

1. **Kiski River Bridge:** the Kiski River Railroad bridge is still closed to hikers; northbound through-hikers should begin at Schenley; southbound through-hikers should end at Schenley. The two miles from Garver's Ferry, Route 356, to the Kiski River Bridge, are open for in-and-out day-hiking. A "Friend of the Baker Trail" is working on the problem, with the hopes of opening the bridge to hikers.

1A. **Schenley Shelter:** The Schenley Shelter remains closed to use. We will approach the owners once again this year, attempting to gain access.

2. **Strip Mine at the Covered Footbridge, Crooked Creek.** The strip-mined area near the covered footbridge over Horney Camp Run is open to hikers. The detour to the west side of the now-backfilled-and-planted field is still in service. Follow the blazes and the new direction signs provided by Walter Teresciewicz. Negotiations with the owner, the stripper, AYH and the DEP are in progress.

3. **New Agricultural Field area between Kerr Road and Cochran's Mill, Crooked Creek area.** There have been several reports of a large wooded area having been cut and cleared for planting. The trail is intact through this area; follow the temporary blazes (yellow flagging tape) around the perimeter.

4. **Keystone Power Plant.** The signs "Baker Trail" along the power line through the Keystone Power Plant may still be up; do not follow the signs. Instead, follow the yellow blazes and use your map for guidance. The signs will be removed this season.

4A. **New Freedom Shelter.** The New Freedom Shelter does not exist at this time. Good camping is available at the Shelter site, however; the site is high on a grassy bank overlooking a stream. We are seeking a volunteer group to rebuild the shelter.

5. **Heathville Bridge.** The highway bridge over Red Bank Creek at Heathville was washed away in last July's flood. To detour, remain on the paved road from Route 28, crossing Red Bank Creek at the bridge in downtown Summerville, to the village of Heathville. Look at your map to determine this route. Also, just south of Heathville, be alert to a large, strip-mined area just north of Bethlehem Chapel. The trail skirts the western perimeter of the strip mine and you should be able to follow the blazes all the way through. Detour signs will be posted this season.

5A. **Corsica Shelter.** The Corsica Shelter does not exist at this time. No camping is allowed on the adjacent State Game Lands. We are seeking a volunteer to rebuild the shelter.

6. **Gravel Lick Bridge.** The Gravel Lick Bridge, over the Clarion River, has been taken down by PennDOT. The detour is, from the Cook Forest Fire Tower, down Deer Pass Trail to Route 36, south on Route 36 to Iron Bridge Road, and then west on Iron Bridge Road. The detour rejoins the trail just past the Iron Bridge. Be advised, however, that the floods of last July also washed out the Iron Bridge. While the crossing of Cathers Run at the Iron Bridge will be a wet crossing, it is usually a safe, and do-able crossing on foot. (Nobody said the Baker Trail was an easy trail). Signage will be posted on the detour this season.

**RACHEL CARSON TRAIL**

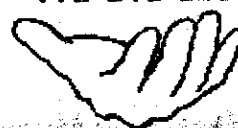
1. **Middle Road to Route 910.** A temporary detour is in place from (eastbound) Middle Road to Wagner Road to Church Road, followed by Shaffer Road and Cedar Run Road. Westbound hikers should reverse that course. A landowner has restricted use of the trail off-road in this area. Please stay on the (dirt) roads. The landowners will be contacted and either access will be gained or the trail will be permanently rerouted.

2. **Crawford Run Road to Bailey's Run Road.** A large area is being logged. As of February 23, nearly all the blazes were intact so the trail could be followed. The logging roads, however, are very muddy. You may want to detour from Sheetz to Bailey's Run Road along Freeport Road (Old Route 28). When the logging is completed, we will re-assess the situation and make the appropriate adjustments to the trail.

3. **Ridge Road to Burtner Road and Burtner Road to Donnellsville Road.** A large-scale power line has been installed along the trail through this area, utilizing giant towers. The trail criss-crosses the power line swath. At any time, when you come "out" to the power line, cross directly to the other side and locate the trail there; also, use your map. Posts will be installed, directing hikers across the swath, or the trail will be rerouted.

  
**KENN HOWARD**  
**MASSAGE THERAPIST**  
**412 242 2424**

*Great for tired and  
sore kayaking muscles!*



*Aye, There's the rub.  
-Hamlet*

The Second Annual Rachel Carson Trail Challenge, June 21st, 1997

The 1997 Rachel Carson Trail Challenge is a 34-mile, one-day, endurance hiking event, held in the spirit of the Alaskan Iditarod, the Boston Marathon, the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Trail Run, and the various Ironman Triathlons held around the country each year. Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, the Challenge will be held this year on June 21st (taking advantage of the summer solstice), at the crack of dawn, and will extend through the 34-mile roller coaster of hills and bluffs between North Park and Harrison Hills in Allegheny County, ending as the sun sets under the horizon. The "Challenge" is to endure, to finish the hike in one day, rather than to "come in first" or "win" the hike.

The Rachel Carson Trail stretches from North Park, in Shaler, to Harrison Hills County Park, lying entirely within Allegheny County. The trail is characterized by its roller coaster hills and is often said to be one of the most difficult hiking trails in the United States. A typical hiking pace is 2 miles per hour. The hike will begin at sunrise and will officially end at sunset, 5:50 A.M. to 8:54 P.M., a total of 15 hours and 4 minutes.

The Challenge consists of two dimensions: the first challenge is to endure 34 miles of tortuous hill-climbing and descent in whatever weather conditions we are dealt; the second, more subtle, is your ability to keep on the route. Obviously, those who have hiked the trail before will have some advantage in maintaining the proper route.

The endurance hiker participants will be given a trip sheet and a set of topographic maps to guide them on their journey. There will be a half dozen checkpoints throughout the hike, offering minimal support. Hikers are expected to carry all their own gear and necessities, including food, water, and snacks, first aid equipment, raingear, maps and a trip sheet.

One hundred thirty-five people registered for the three 1996 Rachel Carson Challenge events: the Challenge (34 miles), the Half Challenge (17 miles), and the Family Challenge (5 miles). Of those who registered for the 34-mile Challenge in 1996, only 5 people finished.

The Rachel Carson Trail is an "undeveloped" trail in the sense that no special grading or surfacing materials are used on the trail. It is a typical Western Pennsylvania hiking trail and hikers should expect to find all the conditions a typical hiker would encounter on a typical hiking trail. While the trail is blazed with yellow paint blazes, there will be an occasional missing blaze where a tree has fallen or you are following a logging road or a power line or gas line; there will be blowdowns, washouts, poison ivy, nettles, bugs, loose gravel and rocks, steep inclines, and wet stream crossings. You must even be prepared to expect the unexpected. The better hiker you are, the better you will do on the Challenge.

More details concerning the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge will be in the May issue of the Golden Triangle, including news about sponsorship, the starting point for 1997, and the route to be followed. Be sure to read it. An EARLY REGISTRATION FORM is included below.

THE 1997 RACHEL CARSON TRAIL CHALLENGE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM  
JUNE 21, 1997

Please provide the following information and return this form with a check or money order for the proper amount, payable to:  
"AYH-Pittsburgh Council"

NOTE: Each participant must complete and sign an individual form for a valid registration.

Mail to:RACHEL CARSON CHALLENGE  
c/o Pittsburgh AYH, Room 202  
5604 Solway St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-1268

Last Name (please print)

First Name

Middle Initial

Age (as of 6/21/97)

Street Address

City, State

Zip Code

Telephone: daytime

evening

Hike Desired: Full Challenge (\$17) Half-Challenge (\$12) Family Challenge (\$7 ea)

LIABILITY WAIVER

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

I acknowledge that there are inherent risks and dangers which may arise at any time during the Challenge. My participation is voluntary and is done at my own risk. I voluntarily assume all risks of loss, damage or injury that may be sustained while participating in the Challenge. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the completion of this event. I understand and agree that medical or other services rendered to me by or at the insistence of any of the above parties is not an admission of liability to provide or to continue to provide any such service and is not a waiver of any of said parties of any right hereunder. I understand that serious accidents occasionally occur during hiking and that participants in the Challenge may sustain mortal or serious injury as a consequence thereof. Nevertheless, I agree to assume those risks and to release and indemnify and hold harmless all the persons mentioned above who might otherwise be liable to me (or my heirs or assigns) for damages, of whatsoever kind or nature.

I attest that the equipment and clothing I will use in this activity is in good condition. I UNDERSTAND THAT PROPER EQUIPMENT IN GOOD CONDITION CAN PREVENT SERIOUS INJURY. I agree to abide by the rules of this event as established by the Pittsburgh Council, HI-AYH and to obey the directions of the event officials. I hereby grant full permission to the trip leaders, the Pittsburgh Council, HI-AYH and their respective agents, boards, commissions, and any other involved parties of the foregoing to use photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, or any other record of this event, including my name, likeness and/or voice for any legitimate purpose.

Participant's Signature in Full

Parent or Guardian's Signature if hiker is under 18

## SEA-KAYAKING

Saturday April 5th opens our 1997 sea-kayaking season with our annual kite-flying paddling picnic at Moraine State Park. We're continuing a tradition. This trip began several years ago as an April Fool's Day joke when Cathy Lynch, our former Chairperson, listed it as a spoof, complete with afternoon tea. Lots of people, to her surprise, signed up for it and she ended up leading the trip. She even served (very good) blackberry tea, and we've been leading this trip as the official start of our paddling season ever since.

Through April and May, we're leading several additional day trips to scenic local lakes. These trips are designed to be enjoyable to both new and experienced paddlers. We'll have one trip leader present to instruct new kayakers and paddle at a shorter and more leisurely pace while the co-leader and more experienced paddlers go out for a faster and longer tour after lunch. This way we all get to meet new people and still sea-kayak as much as we want.

Finally, several river trips are being organized for the next two months. These are faster trips where you can let the river current take you easily downstream, slip quickly through ripples and very easy rapids, and spend as much time effortlessly steering the kayak as paddling it. In comparison, our flatwater trips seem like work! But we only run these trips in the Springtime when the water level is high enough for a safe and enjoyable trip. So sign up now or wait until next year..

Mark Mistrik  
Chairperson, Sea-Kayaking Program

**Saturday April 5th 1997**

**Call: 361-2943**

**Lake Arthur, Moraine State Park, Pa  
Level: New, Beginners & up**

**Trip begins Breakfast at 9:00 AM or Put-in at 10:30 a m Ends: Leave lake 4:30 PM**

This is o u r annual April Fool's Paddle, Picnic and Kite-Flying trip. We'll offer sea-kayak instruction and provide the picnic lunch or you can bring your own. Also bring a kite if you have o n e or you c an see how fast our parafoil kites will pull you through the water. Call for more information or to reserve a sea-kayak.

**Saturday April 12th 1997**

**Call: 361-2943**

**Loyalhanna Lake, East of Murrys ville,  
Pa Level: New, Beginners & up**

**Trip begins: Put-in at 10:00 AM Ends:  
Leave lake 4:15 PM**

This is one of our favorite local lakes with varied woodland and meadow scenery, and lots of nooks and crannies to explore. Bring along lunch, and shoes that can get muddy. Call for more information and to reserve a sea-kayak.



**Sunday  
morning on  
Oil Creek.  
Our overnight  
shelters  
include warm  
fireplaces, lots  
of firewood,  
and a helpful  
& friendly Park  
Staff.**

**Friday evening April 18th thru Sunday April 19th, 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Oil Creek, Oil Creek State Park, Pa. Level: Aggressive beginners & up**

**Trip begins: Breakfast at 8:30 AM or Put-in at 10:30 AM. Ends: Takeout Sun. by 3:00 PM**

This is a very enjoyable and scenic run which includes some splashy (but very easy) class I rapids and lots of fast moving rippling water. We'll spend overnights in a stone and wood Adirondack shelter with a roaring fire to keep us warm all night, then finish the run Sunday morning. An easy trip, but appropriate clothing is required and some light hiking is involved. You can also meet us Saturday morning. Also, You may join us for a Saturday day-trip only, without staying overnight. Call for more information or to reserve.

**Wednesday evening April 23rd, 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Intro to Sea-Kayaking, North Park Level: New, Beginners & up**

**Trip begins :6:00 p m at the lake Ends: Leave lake 9:00 p m**

Fun and easy evening paddling trips for new and experienced paddlers. Intros cover all basic aspects of sea-kayaking: beginners can learn how to fit a boat correctly through intermediate instruction in open water rescue and kayak rolling. This is an excellent way to try sea-kayaking, learn or improve your skills and practice, or just relax and explore the lake on your own We finish off the evening with a cookout. Please call for more information and to reserve a kayak.

**Friday evening April 25th thru Sunday April 27th, 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Pennsylvania Grand Canyon, Wellsboro Pa. Level: Aggressive beginners & up.**

**Trip begins Ansoia Put-In at 8:30 AM Ends: Takeout by Sun. 3:00 PM**

Exhilarating weekend sea-kayaking and camping run through Pine Creek Gorge. Twenty three miles of very scenic, fast, and sometimes splashy paddling down a class I river with one possible class II rapid which you may easily portage around. This is one of the most popular paddling trips in Pennsylvania We're running it early on in me season while the water is up. and to avoid the heaviest crowds. Call for more information and to reserve a kayak

**Friday evening May 2nd thru Sunday May 4th, 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Tionesta Creek, Kellettville, Pa. Level: Aggressive beginners & up**

**Trip begins: Kellettville campground 8:30 AM Sat. morning Ends: Leave river by 5:00 PM**

Mark & Ed's annual canoe and sea-kayak Spring weekend camping trip. This year we're proud to announce a few upgrades. Saturday's run is Lynch to Kellettville c.15 miles) and on Sunday we're paddling from Kellettville to the Nebraska Bridge (11.4 miles). Overnight car camping along Tionesta creek at a public campground in Kellettville,, so you don't need to pack and haul all your gear down the river. Great scenery, occasional class I ripples, and Ed's own (in)famous Ginseng Muscatel and campfire stories. You can join us Saturday, Sunday, or both. Call for more information and to reserve.

**Wednesday evening May 7th. 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Intro to Sea-kayaking Glade Run Lake, Pa. Level: New, Beginners and up**

**Sunday May 11th. 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Conemaugh River, Saltsburg, Pa. Level: New, Beginners & up**

**Friday evening May 16th thru Sunday May 18th 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Allegheny River, Warren, Pa. Level: Beginners & up**

**Trip begins: 9:00 AM at the Put-in Ends: Sunday mid-afternoon**

Weekend Sea-kayaking & canoe trip down the Allegheny River starting from just below the Kinzua Dam. Well cover about twenty miles total during two days. Expect easy moving flatwater conditions, mostly rural scenery and lots of nice campsites to choose from. This trip is run in conjunction with the annual ECP flotilla each year, and is a great way to meet other paddlers. There is an option for a Saturday only daytrip Call for more information and to reserve.

**Tuesday evening May 20th, 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Sea-Kayakers Dinner Everyone welcome**

**Dinner meets: Anytime between 6:00 - 8~00 PM Ends: by 9:00 PM**

Our monthly dinner for paddle-folk and anyone else interested in outdoor related conversation. We try a different restaurant each month or so during the kayaking season. This is the first of our monthly paddler's dinners, at Dingbats Restaurant in the Waterworks Mall. Please let us know you're coming so we make enough reservations.

**Wednesday evening May 21st 1997 Call: 361-2943**

**Intro to Sea-Kayaking North Park Level: New, Beginners & up.**

*Continued on page 9*



**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8**

Friday eve. May 23rd thru Mon. May 26th or Tues. May 27th, 1997 Call: 361-2943

Assateague Island National Seashore Level: Aggressive beginners & up.

and Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Ends: Leaves shore at noon, back

Trip begins: Friday afternoon & evening car pools. Monday or Tuesday 9:00 PM

Traditional Memorial Day trip begins our summer paddling season. Three days of exploring undeveloped beaches and saltwater marshes, learning to surf kayaks on the ocean, and camping right on the seashore. Trip includes dinner at Hooper's famous crab and seafood restaurant and an obligatory visit to Ocean City, Maryland afterwards to walk it all off. We'll see one of the East Coast's grand lighthouses and relax by a campfire on the beach one evening. Porpoises, sea-turtles, and countless species of birds have been seen on this trip. and the whole island is overrun with wild ponies. Prerequisite: open to beginners with at least two previous sea-kayaking trips experience Call for more information and to reserve. You may return Monday, but getting Tuesday off is recommended.

Friday evening May 31st thru Saturday June 1st, 1997 Call: 361-2943

Clarion River, Cooksburg, Pa. Level: Aggressive beginners & up

First or second week of June 1997 Call: 361-2943

Three Rivers Arts Festival, Pittsburgh Level: Beginners & up

Friday evening June 13th thru Sat. afternoon June 14th, 1997 Call: 361-2943

Night Trip at Crooked Creek Lake, Kittanning, Pa Level: New, beginners & up

Trip begins 6:00 PM or when y o u arrive at the Lake. Ends: Leave lake Sat. 4:00 PM

Our first summer night trip this year We originally got the idea for this when paddlers didn't want to quit kayaking after dark on our regular Intros. Here, well set up tents and build a campfire on a large open field with shade trees right above the lake. All evening you can kayak, talk, snooze, swim, eat or just sit by the campfire and enjoy the evening. Night paddling is a favorite of many sea-kayakers. Wildlife becomes more abundant and the lake and shoreline seem to turn almost surrealistic. Wake up to Saturday morning brunch and explore the lake before returning home. Call for more information and to reserve.

Thursday evening July 3rd thru Monday July 14th 1997 Call: 361-2943

Acadia National Park & DownEast Maine Level: Intermediate & up

Trip Begins Car pools arranged beginning July 3rd and after. Ends: Pgh. 7/14 9:00 PM

Sea-kayaking, hiking and sightseeing "modular" trip in three parts. The first part of the trip will drive up the, Northeastern seaboard with paddling at the Thimble Islands in Connecticut and a visit to the outdoor outlets in Freeport, Maine. From Sunday through Thursday we'll take daytrips throughout Acadia National Park including islands on the Maine Island Trail and hikes on the Carnage Trails. The East Coast Sea-Kayak Symposium will be held in Castine, Maine Friday through Sunday and on Monday we'll stop at Mystic Seaport in Connecticut on the way home. Call for more information.

Friday evening August 29th thru Tues. September 2nd, 1997 Call: 361-2943

Outer Banks of the Atlantic, North Carolina Level: Intermediate & up.

Trip begins car pools organized Friday afternoon & evening Ends: back in Pgh 9:00 PM

Labor Day Weekend is the traditional close of the summer paddling season, so we're going to the quaint old Banks village of Ocracoke to catch all the warm surf and golden sand we can. Friendly porpoises and curious pelicans have been commonly seen here, and fresh seafood cookouts are the rule. After relaxing in Ocracoke for a day or two with car camping right on the seashore, we'll paddle out to explore our own barrier island and camp overnight there. Expect bioluminescence (a natural sparkling of the water at night), a beach side bonfire, and stars out over the ocean right down to the horizon. Call for more information and to reserve.

Friday evening September 26th thru Monday October 6th, 1997 Call: 361-2943

Lake Powell, Utah Level: New, beginner & up.

Trip begins: Vanpool leaves Pgh 6:00 PM or fly & meet us Ends: returns Monday evening

Explore spectacular redrock canyons of the Colorado River and see some of the most fantastic scenery in America's West - all from a gentle flatwater lake and with the conveniences of a houseboat at hand. Now an annual trip, we envisioned this several years ago as a way to accommodate inexperienced paddlers and even hikers on a longer, extremely interesting trip, and the result has been exceeding expectations ever since. The idea is simple: the houseboat does all the long-distance work, leaving your days free to hike, paddle, explore ancient Indian ruins. or relax as you please. Due to limited houseboat availability, you must let us know if you are interested in early March to secure space. Well have an organizational meeting this month to set the details. Call for more information

Saturday October 18th 1997 Call: 361-2943

Tygart Lake, Grafton, West Virginia Level: Beginner and up.

Sunday October 19th, 1997 Begins: Coopers Rock 9:00 AM

Cheat Lake, Morgantown West Virginia Ends: 500 PM each day

Something new here: We're running two great lakes in Wild Wonderful West Virginia and joining the Explorer's Club at Clare Lodge in Cooper's Rocks State Forest for their annual Halloween Party and general fun. Both lakes are in wooded valleys and the autumn colors here should still be very good. These are run as individual daytrips so you may paddle either day or both. and round out the weekend with rock climbing, mountain biking or biking, Call for more information and to reserve.

Wednesday evening November 26th thru Nov 30th, 1997 Call: 361-2943

Charleston & Surrounding Lowcountry Region, South Carolina Level: Intermediate & up.

Trip begins: Car pools arranged Wednesday afternoon & evening Returns: Pgh 8:00 PM Sunday

Our second South Carolina Lowcountry paddling tip. Come spend a Southern style Thanksgiving with us in sunny & warm Santee, South Carolina. Sightseeing in historic Charleston, beach walks, palm trees, plenty of wildlife, and maybe porpoises if we're lucky. This trip will be a collection of daytrips, and include saltwater and freshwater paddling, and a blackwater river. All overnights in a modern condo built on stilts, on a pier, over a lake. Space is very limited. Cd for more information and to reserve.

Thursday evening December 4th thru Mon.

December 8th, 1997 Mark Mistrik 361-2943

New York City (Not a sea-kayaking trip)

Late Feb/Early March 1998

Mark Mistrik 361-2334

Florida Sea-Kayaking Winter Trip

Level: Aggressive beginners & up

Friday evening August? thru Sunday eve.

August 16th, 1998 Mark Mistrik 361-2943

Isle Royals National Park, Lake Superior Level: Intermediate w/

Sea-Kayaking Wilderness Trip camping experience

Rescheduled as printed in the Jan/Feb 1996 Activities listing. Please call for more information.

## Ambridge Bike Shop

**Serving all your cycling needs for over 25 years!**

Voted "Best of the 'Burgh" - *Pittsburgh Magazine*, Summer 1996

### ♦ BIKES ♦

Trek - Diamond Back - Ironhorse - Klein - Merlin - Lightspeed - Burley Tandems & Trailers

**With the purchase of a new bike you receive:**

- free expert assembly.
- a through professional fitting.
- free 30 and 90 "riding days" tune-ups.
- 20% discount on non-sale accessories at time of bike purchase.
- 15% off non-sale clothing items for a full year from date of purchase.
- 10% discount on non-sale accessories for a full year from date of purchase.

### ♦ DIRECTIONS ♦

From I79, take Exit 19 (Sewickley & Route 65). Follow Route 65 through Sewickley. Take second right (Fourth Street) after the 84 Lumber. At the first traffic light, take a left turn onto Merchant Street. We are on the right, 1 1/2 blocks up.

**518 Merchant Street ♦ Ambridge, Pa. 15003 ♦ 412-266-1111**

Weekdays 10 am to 8 pm - Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm

Visit our WorldWide Web Page at: <http://www.novaord.com>

## The Lost World of Marco Polo

by Walter G. Vaux

*The following is the second part of a series, describing the trip that Diane Vaux and Walter took through the Pamir Mountains of Kyrgystan.*

The true crest of the ridge was a broad saddle, large enough for siting a football field. Underfoot was broken sandstone, identical to the pavers I had bought months before to surface our patio in Pennsylvania. I placed two nice pieces of the stone in my daypack and incorporated them into our patio when Diane and I returned home. These pieces of Central Asia are indistinguishable from the Pennsylvania sandstone.

Humans have a need to make their presence remembered in high places. At the crest of this high pass at 11,000 feet, a cairn or high monument of stones marked the passing of individuals from untold years past who marked their crossing. Satubai (sot-oo-BYE), our other horse packer, touched my arm, handed me a dictionary-sized block of stone and indicated that I should place it on the cairn as he was doing. Each of us did this adding another hundredweight and another few inches to the monument. As I walked over this broken stone, each step made a high, clear musical tone as if each chilled stone were a muted bell.

We lingered at the pass for a little while. As our pulses and breathing slowed to normal, I began to notice the fantastic landscape seen through the swiftly moving clouds below us. The gentle saddle rounded away from us into a steep descent at its angle of repose. A mile down, the first trees and grass began. The Uryam River at the bottom of the valley was unseen, hidden in a gorge. The far side of the valley rose in a sequence of talus slopes and cliffs into heights hidden by high clouds. Sun rays, the kind we imagine when the trumpet will sound on the last day, fanned out in segments of intense light and foreboding dark over the vast landscape.

Our descent was slow because of the treacherous footing. Nevertheless, my breathing and pulse were slow. Diane and I chose to stay at the rear of our party with Michele who was feeling a threatening weakness and pain in her knee. I began one of my epic stories that can last for several hours to keep our minds off the difficulty of the descent. An hour later, Michele's knee was about to fail and we stopped to wrap it with an elastic bandage. The trail here rounded an immense tower of stone, passed through a wet meadow filled with marsh marigolds, then entered a precipitous, bone-dry hillside. The footing here was treacherous as the trail shortcutted down dusty steep places embedded with hidden, sharp stones. At this point, Michele's knee gave out and we stopped. As we pondered a next move, Farida, our Kyrgyz guide who had been with the horse packers behind us, appeared. She left soon to reach the camp, now close by. Diane, Michele, and I sat there on the trail, talked about our lives at home, and snacked on the battered remnants of trail food in our day packs. I was glad to be able to stop in this quiet place.

While Diane and Michele talked, I looked around at the surrealistic scene. Although the time was mid afternoon, the sun was falling below a knife-edge ridge across the valley. This diffuse light passed through mist swirling on the high slopes and bathed the entire landscape in dark, pink light. Huge, gnome-like towers on the far ridge, called gendarmes by mountaineers, rose into the turbulent mist.

An hour later, a soft clopping, and labored breathing announced Farida and a horse, laboring up the trail. With Michele firmly on the sure-footed horse, we started down the sandy trail, and a half hour later were resting on a sloped open meadow. The tents had not yet arrived; we sprawled on our unopened duffels in the cool afternoon air, unsure of the black clouds forming over the ridge to our east. These high mountains of Central Asia assure cool weather even at the height of summer. The air was quite chilly as we waited for the duffels, and we huddled, hoping our warmer clothes would arrive soon.

Diane and I marveled at the unspoiled beauty around us. Other than the trails that have been here for untold centuries, the only evidence of modernity that I could find in these mountains was a single rusted tin can. Otherwise, the land was that seen by the ancients who picked their way cautiously among this labyrinth of steep mountains.

That evening, dinner was late. After the exertion of the crossing, we were bone tired. In the very last of the twilight, Diane and I walked through the chill of the evening. The valley below us was midnight black with not a single light anywhere in the miles along the churning river. Over the crest of the Charkumtau ridge to our northwest, the sky blazed a dark apricot color with the very last light. This faded into a deep purple and then black as menacing clouds formed along that distant ridge. I looked overhead at the now-brilliant stars. Why am I surprised to see familiar constellations in a strange region. Cygnus, which looks like a delta-wing airplane to me rather than a swan, was almost directly overhead and nearby Vega, 24 light years distant flamed with a dazzling white intensity. I continued to watch these stars, as did the ancients, as I brushed with Crest and flossed with Johnson and Johnson. Moments later, in our nest, I was asleep and did not awaken until the first light.

The glowering clouds of the night before had yielded to a blue sky of white fluffy cumulus that dissipated before our late breakfast at 9:30. This Wednesday, July 28, 1993, breakfast was Russian Kix with milk, bread, and cheese. I had brought along a tin of Nestle Specialty Coffee for the group and had a cup of it myself on this cold morning. As had happened the day before, the sharp line between the sun and shadows crossed our site and the air was suddenly warm.

All of us had begun feeling grubby. On this warm morning, we washed

clothes, shampooed hair, and changed into fresher clothes. In the late morning, our little band began a walk up the Uryam River Valley.

Mountains make their own weather, and these mountains began making their own weather just as soon as we began up the valley. About a mile along the gentle trail we passed a little house made of stone and juniper logs with a sod roof. An old lady and an attractive young woman waved at us as we passed by. The sky was clouding over rapidly and the vertical walls bordering the east side of the valley were being shrouded by swirling mists. Andy and I paused to study the steep - almost vertical - rock walls rising on the west side of the valley. I thought of the fantastic scenes of Gustav Dore's engravings: these gray ramparts, sometimes obscured by thick, swirling mists, felt like the virtual reality of a surrealistic painting. Andy viewed them with a mountain climber's eyes; I studied them for comparison with art works that have fascinated me. A mile further our group stopped for lunch, dark bread, cheese, dried apricots, raisins, and apple juice.

We sought shelter from a freshening wind on the lee side of a huge boulder that some unimaginable forces had placed in the middle of this flat valley floor. Andy, our guide and a skilled, professional mountain climber, began stress climbing up the side of this house size monolith. I watched in wonder as his hands found tiny holds and as he pulled himself higher and higher. All of us gasped as Andy's hold failed and he fell backwards. Within a fraction of a second, Andy landed on his back with a frightening thud on a sharp-edged stone about the size of a shoe box. No one spoke; no one moved. Andy rolled off of the stone, moaned, and arose gingerly. Good fortune had averted a dreadful outcome.

By this time, a cold wind was blowing down the valley and all suspected that rain would begin soon. I was glad that the group chose to return. As we trudged down the valley, a gentle drizzle began. As soon as all had donned waterproofs, a steady rain began falling.

On the way back we detoured to find shelter in a recently vacated herders' hut. The inch-wide gaps in the juniper-log walls allowed light and fresh air in. The sod roof, sporting a lush growth of field grass, kept the rain out. All of the occupants' belongings were there: fleece bedding, pots, utensils, and oil lamps. After waiting a half hour, we were assured that the rain would not lessen and the several of us began the trudge through the wet meadows back to our camp.

Diane and I have discovered that we cannot give ourselves permission to spend an afternoon reading or doing nothing useful unless we are far away from our home. A large part of going to Central Asia was to remove ourselves far from Murrysville, Pennsylvania where we could read, relax, chit-chat, and do no useful thing without having important tasks tugging at us. On this rainy afternoon at the end of the earth, we did read the novels in our packs, dozed, and just stared at the top of the tent. This particular afternoon urged me to change the crazy, rat-race nature of my everyday life. Today, five months later, I am living out those changes.

The rain continued all evening. At sunset there seemed to be some clearing of the weather on the horizon, but the rain poured down all night with occasional high winds. Our tent was on a slight slope in thick grass. I did not fear wetness in the tent. We slept soundly.

Mountains make their own weather, and these mountains, after having made rain all night, made a bright, warm morning. We departed camp and immediately forded the Uryam river. The river, about a foot deep and 40 feet wide had been glacier just minutes earlier and was still close to freezing. Most of us have tender feet and wore tennies for protection against the rocky river bottom. The icy water numbed my feet quickly, but the sun warmed us quickly on the far bank.

The bandannas trekkers wear are not just badges or fashion. They serve as sun protection and towels as well. I used mine to dry my feet. Soon we were on the long down-hill trail to the Lyaylyak River. Whether by coincidence or by a secret agreement, all of the women hiked in skirts that day. We were a festive group, in colorful clothes, swinging down the gentle descending trail in the morning sunshine.

Andy had been warning us about THE DOG. There was genuine concern in his voice as he warned us to stay close to him until we had passed THE DOG. About a half hour down the trail all of bunched together while Andy directed us to keep moving smartly. A few feet off the trail was THE DOG. It was a muscular, gray cur, crouching low, barking and snarling, baring its fangs, and making threatening lunges. There was no doubt that this beast intended to attack. Andy kept up a litany of loud warning and cocked his arm with a large blocky stone, which kept THE DOG from lunging. The entire episode felt like living out a scene from L. Frank Baum's Oz series. As Dorothy always passed the hazards safely but with an adequate measure of fright, so we too passed safely. There was a secondary danger not evident. The herders value their dogs and will retaliate against any who harms their protectors. The entire incident lasted about two minutes; exhaling with relief, we continued along the trail that was steepening imperceptibly.

At that moment of the morning, when I was thinking it was time for a break, we happened on a mountain hut with two boys standing nearby. A moment later, a short, pleasant Kyrgyz man beckoned us to the back side of the hut where we could sit on low log walls. A flurry of action inside the hut produced a pot of tea, then boiled potatoes, and finally a huge warm plate of fried fat. Fried fat is not the health choice of most Americans, but here where calories are welcomed, we all enjoyed a healthy serving. The people there are probably eternally bored and are delighted to see visitors. We were shown various family treasures; we were happy to leave a few items such as Bic lighters with these pleasant, generous people.

I have reflected on the fact that those I meet from other cultures are

*Continued on Page 11*

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

all ambassadors. An Irish couple that Diane and I met on a trek around Mont Blanc bolstered my entire concept of the Irish. They were joyous, interesting, and kind; as a result, the Irish were joyous, interesting, and kind. I was aware that America to these Kyrgyz people would be what we were, a responsibility not to be taken lightly.

For days, I had seen only juniper trees and high alpine flowers. As our group descended, I watched for the first deciduous trees. Gradually, the flora changed and common Pennsylvania plants such as cow parsnip began to appear. At lunch we stopped by the first of the broad-leaf trees, a giant river birch. As we descended further, willows and poplars appeared.

In hundreds of days of trekking around the world, Diane and I have seen fantastic scenes. The vistas encountered on this day were some of the most splendid that Diane and I have found anywhere. All of us - even as adults - have floated through the Tunnel of Love in an amusement park. On this day of trekking, one amazing scene after another awaited us. Perhaps the most delightful was a secret waterfall. Over the ages a stream had cut a deep, deep cleft in the almost vertical rock walls along the Uryam River. Hidden in this cleft, across the river from us and separated by the uncrossable river canyon, was a dream-like waterfall of untold height. From only one place on the trail could we peer into the darkness of the cleft and see the crystal cascade. Further along, the trail descended into the bottom of the river canyon and crossed bridge after bridge over the foaming torrent. Suddenly, the canyon widened into a flat meadow filled with purple alfalfa flowers and we were at camp where the Uryam River flowed into the Lyaylyak.

After setting into our tent, Diane and I found a secret grove among the willows where we washed off several day's sweat and grime in the freezing water. The water was not inviting, but it was better than the sweaty soil of five days' trekking. After dinner, our local Kyrgyz packers built a huge bonfire and we ringed around its warmth to ward off the chill of the evening's down-valley wind. We sang some of our campfire songs and our Kyrgyz companions sang some of the haunting melodies of these mountain villages.

I had carried a two-pound bag of marshmallows just for this evening. After selecting a dozen "regulation length" marshmallow sticks, I passed out marshmallows and others in our group showed a bit of American culture, how to toast a "perfect" marshmallow. I later learned that the horse packers had checked with the cook the next morning to ask if the leftover marshmallows could be eaten raw. The cook checked with one of us Americans just to be sure.

The next day's trail was through a new terrain, dry rocky fields bounded on one side by precipitous cliffs, on the other by the churning river. By mid morning we reached the confluence of the Ashat River. Those who have read the Thomas Covenant Chronicles would have thrilled to see the Lyaylyak river enter an underwater cavern and emerge further down. A massive rockslide had entirely crossed the river, and flow had tunneled through the rocks, forming an underground cavern.

Our path crossed the Lyaylyak a final time and then led through a dense grove of dwarfed river trees to a steep trail up the Ashat River valley. An hour later we were in camp for lunch and lazing the warmth of the noon sun. All of us went down to a log jam across the river and washed off our weary feet. That evening, the stars were once again impossibly huge, like large lamps in the heavens. The upper valley walls of the Ashat converge and the scene looking up-valley was a steep U. The walls were absolutely black and invisible, but their shape was evidenced sharply by the billions of stars in the U. Soon a mysterious glow began to illuminate the upper valley. The glow brightened until a near-full moon floated into the center of the valley.

The next day fulfilled a dream that Diane and I had harbored for some months. We had talked about taking a day of complete abandon: no schedule, no group, just a day away to laze in the sun, read, chat, and be away from all humanity. When the others planned a day-long hike to the upper Ashat Valley, we declined. Our day began with a long, leisurely visit with Farida, our Kyrgyz guide, and with Victor, our Russian cook. After a second and third cup of coffee, we assembled brown bag lunches, and started a stroll up the valley, with the intent of finding the perfect, secret spot. The trail, quite narrow, and quite dangerous in places, led upwards through meadows and through stands of stunted junipers. We stopped right on the trail in the shade of a bushy tree to read a bit from the novels we had tucked in our day packs. Continuing, we emerged on a broad shelf, a lovely meadow. Leaving the trail, Diane and I contoured over to the Ashat River where it plunged downward in a frothy cataract. Here by the river, we found a huge juniper with gnarled roots that seemed to form inviting seats with the tree's massive trunk for a backrest. Here we perched for a long afternoon. The warm sunlight poured down on the river and on the meadow. A million flowers bloomed. Only the sound of the river and winds playing in the rocky ramparts above were heard. There we stayed for hours, dozing, taking in the rich scenery, and talking quietly. Those hours were a dream that was realized here on earth.

*To Be Continued Next Month!!!*

## Rachel Carson Homestead Announces New Winter Hours and Spring Programs

The Rachel Carson Homestead announced that, effective this immediately, the museum would remain open year-round. Previously, the Homestead had been open on a seasonal basis only. "We've had an increasing number of people coming for tours and programs, and we felt that we could better serve our audience by being available year-round," says Mark Tomlinson, executive director. "We'll continue to offer special family programs each month in addition to regular tours."

"Science on Saturdays", with hands-on science activities for the whole family to enjoy, takes place the third Saturday of each month. Designed for children age 9 and above, the "Science on Saturdays" family programs will be from 1 pm to 4 pm on the following dates. Space is limited, please call (412) 274-5459 to reserve a space:

### Saturday, April 19th - Design your Own Butterfly Garden

Master gardener and naturalist Tammy Watychowicz will explain how to design and plant a butterfly garden at home. Learn how to keep the entire lifecycle from caterpillar to beautiful butterfly alive and evolving in your own backyard!

### Saturday, May 17th - Weaving the Web

Learn about biodiversity, species extinction, and the Endangered Species Act. "Weaving the Web", a traveling exhibit co-sponsored by the Pittsburgh Zoo and the Rachel Carson Homestead, will be on display at the Zoo during the spring of 1997.

### Saturday, June 21st - To be announced

**The Rachel Carson Homestead** is the birthplace and childhood home of ecologist and author Rachel Carson (1907-1964), whose 1962 best-seller *Silent Spring* helped launch the modern environmental movement. Born in this five-room farmhouse, Rachel Carson's childhood here in southwestern Pennsylvania nurtured a love and respect for nature and natural things which would guide her the rest of her life. *Silent Spring* warned of the dangers of indiscriminate pesticide use and established Rachel Carson as one of the most important and influential environmental activists in history.

Guided tours of the house and grounds are offered on Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm and Sundays from 1 pm to 5 pm. Regular museum admission is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children. Senior citizen and group discounts are available. Call (412) 274-5459 for more information.

## CLASSIFIED

All trips and products listed here are private and are **not sponsored or endorsed** by American Youth Hostels. Non-commercial ads are free for members. Contact the Editor for more info on Ads for Members and Non-members.

**For Sale:** Rhode Gear Eurosport twin rear-mounted bike rack, hardly used, fits most cars. \$75. Glenn, 731-7415.

**WANTED TO BUY:** Tandem Bicycle, John Gayler, 366-4062

**For Sale:** Oakley sweep lens, blue, M frame, new in box, \$75. Canondale shorts, size S, new, \$8. 2 bicycle jerseys, used but clean, size S and M, \$5 each. Call Michael, 412-322-7206.

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

**For sale:** Epoke 205 mm x-country skis, good condition, \$50; Contact ski boots, size 11, hardly used, \$35; free poles. Call 731-7415.

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

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

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

**For Sale:** Kneissl (XC) Skate Skis; Size 190; without bindings; Used once! (Too long for me.) \$50.00 Call 372-1068 eve.

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

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

**Editor, The Golden Triangle**  
5604 Solway ST.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

## REMINDER TO TRIP LEADERS

All trips and equipment usage must be approved by the appropriate activity chair or co-chair. Trip reports and fees should be turned in by the end of each month at either the AYH Activities Building or AYH Office or mailed to Pittsburgh Council, 5604 Solway St., Pittsburgh PA 15217



The Pittsburgh Council Travel Store is open Mon. 9 to 3, Wed. 11 to 6 and Fri. from 9 to 3. Hours are subject to change, so it's a good idea to call the office at 412-422-2282 before coming in. We're in Room 202 of the Wightman School Building at 5604 Solway Street in Squirrel Hill, near the intersection of Wilkins and South Negley. All passes, ID cards, rail passes, and books are available.