

# Fwd: Founder's Day Celebration

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Jun 22

To

All State Branches and Units of YHAI

Dear Sir,

Greetings from Youth Hostels Association of India (YHAI).

As you are aware that the Youth Hostel Movement is the brainchild of an eminent German school teacher, Richard Schirrmann, who believed in the virtues of group excursions to study geography, history and the world of nature. He took delight in organising weeklong trails for students. During an excursion in 1909, one night on 26th August, a terrible storm raged with thunder and lightning. While his

young wards were fitfully asleep in the school premises, Richard lay awake pensively toying at the idea of utilising the school buildings during holidays. It flashed to him that empty school rooms were waiting to be turned into dormitories and dining rooms. **That fateful night marked the birth of the Youth Hostel Movement i.e. 26th August.** Thus the first Youth Hostel was opened in 1912 in Altenia, Germany.

To commemorate **26<sup>th</sup> August**, the day of inception of Youth Hostel movement called **Founders Day**, it is suggested to all State Branches and Units that special programmes should be organised on that day. The following programmes may be organised by the State Branches and Units :

- Folk Dance Competition
- Treasure Hunt
- Food Festival
- Colours of States show
- Debate and drawing competition of Schools and Colleges students
- Short duration Trekking and Camping
- Cycling of the City
- Motor Biking programme

You may organise the above activities or any other activity which will commemorate the special Day. The report of the same should be sent to National Office which will publish in social media and other publications of the National Office.

We hope that State Branches and Units will actively organise activities and thrust the message of Youth Hostelling among the people of the area which would enhance the membership and participation in YHAI activities.

With regards,

Yudhisthir Sharma  
Chief Executive Officer