

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.



Hostelling - International Pittsburgh PA



A 50 bed full service hostel in a commercial 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

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....And MORE!!!

VOLUNTEERISM

by Bill Goodwin

From the Syracuse Council of American Youth Hostels *Highroads* Newsletter:

When someone asks for help and you have the time, volunteer your services. It is most rewarding for both you and the party that you are helping out, and sometimes you get to see another part of the country you might not had the opportunity to see if you did not volunteer.

I recently answered an article in the Pittsburgh Council's Golden Triangle on the Ohiopyle Hostel needing help. I called and spoke with Kelly Miller who along with her husband Steve are the new managers at the Ohiopyle Hostel. I asked her what I could do to help alleviate some of their problems. After hearing what she needed to have done I volunteered to help paint the inside of the hostel.

I took a grueling 14 hour plus bus ride from Syracuse to Uniontown, Pennsylvania where I was met by Steve, and then we headed back to the hostel in Ohiopyle a half hour away.

For the next three days, I helped Kelly, Steve and another member of the Pittsburgh Council paint the upstairs bathroom, hallway and stairwell. We also painted the kitchen from a dingy yellow to a bright and lighter-looking off-white.

I got to see Fallingwater the modernistic house that the late architect Frank Lloyd Wright built and was the summer home of the Kaufmann family. It is just three miles from the hostel. I also managed to see a bit of the countryside by cycling approximately 44 miles along the Cumberland and Pittsburgh Trail that is just a few hundred feet from the hostel. This trail, a former railroad bed, will allow one to travel this summer from Pittsburgh to the hostel in Ohiopyle and on to Meyersdale, PA, making it 4/5's completed. Parallel for the most part to the trail is the Youghiogheny River that attracts kayakers, canoeists, and white-water rafters.

The hostel is in Ohiopyle State Park, hence the same name, is a great place to visit especially if you are an outdoors enthusiast. To make a reservation, call or fax (724) 329-4476, or see your hostelling handbook for further details.

So if you have the time and want to help out your Council or another Council in need, don't hesitate and make that commitment today!

VOLUNTEER.....VOLUNTEER.....VOLUNTEER

INTRODUCING GEORGE WASHINGTON'S PASSAGE THROUGH THE ALLEGHENY'S FROM PITTSBURGH, PA TO WASHINGTON, D.C

Larry Brock, Cross Country Rider

Dear Trail Supporter,

At least once in our lives we have all stated "I can see the light at the end of the tunnel!" You know you have the kids raised, you're losing those last 10 pounds that you promised to take off as a New Year's resolution, or you're to the end of a major project in which you have invested a lot of blood, sweat, and tears.

I'm there and I'm gone!

I have been a member of the Allegheny Trail Alliance (www.atatrail.org) and lifelong supporter of the Trails projects going on throughout our region. Over the forty years that I have been involved with the trail system, I have done a variety of things

(Continued on page 8)

Use Your Membership Card to receive Discounts at these Locations in 2001:

Andy Warhol Museum: \$1 off admission when you show your HI card. Not valid with any other discounts.

Bar 11- 50 cents off Well drinks, 50 cents off Domestic Bottles: 1101 Bradish Street (Southside), 15203 Tel: (412) 381-0899 Email: rgrentz2hotbot.com Website: www.bar11.com

Bloomfield Bridge Tavern- Buy one "Polish Platter" get one FREE! NO TAKE OUT (includes Kluski, Haluski, Golumpki, Pierogi & Kielbasa) 4412 Liberty Ave. (Bloomfield), 15224, Tel: (412) 682-8611

Canton Gourmet- We give 20% discount to HI members who present their cards. 823 E. Warrington Ave. (Allentown-across the street from the Hostel!) Tel: (412) 488-0666

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

**PITTSBURGH COUNCIL-AYH
830 E. WARRINGTON AVE.
PITTSBURGH, PA 15210**

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HOSTELLING



Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc.
Serving Western Pennsylvania & West Virginia Panhandle
Since 1948, Incorporated 1955

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Oops...

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

Mail regarding the Newsletter should be addressed to:

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Office: (412) 431-4910
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



**PITTSBURGH COUNCIL
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Vacant
Cycling
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HOSTELLING
INTERNATIONAL

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Jessica Carpenter
(412-431-1267)

Ohiopyle Hostel Manager
Kelly and Steve Miller
(724-329-4476)

NOTICE

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

May ISSUE
All copy, April 5
Binding/Mailing, April 19

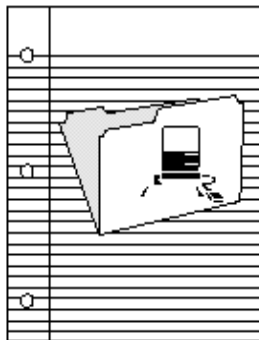
If your work is on computer,
Please contact Joel Platt at
golden_triangle@bigfoot.com

Moving?

If you move, or have any subscription problems, please notify us right away. Returned mail costs 42 cents for each piece, so we can save money if you let us know about any changes in your address. You can also phone in changes to the office at (412) 431-1267.

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 Ads:

- Classified ads are free to Current members of HI-International
- All requests for classifieds must be made in writing via the Council Office. Request must include full name, address, phone number and membership number of member. Members are not permitted to place ads for non-members.

- Free ads may not be for commercial gain.
- Above rules apply in addition to general rules for submission

Trips

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

Articles

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

General rules for submission

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

Editors Golden Rule

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

Please note, the Golden Triangle frequency of publication for 2000.

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 ->December
Editor...

UPCOMING SLIDE SHOWS

March 29: Ron Boone: "National Parks Of Northern California And Oregon". Lessen Volcano National Park, Crater Lake, and the redwoods. Car travel and day hikes.

April 5: Jim Hurst, "Skiing In Chili". The Portilla ski resort is 100 miles east of Santiago. Jim rides the narrow-gauge railroad over the Andes.

April 12: Bring your 10-20 best slides (or a short video) of sports, travel or nature. Juicy Juice will be served.

April 19: Pineapple upside-down cake and soft drinks party.

April 26; We show the 16 mm film "From The Ocean To The Sky" (rescheduled). Sir Edmond Hillary travels the 1500-mile long Ganges River. He visits a waterfall by boat, then the headwaters of the river. He climbs a himalayan peak.

May 3: Carl Katz, "Peru, The Vertical Country". Includes the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, and hiking in the Urubamba Valley.

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 412-683-3131.

Pittsburgh Council Hostels

Ohiopyle AYH Hostel
Ohiopyle State Park
PO Box 99
Ohiopyle, PA 15470
(724) 329-4476

HI-Pittsburgh Hostel
830 E. Warrington Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15210
(412) 431-1267
hipgh@sgi.net

HIOhiopyle@stargate.net



HOSTEL HAPPENINGS

VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN.

Special thanks to the following volunteers for all of your hard work and generosity in recent months:

Emily McMahon

Hostelling International-Pittsburgh's Volunteer Coordinator

Emily has been helping us get our volunteer program up and running, sharing her expertise about travelling abroad and being our lead volunteer at our World Travel 101 Workshops, Cultural Dinners, Potluck Dinners, and has been doing a great job of promoting our events throughout Pittsburgh! Emily's ideas and support, and her wonderful personality have truly changed the face HI-Pittsburgh's community programs, and without her help, we literally would not be where we are today. More and more people have been coming to our events and learning about hostelling since Emily joined our crew last year. She has also recruited and trained new volunteers to join our team and staff events. We look forward to working with her in the coming months as we strive to expand our volunteer opportunities and programs for the local community.

Thank you Emily!

Marquisha and Shlana Jones

Ages 10 and 12, respectively, Marquisha and Shlana are neighbors of the hostel who have done everything from helping us shovel the ENTIRE hostel parking lot the day after the big snow storm on January 20 to staffing our Potluck Dinners and helping to clean up afterwards. They have been great helpers and friends of the hostel since we opened in June 1997! We look forward to a trip to the Ohioypyle Hostel this coming summer when we can give them their first true hostelling experience!

Todd Arnold

Todd has been a staff member at three hostels and has been instrumental in helping us keep the hostel in here in Pittsburgh in good working order and assisting with improvements. He is a great friend who has volunteered numerous hours of labor helping us keep the hostel in tip-top shape, doing everything from sealing windows, installing shelves &; changing light bulbs to sharing his valuable facilities maintenance knowledge with us as we strive to save extra \$\$\$ on our energy bills.; We look forward to working with Todd as he has recently joined our facilities committee!

James Smith

James is a local artist from Brooklyn, New York who spent an entire day with us on December 23rd, helping us with some much-needed touch-up paint on our 3rd floor and gave us some valuable advice on what kinds of paint to use for different types of rooms. He has also helped out with other maintenance projects.

Nicole & Wade Burtch

A Spanish/English teacher and our Travel Store Manager, respectively--who made chicken mole, rice, Chiapan coffee and taught us about the Mexican tradition of making and decorating "sugar skulls" on El Dia de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead at our most recent Cultural Dinner. Approximately 20 participants enjoyed a Mexican feast, got covered in glitter and glue, and learned a bit of Mexican culture as a result of their efforts. Thanks Wade and Nicole for making the event a great success! Although our Cultural Dinners have been discontinued due to lack of funding, we hope to be able to bring them back soon.

Robert Johnson

Mathematician, CEO of EBS (Electronic Billing Services), beer connoisseur, the lucky man who recently became engaged to Nicole Mannino, and a true friend of the hostel. Rob donated six giant bags of candy for our pinata at the Spanish Cultural dinner, has attended numerous other potluck dinners and events, and shows continual support for our organization. He even offers on-call algebra tutoring to Jessica (it's true—you actually DO use algebra in real life!) We look forward to seeing Rob at our upcoming events, and wish him the best of luck as a new professional disc golfer! Rob will be travelling to compete in disc golf tournaments this year and will be lodging at hostels to make the trips more fun and affordable.

Duane Northrop

Duane is truly part of the hostelling family! An electrician from Erie, PA who has been commuting to Pittsburgh for over a year to help build the new Steelers' stadium, Duane has made the hostel his number one choice for accommodations when he stays in town. He has helped us understand and solve some minor electrical problems and is always willing to help the staff in any way he can. We truly appreciate Duane's expertise and donation of time, and have enjoyed his presence in the hostel. Duane is HI-Pittsburgh's "Hosteller of the Year".

Jesse Krontz

Jesse is a local computer expert who has been helping us bring the technology in our office up-to-date. Although we have a long way to go with this project, Jesse has given us free advice that is invaluable.

Sandy Putoreck

A local resident whose generous donation of dishes, pots, and pans helped make our kitchen even better equipped for the hostel guests.

Chris Allen

A new HI-Pittsburgh staff member who recently created and leads the discussions at our International Film Club on the first and third Tuesdays of every month, and enthusiastically promotes the hostel and shares networking ideas with us in his spare time. It is fun working with Chris, and we appreciate the extra time that he donates to promoting hostelling.

Cathy Brawner

Another HI-Pittsburgh staff member, Cathy supports hostel programs such as Potluck Dinners, and the International Film Club, and hangs flyers and helps the hostel in other ways in her spare time. She not only does a great job when she's working at the hostel, but she is a great conversationalist at our events. Thanks to Cathy for her donation of personal time and her extra involvement in promoting our mission!

PITTSBURGH COUNCIL OF AYH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you to Kyra Straussman, Tom Hardy, George Schmidt, Jeff Krainess, Larry Laude, Maureen Hogan, Anne-Marie Lubenau, Ben Brugmans, Ray Yutzy, Rosalind Eannarino, Dan McNulty, Harold Behar, and Kevin Swenson for all of the support you have given to the Pittsburgh and Ohioypyle Hostels! Your hard work and dedication to Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels has been amazing. Your expertise and guidance has been invaluable to us. We thank you and look forward to an even better future for the Pittsburgh Council of AYH!

AYH ACTIVITIES VOLUNTEERS

The Pittsburgh Council Activities Committee is the basis of our local organization. We now have hostels in our area thanks to the efforts of hundreds of outdoor adventure activities leaders in our area that had a vision of one day having a hostel in Pittsburgh. We thank you for making this dream come alive and look forward to another spring and summer full of hiking, canoeing, kayaking, rock climbing and more!

Thank you to all of our volunteers and supporters for your generous donations of time, energy, products & money! It is your support that allows us to continue to promote our mission and provide our visitors a clean, friendly and affordable place to stay.

-FROM THE STAFF AT HI-PITTSBURGH

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES AND BECOMING A VOLUNTEER FOR HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL, PLEASE CALL 431-1267

Volunteer Work Weekends at Ohioypyle

April 21 and 28 are volunteer work weekends at HI-Ohioypyle. We need lots of enthusiastic volunteers! There is a lot to be done, and managers Kelly and Steve can't do it all! If you are interested in coming, please call 724-329-4476 and let us know when you will be coming and what job you would like from the list below. If you want to help out but can't come these two days, just give us a call and tell us when you are available.

Five hours of volunteering equals a free night stay. Bring your own lunch, and for dinner we will cook over a bonfire.

1. Wash windows
2. Organize tools, etc. in basement.
3. Stain picnic tables and deck.
4. Mount entrance sign on post and put in ground.
5. Cut off tree stumps to ground level.
6. Put safety rail on the rear deck.
7. Clean out and repair window wells.
8. Repair plaster on ceiling.
9. Paint.
10. Install permanent doors on showers.
11. Secure water lines to cement block in basement.
12. Install door locks on guest rooms.
13. Repair cracked window panes and replace missing windows in basement.

Hostel Sitters Needed

HI-Ohioypyle is taking applications for hostel sitters. Hostel sitting is taking over for the managers when they are out. Responsibilities include taking telephone reservations, checking guests in and out, light cleaning and guest interactions. Hours are 5:00-10:00 p.m. and 7:30-9:30 a.m. Cleaning usually takes about 1 hour. We have the greatest need for hostel sitters this spring and summer. Call us at 724-329-4476 to request an application. An interview, references, criminal check and training with a manager is required. This is an excellent opportunity for singles, couples and families.

Summer Internship Available

HI-Ohioypyle is looking for a summer intern to work 20 hours/week. Call Kelly or Steve at 724-329-4476 for details.

2001 Member Discounts

Rivers's Edge Cafe- One free glass of wine with any dinner. 203 Yough Street, Confluence. 814-395-5059.

The Plough House- A free cup of our coffee of the day with purchase of a book. 20% off any book purchase. PO Box 240, Route 40, Farmington. 724-329-8573.

Ohioypyle Trading Post, Inc- 10% off any rental or merchandise. PO Box 94, Negley St. Ohioypyle. 724-329-1450. e-mail: Ohioypyle@dci.net, web: www.ohioypyletp.com.

Wilderness Voyageurs- 10% discount on a whitewater rafting trip on the Lower Yough (Class III+). PO Box 97, Ohioypyle. 800-272-4141, e-mail: rafting@wilderness-voyageurs.com. web: www.wilderness-voyageurs.com.

Javas Espresso Bar & Cafe- 20% off any drink item and free "Short-Java Joltage" with purchase of any specialty bagel. 50 East Main St, Uniontown. 724-439-9932. e-mail: javasespresso@hotmail.com

AYH ACTIVITIES WITH BEN

Each month, as I compile the Sunday hiking trips, I peruse the various hiking guides to our area. I am struck by the great outdoor possibilities offered close to Pittsburgh, from rivers, lakes, forest or field, as well as interesting urban walks suitable to winter. We are truly blessed with a wealth of outdoor opportunities almost unequaled by any city in the US.

And to top it all, the hiking guides to Western Pa., West Virginia, the canoeing guide, and now a new bicycling guide are among the best if not the most comprehensive available for any region you might wish to visit. Between the Pittsburgh AYH, the Sierra Club, the Keystone Trails Association, and the Butler Outing Club, as well as several other local wheel or water clubs, a choice of outings, trips and nature's enjoyment opportunities abounds.

This year I am looking forward to what promises to be a comprehensive AYH canoe program, a farther ranging and more adventurous hiking and overnight camping program, and continued cooperation between our regional outdoor clubs.

Eastern Mountain Sports is hosting an extended Club Day, with tables for the outdoor organizations at Monroeville, Ross and South Hills Village Malls. On Saturday April 28, all day, EMS will apply a discount to purchases with a club membership. Their support of Western Pennsylvanians has been dedicated, and increasing for a number of years.

The other upcoming cooperative venture will be Annual Outdoor Extravaganza, Memorial Day weekend. Hosted by The Butler Outing Club, this will be an all organization invitation to camp near Moraine State park, and hike, bike, canoe, kayak, eat and stay overnight with like minded souls. Thanks to the indefatigable efforts of Joyce, we will meet there on May 25 to 28.

All in all, I am glad winter is waning, spring has almost sprung, and the summer sun will soon be shining. And we will all be able to go venturing farther afield. Enjoy. Ben



ROCK CLIMBING

Rock Out with AYH!

The Pittsburgh AYH Rock Climbing program is a great way to experience the thrill of rock climbing. Our Beginner trips are focused on teaching "never evers" the basics of rock climbing. AYH supplies the climbing gear plus a group of experienced climbers to set up the climbs and teach the course. All you need to bring is a bag lunch, water, and a sunny disposition. Wear loose-fitting, comfortable clothes (shorts and T-shirts in the summer) and tennis shoes. It's not a bad idea to pack raingear in the event of a late-afternoon thunderstorm.

To find out more about the AYH climbing program, call Chuck Jones at (412) 242-6172. Please call before 10 o'clock at night.

Saturday, April 21 Beginner@Cooper's Rock Contact: Dave Hartman 412.364.8646
 Sunday, May 20 Beginner@Cooper's Rock Contact: "Woj" 412.322.4524

Rambles For Winter 2000

March 2001

Mar 21 Homewood Cemetery. Billie Woodland. 886-1603

Mar 28 Strip District. Alex Federowicz. 421-0922

April 2001

Apr 4 Cambells Run near Harmarville (Old Indian Trail Road). Ed Divers 825-5154

Apr 11 Wagman Observatory. Bag lunch. Don Hoecker 243-8298

Apr 18 North Park. Bag lunch. Earl McCabe 761-1844

Apr 25 Racoon Creek Park. \$3 trip. Bag lunch. Jim Hurst 276-0447

May 2001

May 2 Keystone Park. \$3 trip. Bag lunch. Earl McCabe 761-1844

May 9 Emerling Park (near Indianloa/Harmarville). Bag lunch. Ed Divers 825-5154

May 16 Duff Park. Bag lunch. Nick Broskovich (724) 863-6707

May 23 Mexican War Streets. Armand Panson 488-7612

May 30 Bidgeville - Cecil Park. Bag lunch. Dorothy Fishel 828-4999

June 2001

Jun 6 Guyasuta Boy Scout Camp. Bag lunch. Ed Divers 825-5154

Jun 13 Freeport Community Park. Bag lunch. Luc Berger 683-3131

Jun 20 Todd Sanctuary. \$3 trip. Bag lunch. Sally Schnorr 828-1472

Jun 27 Greensburg historic ramble. \$3 trip. Bag lunch. Edmund Appleby (724) 834-5077

Fall rambles begin at 10:00 AM. Meet in Mellon Park, upper parking lot at Fifth and Shady Avenues. Carpooling is encouraged. For trips over 10 miles, please pay driver \$2.00 unless specified otherwise.

Call trip leader for more information, (especially with regard to strenuous walks), or if you plan to meet us at the trail head. Rambles are subject to change due to weather or other circumstances.



CANOEING

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

Many thanks to Ellie Stanton for hosting the 2001 Paddling Planning Meeting on Feb. 20th. We have a good program planned for the next several months. If you missed the meeting and would like to lead a trip or school, please call Brian McBane or Paul Henry, co-chairs.

Pick-up trips for those with previous paddling experience will be held in March and April on sunny days when the temperature is above 60 degrees. Call Brian McBane at 724-443-8972 to organize a trip or to be included.

Basic Canoeing classes will be held the first four Tuesday evenings in May (1,8,15,22) on the Allegheny River, Verona. Instruction covers parts of a canoe, how to carry, enter, land and basic paddling strokes. Safety issues are also reviewed. The complete program is repeated each week. Please reserve a place by calling George Schnakenberg (412) 731-3046. These classes or a moving water school are pre-requisites for AYH white water trips.

PLEASE NOTE--- These trips have been scheduled with the best intentions in mind. Depending on water levels, weather conditions, they are subject to change.

Sunday, April 1 Eric Nilson (412) 487-3255

A combined trip with TRPC Flatwater Program. Wolf Creek, Class I-II, including the Conservancy protected "Narrows".

Saturday, April 21 Janet Supowitz (412) 247-4016

Eckert to Harris on the Slippery Rock Creek, Class II-III.

Fri.-Sun, April 27-29 Joyce Appel (724) 526-5407

A combined canoe/kayak trip. Join Paul and Joyce for their annual canoe/camp through the lovely Pine Creek Gorge, the "Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania", Class II. Moving Water skills are required, although rapids may be lined or portaged. Call for more details and reservations.

Sunday, April 29 Eric Nilson (412) 487-3255

A combined trip with TRPC Flatwater Program. Buffalo Creek, Class II; should be lots of wildflowers to spot.

Saturday, May 5 Ellie Stanton (412) 661-5585

Kate Fissell and Ellie will lead a trip on Crooked Creek, Class I-II. Birds and wildflowers for viewing.

Sunday, May 6 George Schnakenberg (412) 731-3046

Brian Mc Bane and George on Buffalo Creek, Class II. More birds and wildflowers.

Saturday, May 12 Eric Nilson (412) 487-3255

A combined trip with the TRPC Flatwater Program. Little Beaver, Class I. Historic locks, great scenery.

Sunday, May 13 Joyce Appel (724) 526-5407

Joyce and Paul will be leading a Mother's Day trip on the Shenango River, easy paddling.

Schuylkill River Sojourn, June 2-8 2001 Registration brochures will be mailed in March. Brochure also available on their web page www.schuylkillriver.org and select Special Events or call 610-372-3916.



SAILING

Experienced sailors or novices who would like to go for a sail at Lake Arthur can contact Bob Zavos at 412-241-0659. Bob usually sails with the Moraine Sailing Club on weekends. There are sailboat races on most Saturdays and Open Sailing on Sundays. Opening Race day is Saturday May 5th.

June 9 Sat. Lake Arthur Sara Zavos 412-241-0659

WOMEN'S SUNFISH REGATTA. AYH women may participate in the first of two Moraine Sailing Club's (MSC) Women's Sunfish Regattas. Men or women are also invited to help with equipment setup and serve on the committee boat. Experienced sailors may sail as crewmembers on other sailboats. We will go out for dinner in the Zelienople/Portersville area.

June -9-10 Sat- Sun Lake Arthur Moraine State Park Office 724-368-8811

GO SAILING. This is a non-AYH Charity event that is open to the public and benefits United Cerebral Palsy. Activities take at the Crescent Bay rental area on the South Shore from 11am-3pm on each day. Volunteers will provide sailboat rides for a \$10 donation.

August 25-26 Sat-Sun. Lake Arthur Bob Zavos 412-241-0659

REGATTA AT LAKE ARTHUR. There will be a wide variety of water activities including sailing so mark your calendars now.



SEA-KAYAKING

Activity Co-Chairs: Vickie Gotaski 412-344-4929

Don't have a boat? We have kayaks available for all club events.



BICYCLING

Easy Bike Rides

Come on the following bike rides designed for beginners and those looking for easy rides to start the season. Be sure your bike is in good condition with tires inflated. A helmet is required. Bring a bag of some sort attached to your bike to carry your lunch. Call Joan Roolf for more details and the place to meet. (412)351-2061

Saturday April 21st 10AM

The Yough Trail is where everyone starts out and for very good reason. It's pretty, with interesting towns and it is flat. This ride will be at a slower pace. Bring a lunch. We will go a total of 20 miles, but you can turn back at any time.

Saturday April 28th 10AM

This is a repeat of the previous Saturday's ride on the Yough Trail---just a different starting point. Come on both rides to get a good start.

HELMETS ARE REQUIRED!

GETTING READY TO RIDE IN 2001

The greatest obstacle to bicycling is often getting used to the seat. I have met many people who told me that was why they decided to give up trying to bicycle. This pain happens to us all, when we first start out. But a gel cover can get you over this hump. After riding a few times within a few weeks the discomfort is gone and you can ride comfortably without the gel cover. The trick is to find a seat suitable for you. Look in any bicycling catalog, or store and you will find many styles of seats to choose from. Remember though, once you are "broken in", you may not want to lug around that big, heavy, soft seat that you thought you needed.

GREAT WEBSITES FOR BICYCLE TOURING

www.cyclesa.com

This website is extremely well done, offering many rides, maps, places of interest, etc. in the Southern Alleghenies. This is in south central Pennsylvania in the vicinity of Altoona, Huntingdon and Bedford.

Last fall I checked out one of the rides near Altoona. The description was accurate. The map easy to follow and the area was beautiful. I am planning to do a bike touring weekend there next summer.

www.biketouring.org

The Wayfarers have this website, although their name is not in the title. This is a non-profit organization which provides low-cost, leisurely bicycle tours... They run casual tours, not super-organized ones. Everyone is expected to cooperate and help out as needed (which is in the AYH spirit).

Last spring, I went on one of their weekend trips at The Lantern Inn in Betterton, Maryland. It was just as they said....leisurely, casual, a lot of fun and good biking.

Read more about them on their website and sign up for one of their trips.

PLANS FOR BICYCLE TOURING WEEKENDS 2001

Three bicycling weekends are being planned for 2001

HARPER'S FERRY AREA AND BEAR'S DEN YOUTH HOSTEL

Enjoy a weekend at the Bear's Den Youth Hostel situated on the Appalachian Trail. We will bicycle, rather than hike, on the W+OD Trail and on part of the C +O Canal. This area, the northern most tip of Virginia, is full of beautiful horse farms. It is also full of history. Our rides will be on bike paths. On the C+O Canal it is best to have a mountain bike.

This hostel is an easy 3 hour drive. It is a great place for a weekend getaway.

CANOE CREEK AND THE SOUTHERN ALLEGHENYS WEEKEND

Cycle the beautiful valleys in the southern Alleghenies. This is mostly unexplored territory to many of us in Pittsburgh, but it is absolutely beautiful among the ridges and valleys just to our east. An easy 2 to 2.5 hour drive and you will be at Canoe Creek State Park where we will stay in newer state park cabins. We will be able to start one 26 mile bike ride from our cabins. Another is a short drive away. Altoona, with it's railroad museum and historic Holidaysburg are also a short drive away.

For anyone who likes to do bicycle touring, this is a weekend that should not be missed. It has the potential of being another favorite---like Wilderness Lodge!

TOUR DE GRAPE HARVEST OCTOBER 5th , 2001 TO OCTOBER 7th , 2001

A favorite bicycling weekend at Wilderness Lodge...In 2000 it was cold and it even snowed. but everyone still had a great time. More typical is October's bright blue weather with the leaves at their peak. Whatever it is, we will bike and we will have a wonderful time. There are 2 great rides we will do. One goes through the vineyards and along Lake Erie. The other circles Lake Chautauqua.

THESE PLANS ARE TENTATIVE....PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF THE ACCOMODATIONS, ETC.

IMPROMPTU BICYCLE RIDES EMAIL LIST

Last year I started a bicycling email list. I would like to continue this list in 2001. Now there are about 50 people on this list. I expect more as the spring comes on. There have not been any rides lately. But the weather will break sometime soon and then everyone will be looking for rides and friends to ride with.

I am not always available to initiate rides or email everyone so I have emailed the list to everyone on the list. When you want to ride and are looking for riding companions, just email the location and time of meeting. Be sure to say about how many miles it is, what kind of terrain you are covering and what kind of pace you are setting. Should they bring a lunch?

I have been trying to encourage laid back, slower paced touring rides, since The Wheelmen have plenty of the other kind. But everyone tends to do this differently. Just be sure you let everyone know what to expect. These are not rides officially sponsored by AYH. They are gatherings of friends with a common interest in bicycling.

If you are interested in joining someone on a ride just email them back. An email list is a simple way to find riding companions. And the rides do not have to be planned months in advance. Apologies to those who do not have email.

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

Join Glenn Oster from July 2 thru 15 in bicycle touring Minnesota's excellent, paved rail-trails. Plan on camping, but motelling can be an option to consider. Travel self contained on several of the trails, or, if one or more of the participants also drive, bicycle each day from vehicle to vehicle. For info and reservations, E-mail Glenn at <goglen25@telerama.com> or phone at (412) 364-2864.

2001: A Trail Odyssey. The third Yokatomac Trek, a Rail-Trail and Towpath Ride. Washington DC to Pittsburgh PA. June 9 to June 17, 2001. For more Information call 724-853-2453. or www.atatrail.org/yoktrek/y01trek.html

More Bicyling News Courtesy George Schmidt

PPAC REPORT FROM HARRISBURG

PennDOT's Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PPAC) met in Harrisburg on February 22. Mike Ryan from PennDOT talked about the project to develop a section of trail in Philadelphia from the art museum to Spruce Street along the Schuylkill River at a cost of \$6.8 million. It will run roughly 30 miles from the Delaware River through the heart of Philadelphia, along boat house row, to Valley Forge State Park and end at Pottstown.

Dick Sprenkle, from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), gave an extensive report about DCNR's activities. The draft Pennsylvania Greenways Plan should be adopted on March 30. In the first week in March \$33 million in fifty/fifty grants will be issued. Bids will be accepted this spring for work on the 60-mile trail along Pine Creek in the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania in Tioga County.

DCNR is also taking the lead on the \$8 million dollar rehab of the Big Savage Tunnel on the Great Allegheny Passage Trail running from Pittsburgh to Cumberland, MD. The design work should be done in March and the project ready for construction bids. Most of the cost is for an insulated liner in the tunnel. Due to it's importance in this major national trail, Governor Ridge initiated the work with a \$6.6 million grant. The work may take a year to complete.

DCNR also worked with the Ghostown Trail to replace a dangerous bridge over PA 422 with a higher, longer bridge for bicycles that was safer for the motor traffic below. The cost was \$2.5 million dollars.

Dick also displayed a map of the "Allegheny Ridge State Heritage Park" being developed by the Kiski-Conemaugh River Basin Alliance. It is a large area of the Pennsylvania Canal route that was designated a Millennium Trail last year by the federal government.

Linda Boxx, President of the Allegheny Trail Association (ATA) spoke about the importance of the PA Greenways Plan. She is the nice lady who is the irresistible force behind the success of the ATA.

John Schubert chaired the Bicycle PA sub-committee meeting. Mike Ryan confirmed that the signs for the cross-state bicycle routes were ready to be installed by PennDOT crews this spring. John told committee members to consider what spur routes they would like to see off the main routes for the next meeting.

PPAC Meeting Dates & Locations

PennDOT's Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee will be meeting during the CoreStates Race in Philadelphia on June 8, 2001 and the LAB National rally in Altoona on August 3. It will also meet in Harrisburg on October 18, 2001 and December 6, 2001. If anyone has bicycling or pedestrian issues they would like raised at the meetings contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538.

DON'T MISS BIKEFEST 2001, THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLIST'S 2001 NATIONAL RALLY OF CYCLISTS IN THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES MOUNTAINS

The League's 2001 National Rally of Cyclists will be held August 3-5 in Altoona, Pennsylvania in conjunction with the Tour de Toona, America's largest pro-amateur road cycling races. The Southern Alleghenies offer fantastic mountain and road riding for all levels of ability, featuring low-traffic roads traversing thick oak forests, sweeping valleys, rolling hills and breathtaking mountains. In 1997, Altoona was named one of America's top five "Best Biking Towns" by Bicycling magazine. For more information, see <<http://www.bikeleague.org/rallies/rallies.html>>.

For a look at some of the great riding in the area, see the Velo News 2000 Calendar (the March page features Tour de Toona action) or visit <http://www.cyclesa.com>, which offers 17 self-guided riding tours. Visit <<http://pavis->

(Continued on page 7)



HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS

MARCH 25 SUNDAY Ben Brugmans 412 361 3623
Nature hike, hoping for a nice spring day. 4-5 miles. Raccoon Creek. Meet at Mellon Park 10:00 AM Lunch at a folksy restaurant. Carpool \$3.50

APRIL 1 SUNDAY Judy Woodring 412-828-9002
Home, Indiana Co. A 5 to 6 mile rural road hike around Home, Pa, topped by home cooking at a local restaurant. Meet 10:00 AM at HQ, Mellon Park. Carpooling \$5.50 for your driver.

APRIL 8 SUNDAY Ben Brugmans 412-361-3623
Wildflower walk at Jennings Nature Reserve, 3.7 miles. Lunch at an affordable but picturesque restaurant afterwards, Carpooling \$3.75 rt. Meet 10:00 AM at HQ, Mellon Park.

APRIL 22 SUNDAY Lorraine Johnson 724-325-8403
Schollards Wetlands hike along an abandoned railroad bed trail. 5 miles. A stop at a restaurant of Lorraines choosing afterwards. Meet at HQ at Mellon Park 10:00 AM. Carpooling \$3.75 rt.

APRIL 29 SUNDAY Joan Roof 412-361-2061
Monroeville hike to the Turtle Creek Valley, a post industrial hike of one of Pittsburghs lesser known treasures. We will go to a restaurant of Joans choosing afterwards. Meet 10:00 AM at HQ, Mellon Park. Carpooling \$1.00

WANTED:HIKING PARTNER

To trek the GR-5 European Long Distance Trail from Strasbourg, France to Geneva, Switzerland approximately 380 miles in 27 days including air travel. Average distance about 15 mi./ day
Time of travel: May or June 2001
French speaker a bonus!! Also need a partner for continuation of trek in 2002 across the French Alps from Geneva to Nice, France on the Riviera

If interested call:
Larry Ridenour @ (h) 366-0446 or
e-mail: landesign@aol.com

ALLEGHENY GROUP--SIERRA CLUB--OUTINGS THRU APRIL 1 2001 Courtesy Bruce Sundquist

For a more up-to-date listing, visit their Internet web site. Address:
<http://www.enviroweb.org/alleggheny-sc/>

EVENING CONDITIONING WALKS (Call for meeting time and place)
South Park (year-around). Times/locations may vary. Call Bonnie Thomas, 412-833-1068.
East (during Daylight Savings Time) Tues. & Thurs. evenings in Duff Park near Murrysville. Call Nick Broskovich 724-863-6707
East End (during Daylight Savings Time) Wed. Evenings, 7 PM to Frick, Schenley or Highland Park. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027

Sat.Mar.24 Laurel Ridge bushwack. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866
Sun.Mar.25 Hike a moderate 7 miles in Laurel Hill State Park on Laurel Ridge. \$6.25 carpool-55 miles. Call Mike Robertson, 412-678-4039
Sun.Apr. 1 Hike along the south shore of Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park, west of the Route 528 bridge. Strenuous/ exploratory. \$5.00 carpool-49 miles. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567
Sun.Apr. 1 Hike an easy 4 miles at the south end of Baker Trail near Freeport. \$1.50 carpool-15 miles. Call Janna Zuroski, 412-422-3406
Sat.-Sun.Apr.7-8 Backpacking, moderate, on Morrison Trail in Allegheny National forest. \$18.25 carpool-160 miles. Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196
Sun.Apr. 8 Easy, level, 7-mile loop hike in Hartstown Swamp on the Erie Canal Towpath and old railroad grade near Conneaut Pa. Meet at Cranberry Mall K-Mart at 9 AM. \$8.75 carpool-87 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154
Sat.Apr.14 Caving, easy, in Bear Cave on Chestnut Ridge near Blairsville. \$3.50 carpool-35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068
Sun.Apr.15 Bicycle an intermediate 34 miles (round trip) on Yough River Trail from Connellsville to Ohiopyle. \$4.50-40 miles. Call Barry Tunick, 412-653-6584
Sun.Apr.15 Exploratory wildflower hike of 10+ miles on Lower Indian Creek Valley Trail (Rt.381 to Yough River past big blue holes and 1850 ghost town. Return via Hampton Rd. to Mill Run.) \$6.00 carpool-54 miles. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027
Sat.Apr.21 Canoe/Hike Chartiers Creek. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866
Sat.-Sun.Apr.21-22 Canoe/Kayak camping trip on French Creek. \$9.00 carpool-89 miles from Cranberry Mall. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154
Sun.Apr.22 Hike a strenuous 12 miles on Laurel Highlands Trail from Maple Summit Road to Ohiopyle. \$7.25 carpool-65 miles. Call Donna Allen, 412-372-2993
Sat.Apr.28 8-mile nature walk on Glacier Ridge Trail in Moraine State Park to see spring flowers and "calibrate" the warblers migration. The warblers shouldn't be there yet! Bring bird- and flower books, hand lens, binocs, and foul-weather gear. Experts and beginners all welcome. \$3.75 carpool-37 miles. Call Don Gibbon, 412-362-8451
Sat.-Sun.Apr.28-29 Umteenth annual easy backpacking/compass-training trip in Quebec Run Wild Area of Forbes State Forest. This will qualify you for our more advanced backpacking trips requiring prior experience.
Limit:18. \$7.00 carpool fee-65 miles. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737
Sun.Apr.29 Loop across the four forks of Mill Creek, on the western slopes of Laurel Ridge north of Laughlintown, including Pine- and Camp Hills. Strenuous/ exploratory.

PRESERVING NATURE'S HERITAGE 33RD BIENNIAL APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE JULY 13-20, 2001 AT SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY

The 33rd Biennial Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference will be held at Shippensburg University, Pennsylvania from July 13 to 20, 2001. This is the fifth time that Pennsylvania has been host to a biennial A.T. conference and the second time at Shippensburg University.

Shippensburg University is located in the Cumberland Valley of south-central Pennsylvania, overlooking the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains. The campus is situated on 200 acres of rolling land and is accessible to hiking on the Appalachian Trail. The area is rich with history, with Gettysburg, and the state capitol close by. You get a sense of history just traveling through town and noting the many historical markers and the horse and buggies that carry local Amish farmers to town.

Hiking and Backpacking trips of various challenges will be led on the A.T. in southern and central Pa and Maryland, and popular local area trails will also be included. Some of the Excursions we have planned for participants are the Johnstown Flood Museum and National Memorial, Altoona Railroad Museum and Horseshoe Curve, Gettysburg Battlefield, Hawk Mt. Sanctuary, Historic Hershey, Lancaster Amish areas, Pioneer Mining Tunnel, Broad Top Railroad Historic Area, bicycling in historic areas and canoeing on the Susquehanna River, horseback riding and visits to cultural areas in our riverside capitol city, Harrisburg.

Workshops will be held on Trail Maintenance and activities, Conservation, Crafts, Astronomy, Civil War, Food, Hiking, Flora and Fauna, Map and Compass, Photography, Survival, Geology, Orienteering, First Aid and Club Issues

Some of the featured entertainment will be an Irish Singer and comedian, Sheamus Kennedy and Elke Baker, 1995 U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Champion. Contra and folk dancing, musical events and slide shows will take place every evening.

Registration information will be available in the March issue of the ATN, the A.T. and KTA Web Sites and on A.T. club Web Sites.

Chairing the all volunteer conference is, Thyra Sperry, ATC Vice Chair, representing the lead club Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club, Committee chairs are Katie Jones, Sue Peck, Bill Mayer, Kris Kyler, (SATC), Barb & Al Wiemann (AHC), Sara Dean (Batona), Lennie & Bill Steinmetz and Mac White (AMC-DV), Janice Slaybaugh (CVATC), Thurston Griggs (MCM) and Ron Gray (YHC).

Official Rachel Carson/Baker Trail Website

is now live; the URL is <http://members.xoom.com/rachelbaker>.

Also, I discovered the following website, by accident; you may (or may not) enjoy it. I thought it was quite interesting.
www.bakertrail.com -jim ritche

Backpack with detachable daypack -- 4500 cubic inches capacity, dark green. Used once - gently. \$150 firm. Cash only.
Eleanor Hohman, Phone # - 531-4648, ehohman@sgi.net

\$5.25 carpool-50 miles. Call Dick Pratt 412-362-5567
Sun.Apr.29 Easy 1.5-mile hike (2 hours) in Seldom Seen Greenway (Beechview Area). Meet at the far end of Brashear High School's parking lot at 590 Crane Ave. in Beechview at 1:30 PM. Call John or Kathy Murphy, 412-341-9367, or Bill Lawrence, 412-922-3951

NOTES: Ask leader for names & phone numbers of trippers for you to arrange a car pool. Reserve at least 36 hours in advance. Notify leader to cancel your reservation. Bring lunch, rain gear, water, first-aid kit, small flashlight and extra clothes for changes in weather. If you have a cell phone, bring it along; they have saved the day on several trips when accidents have required evacuation of injured trippers.

ALLEGHENY GROUP MONTHLY MEETINGS

7:30-10 PM, PGH. CIVIC GARDEN CENTER, behind Scaife Unit of Arts Center, SECOND HOUSE SOUTH OF FIFTH AVE. ON SHADY AVE. Parking meters-\$0.25/hr. (quarters only)
Wed.Apr.11 "Workshop for Novice Activists", Brad Fisher and Alex Denmark
Wed.May 9 "Bioregionalism and organic farming" Larry Patrick.

Butler Area Outings Group

Same sorts of trips as Allegheny Group. Call Dave Adams, 724-789-7031 (DaveEAdams@aol.com) (<http://www.nauticom.net/users/outdoor>)

Wissahickon Nature Club

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

Botanical Society of Western Pa.

offers field trips in spring, summer and fall to look at and learn about the enormous variety of plant life that western Pa. offers. Everyone is welcome on field trips; amateurs, professionals, non-members, and anyone who is curious about the natural world. Trips are often at a leisurely pace, but may require hiking and traveling through wet/muddy areas. For information, e-mail your address for a sample newsletter and membership information to yoree@sgi.net, or call Loree at 412-521-9425.

North Country Trail Association

The second annual George Washington's Cherry Pie Hike on the North Country National Scenic Trail. It was a good one! THANKS to everyone who attended and all those who brought those great pie's. We had about 40 people and got a few new members

Gamelands Hike : We will be doing a series of hikes on the new trail that was build this past year Hike Leaders this is you change to learn about the new trails. If anyone is interested in leading hikes please let me know.

If anyone has 2000 Trailwork hours to turn in please send (you can email me) them along. I will be sending in the reports to several organizations. I will also we ready to hold the raffle for people that have filed out the slips or turned. We will have several great prizes packs and weekend gear rental packages donated by Eastern Mountain Sports

NEED HELP WITH THESE PROJECTS

Trail Walkers, we need people who will hike the NCT and let us know the conditions examples down trees, any problems with blazes. Please contact chapter presidents or me.

4/18 -23 Trail Work, American Hiking Society Crew Leader Training
6/2 National Trails Day Campout Hikes and events
8/24 25 Moraine Park Regatta Campout

North Country Trail Event

utler Chapter of North Country Trail monthly meeting will be held the first the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM at the YMCA this short program will be on winter hiking. The meeting is open to the public . Contact Ron Rice 538-8475 , rice1@nauticom.net

The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the North Country Trail Association will hold a meeting at the American Youth Hostel

<http://www.hiayh.org/ushostel/mdatreg/pittsb.htm> on April 25th at 7:00 PM.

The program will be up coming events, National Trail Day. If you would like to get involved with the trail or the chapter. The meeting is open to the public for more information contact Heather Honerkamp 412-231-1113 or email etajoyH@aol.com

Global Positioning System Users Group will holding a meeting March 22 at 7:00 PM at Butler Community College Cranberry Campus. There is a small group of people that is interested in learning about the GPS. There will be a program "How GPS work" by Mary Bates

DAVIS HOLLOW OUTDOOR CENTER

March 30/31 4th DHOC Program Weekend Open Center and clean up, Wood working, kiosks bunk beds we have 3 new bed thanks to John West and window s Cabin keeper Training Leader DHOC Committee

We be holding training for the Cabin Keepers these are volunteers that will stay at the center the weekends we have programs or other events. Anyone interested please contact me .

On April 13-15 we will be hold the first program Bird Watching with Chuck Tague editor of the Nature Observer News. We have had Chuck at a Butler Outdoor Club meeting. If you want to learn about out feather friends this is a great opportunity . \$55 for members and 65 for non members for the weekend, 2 nights and diner at the DHOC. space is limited so sign up soon.

The next program will be Geology of Moraine

Bob Tait Penna. State Coordinator
eMail BobTait@zbzoom.net North Country Trail Assoc.
212 E Metzger Ave, Butler Pa 16001 Box 2968, Butler Pa 16003-2968
Home 724-287-3382
Emergency 724-290-4141
Phone email 7242904141@mobile.celloneusa.com

<http://northcountrytrail.org/pa/>

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[net.com/laurelhighlands](http://www.net.com/laurelhighlands) to learn more about Altoona and the surrounding area. The event will be based at the beautiful Penn State Altoona campus (<<http://www.aa.psu.edu>>). Don't miss it! Write <<mailto:bikeleague@bikeleague.org>> or call 202/822-1333 to get on the list!

ATA Conference 2001

The annual Allegheny Trail Association (ATA) conference was held on February 9-10 in Greensburg, PA. It is a gathering of the clans for the people and organizations building the system of bicycle trails to connect Pittsburgh and Cumberland, MD. The biggest announcement was the naming of the trail system, "The Great Allegheny Passage". You can visit the web site at www.atatrail.org to get the full story.

The first 100 miles of trail from McKeesport, in Allegheny Co., to Meyersdale, in Somerset Co., will be completed this summer. The harsh weather has held up work on the sections from Fort Hill to Confluence and from the Salisbury Viaduct to the Meyersdale Station. Watch for big festivities for the ribbon cutting occurs.

Engineering work is being done on the Keystone viaduct and the Savage Mountain Tunnel. Construction of the trail in Somerset County to the Maryland border should be complete in 2003.

Doug Hoehn, Ohioycle State Park Manager, announced tentative plans for a tunnel under the Ohioycle Bicycle Trail for rafters and kayakers to access the Ferncliff parking area from the Middle Yough take-out. There are also plans for restrooms to be installed at the Ferncliff parking area.

Bob McKinley, Executive Director of the Regional Trail Corp., has been a

trail building fool. He has been working on extending the Five Star Trail in Westmoreland Co. and developing the Sheepskin Trail, the R & P Trail from Saltsburg to Murrysville, and the Coal & Coke Trail from Scotdale to Mt. Pleasant. For more information about these trails see the ATA web site.

The Steel Valley Heritage Trail was covered by Larry Ridenour. Four miles of bike lane/trail is complete from Clairton to McKeesport. 2.5 miles of trail will be paved at the Riverfront complex in Homestead. The ATA is assisting in the purchase of the Rankin Hot Metal Bridge. The trail will extend on both sides of the Monongahela River toward Pittsburgh.

John Stephen, Executive Director of the Friends of the Riverfront, announced that work is beginning on the bike/ped side of Pittsburgh's Hot Metal Bridge. The first phase of the conversion is expected to cost a half million dollars with \$325,000 being paid by a grant the ATA received from the Heinz Endowments. The project should be complete in three years. The Southside segment of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail has been extended from 18th Street past the Hot Metal Bridge into the Pitt/Steelers practice field area. Design has begun for the section of the trail through Baldwin to the Glenwood Bridge.

At the end of the conference, the member organizations gave awards to recognize member's contributions. George Schmidt was given a certificate from the Friends of the Riverfront in recognition of his efforts to support the development of trails in Pittsburgh on behalf of the WPW.

A-ROUTE MARKING BEGINS

Signs are to be installed this spring on the Bicycle PA A-Route from Morgantown, WV to Erie, PA. The route was laid out by WPW members for the Bicycle PA sub-committee of the PennDOT's Pedestrian/Pedalcycle Advisory Committee and financed by the WPW. PennDOT is having the signs made and installing them. This route is part of a state wide bicycle route system.

Tour de Sewickley Needs Your Help!!!

The Early Learning Institute, a non-profit agency servicing special needs children birth through five years of age in Allegheny County is asking for your help. Many of you are familiar with the Tour de Sewickley Bike Ride that benefits The Early Learning Institute. The Wheelman have always been supportive of this important event and we are hoping you can assist us again this year. The ride will be held on Sunday, July 8, 2001. We encountered some problems with the signage of the route last year and hope to improve it. This is where we need your help. We have signs that get tied to various things along the way, trees, poles, etc. During the last event, pranksters moved signs in the middle of the night or they fell down, both times leaving many riders confused. We would like to mark the route not only with signs this year, but also by painting the road with a substance that would not be permanent. I am requesting the help of five or six Wheelman to help us mark the course on Saturday, July 8. We would have one brief meeting before that date to coordinate everyone, then on that Saturday we would physically do the job.

The Tour de Sewickley is the agency's largest and most important fundraiser. We have always tried to hold a quality event and with your help, we can continue to do so. A few hours of your time will affect hundreds of children. For more information or if you have any questions, please call Karen Bachor at the Institute at (412) 922-8322 ext. 27. Thank you!!!

PLEASE NOTE: WPW SPONSORED EVENTS ARE IN CAPITAL LETTERS

APRIL 11	WPW MEETING
MAY 9	WPW MEETING
JUNE 03	Tour de Cure, North Park, Allegheny County
June 03	Yough-N-Roll, Boston Riverfront Park, PA
June 2 & 3	The 10th Annual Indiana Five Points Classic Road Races & Criterium. More info to follow in the near future. Or you may visit our Website " http://indianacyclingclub.homestead.com/ " for more information
June 9 & 10	MS 150
June 9-17	Yokatomac Trek III, 2001: A Trail Odyssey, Washington, DC to Pittsburgh, 300 miles. Total trip cost \$840 includes indoor lodging at motels and B & Bs and food. \$100 deposit required. First come, first served. Contact information. Phone: 724-853-2453; Email: atatrail.org ; Web site: www.atatrail.org/yoktrek
JUNE TBA	WPW Wheelmen's Annual Gathering (WAG)
June 20	Pedal Pittsburgh
July 22 & 22	M&M Century Ride, McKeesport to Meyersdale
August 3-5	LAB National Rally, Altoona, PA
	WPW PICNIC
AUGUST 26	Mon Valley Century
September 03	WYTC Poker Ride
SEPTEMBER 8	WPW FALL RALLY, North Park, Allegheny Co.
September 8-9	Dam Ride to Confluence
OCTOBER 07	SABRE, Settler's Cabin Park, Allegheny Co.

Volunteer at Beechwood Farms

See the world through the eyes of a child...become a Volunteer Naturalist at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve.

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, "Pittsburgh's Outdoor Classroom" is looking for individuals who enjoy nature and would be excited to share that enjoyment with children. Our Outdoor Discovery program hosts 3000 children a year on field trips to the Reserve. Volunteer Naturalists lead small groups of these students in informative, hands-on explorations of the reserve. No experience necessary. Our training gives you the natural history background and trailside educational activities you need to be an effective hike leader. Our next training will be held on Mondays from March 5 through April 9. For details or an application, call Scott at 412-963-6100. Beechwood Farms is a 134-acre Nature Reserve operated by the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania.

Golden Triangle - Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels

(Continued from page 1)

to promote their development.

Soon I will be embarking on one of the greatest personal challenges of my life that I feel will help the completion of the Great Allegheny Passage. Once joined with The C&O Canal NHP in Cumberland, MD, a system of non-motorized trails will connect Pittsburgh, PA to Washington, DC.

Starting in San Diego, California, on March 25, 2001, I will be riding my Cannondale Silk Path bicycle, 3500 miles across the United States a journey that will eventually take me to Ocean City, Maryland. I am riding across our nation to raise awareness for the Great Allegheny Passage. These historic trails closely follow George Washington's original passage through the Alleghenies! The more than 200 miles of trails through Pennsylvania and Maryland are some of the most beautiful and historic trails in the nation.

I am also riding to build financial support for the Great Allegheny Passage's Major project: The Big Savage Tunnel. This 3300 ft passage through the Eastern continental divide will cost an estimated \$7,200,000. This is almost \$2,000,000 over the amount currently funded. Individuals like you can help us achieve our goal with monetary donations that will go toward continued construction and completion of our trails for generations to come.

A contribution of a mere \$.03 per mile would be appreciated. Contributions can be sent to:

Allegheny Trail Alliance
419 College Avenue
Greensburg, PA 15601
Attn. LJB's Ride

For more information about my "Light at the End of the Tunnel Tour," please visit www.atatrail.org. I will be placing updated locations and stories from my ride throughout the entire trip.

May 20, 2001, I will be arriving in St. Louis and continuing my trip eastward through Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Friends are encouraged to join in at any point during this section of my journey and ride with me along these roads and trails.

I am thanking you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,
Larry J. Brock

(Continued from page 1)

Casbah- 10% off bill. Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 229 S. Highland Avenue (Shadyside) Tel: (412) 661-5656, Email: casbah1@bigburrito.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

City Books- 10% off most books. 111E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 481-7555; email: citybooks@sprintmail.com

City Theatre-Discounts are good for 2001 Subscription Series Productions only. Subject to availability. Students 25 and under \$12 Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday Matinee. Friday and Saturday \$15. Other hostel patrons over 25 receive a \$5 discount. Valid Student ID or receipt from Hostel to be presented at Box Office. City Theatre Performances: Tuesday-Thursday 8pm, Friday, 8pm, Saturday 5:30 & 9pm, Sunday Matinee 2pm. 57 13th Street (Southside) Tel: (414) 431-CITY, email: theatre@citytheatre.org, Website: www.citytheatre-pgh.org

Dairy Mart- Free 44oz. Fountain drink with \$5.00 purchase; 1125 Arlington Ave. (Allentown-across the street from the Hostel!) Tel: (412)481-4122

Dave's Music Mine- 10% off total purchase (music & instruments). Not valid with any other specials, discounts or promotions. 1210 E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 488-8800, Email: davesmusicmine@aol.com Website: www.davesmusicmine.com

East End Food Co-op- 10% on purchases at Pittsburgh's largest natural and organic food market. 7516 Meade Street (Point Breeze) Tel: (412) 242-3598

Golden Triangle Bike Rentals- 10% discount on bike rentals. 416 Woodruff Lane (near the Jail Trail) Tel: (412) 655-0835; Email: golidentrianglebikes@yahoo.com, Website:

www.bikepittsburgh.com

Gray Line Trolley Tours of Pittsburgh- \$2.00 discount per tour #1, 2, 3, & 4 only. 110 Lenzner Court, Sewickley, PA 15143 Tel: (412) 741-2720 Email: Catherine.spanard@coachusa.com, Website: www.coachusa.com

Jester's Court Tattoos & More- 20% off any tattoo, piercing, t-shirt, etc. 1410 East Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 488-TATS, Email: Jesterscourt@earthlink.com

Kaya- 10% off your bill. Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 2000 Smallman Street (Strip District) Tel:(412) 261-6565, Email: kaya1@bigburrito.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

La Prima Espresso- 50 cents off any coffee drink for visiting members. 811 Liberty Ave., Tel: (412) 471-4590 (Downtown) Website: www.laprima.com

Little Chicago's Pizzeria- 15% discount, Eat-in, Take-out, Delivery. 1728 East Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 431-1450

Macondo- 10% off the regular price of anything in the store. 406 S. Craig Street (Oakland) Tel: (412) 683-6486, Email: Macondo@telerama.com, Website: www.artshainan.com

Mad Mex - 10% off your bill, not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions; 7905 McKnight Road, (North Hills) Tel: (412) 366-5656, Email: madmex-nh@madmex.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

Mad Mex- 10% OFF your bill, not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions; 370 Atwood Street, (Oakland) Tel: (412) 681-5656, Email: madmex-oak@madmex.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

Mattress Factory Museum of Art- \$1.00 OFF admission. 500 Sampsoma Way (Northside) Tel: (412) 231-3169, Email: info@mattress.org, Website: www.mattress.org

Monti's Studio- 10% discount store-wide; 844 E. Warrington Ave. (Allentown-across the street from the Hostel!) Tel: (412) 381-3240

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens- 10% OFF admission to conservatory and gardens throughout the year. Something's always blooming at Phipps - so visit today! One Schenley Park (Oakland) Tel: (412) 622-6914, Email: phipps@phipps.pgh.pa.us, Website: www.phipps.conservatory.org

The Pickle Barrel- Buy one Pittsburgh Dog, get one FREE! Pittsburgh Dog: Foot-long Hot Dog, Shredded Gold Cheese, Black Olives, Honey Mustard. 1301 East Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 431-1114

Pittsburgh Symphony: 75% off regular ticket prices! (that's \$15/ticket!) Call Melissa Trifaro at (412) 392-3320 to book your discount tickets in advance. Discounts not available at the door, so make sure you call Melissa.

Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium- \$1.00 OFF admission with membership card, not valid for evening events. One discount per person. Open year-round. One Wild Place (Highland Park) Tel: (412) 665-3639; email: connie@zoo.pgh.pa.us Website: www.Pittsburghzoo.com

River's Edge Cafe- One free glass of wine with any dinner. 203 Yough Street, Confluence. 814-395-5059.

Road to Karakesh- 10% discount off total (maximum 4 guests) not valid with any other special, discounts or promotions. 320 Atwood Street (Oakland) Tel: (412) 687 0533

Slacker- 20% OFF all purchases, except magazines. 1321 E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 381-3911, Email: steve@slackernet.com, Website: www.slackernet.com

Soba Lounge- 10% OFF your bill. Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 5847 Ellsworth Ave. (Shadyside) Tel: (412) 362-5656, Email: soba1@bigburrito.com, Website: www.bigburrito.com

Southside Card & Gift- 20% discount on any purchase over \$5. 1717 E. Carson Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 481-2500, Email: Southsidecardgift@yahoo.com

Spice Island Tea House- 10% discount off total purchase (maximum 4 guests). Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 235 Atwood Street (Oakland) Tel: (412) 687-5821

Swank Gear- 15% Discount. 73 1/2 South 13th Street (Southside) Tel: (412) 381-1037, Email: swankgirl@worldnet.att.net, Website: www.swankgear.com

Thoreau NM, a Production Company- "Two-for-tickets"-Buy one/Get one Free. Please call ahead for details. 209 Moya Place Cottage (Mount Oliver) Tel: (412) 431-8289, Email: thoreaum@juno.com, Website: www.trfn.clpgh.org/thoreaumn

For Fastest Service! Visit The AYH Travel Store!
Pittsburgh Council, AYH
830 E Warrington Ave, Pittsburgh 15210
Or Call (412) 431-4910 For an Agency Near You!

Ordering / HI-AYH Hostel Membership Application

Include 10% for postage (\$1.50 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. **Discover, MasterCard, and Visa accepted.** Please allow **two weeks** for delivery of mail orders. Priority or Overnight shipping is available; call for information

Mail to: AYH
830 E Warrington Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15210



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Birthdate: _____ (day) _____ (eve) **Sex (M/F):** _____

For hostellers: I need my hostel pass by:

I need a free copy of the North American Hostel Directory

MasterCard Visa Discover

Credit Card Number _____ **Expiration Date** _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Credit Card Orders may be faxed to 412-431-2625 for faster service

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Youth (17 and under) FREE

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Application for Complimentary Group Membership (not-for-profit organizations).....call for application FREE

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Student ID Card (2001) \$22.00

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Total			

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 Travel Store is open Wednesday through Friday 12 to 5 pm effective Dec 10th. Hours are subject to change, so it's a good idea to call the office at 412-431-4910 before coming in. We're in the Pittsburgh Hostel at 830 E Warrington Avenue in Allentown. All passes, ID cards, rail passes, and books are available.