

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 51, NUMBER 1

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2001



Hostelling - International Pittsburgh PA



Now Open

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

INSIDE

- Jackfruit: Page 1
- Activity Chairs: Page 2
- Slide Shows and Programs: Page 2
- Hostel Happenings: Page 3
- Ohiopyle Hostel Happenings: Page 3
- AYH Activities with Ben: Page 4
- Rambles: Page 4
- Canoeing: Page 4
- Sea-Kayaking: Page 4
- Rock Climbing: Page 4
- Sailing: Page 4
- Facilities Committee Update: Page 4
- Bicycling: Page 5
- Hiking/Backpacking/Trails: Page 6
- Cross-Country Ski Weekends at Wilderness Lodge: Page 7
- Council Travel and Book Store: Back Cover

....And MORE!!!

Jackfruit

By Nicole Mannino

It's funny how a single word can evoke a bottomless memory bank from your brain to emerge and flood your thoughts with images of the past. Today, Wade asked about how the Andy Warhol Museums Friday night Happy Hour went (which, by the way, is definitely worth visiting), and then he told me about his dinner with his wife, Nicole, at La Filipiniana, a great Filipino restaurant on Butler Street in Lawrenceville. Nicole is a vegetarian, and when her dish came out, Wade was convinced that it had chicken in it. He asked the waitress and pointed to the chicken-like substance, and she said no, that's jackfruit.

Jackfruit is a huge oblong green bumpy fruit that grows on really tall trees in places like the Philippines and Madagascar.

When you break open a jackfruit, which is quite an arduous task, the interior is filled with fruit, seeds, and has some latex dividing the fruit. You can eat the fruit between the latex, but obviously you strive to avoid the rubber part of the fruit. Apparently, when the jackfruit is still unripe, you can cook the fruit and it has a very similar texture and appearance to chicken.

My first experience with jackfruit happened in Madagascar's Tsingy, which is treacherously formed limestone. The limestone is sharp and spiky, and between the spikes are what seems like bottomless pits. The tsingy is named for the sound made when the limestone is struck. It is located in the northern part of Madagascar, near the city of Diego Suarez. The tsingy as well as the rest of Madagascar is a naturalist's paradise, with tons of flora and fauna endemic to the island. Near the tsingy are caves that you can visit, with gorgeous crystals and sparkling clean water to swim in.

Lemurs, chameleons, tenrecs, and geckos are among the many animals and reptiles that can be found on Madagascar. None of the more than 60 species of snakes found on Madagascar are venomous, however beware the sea snake which swims in the waters around the island, since it is one of the 10 deadliest snakes in the world.

Among my favorite creatures found on Madagascar are the hissing cockroach, the indri indri lemur, the world's smallest chameleon, and this really crazy bright orange spider that was the size of my entire face.

I lived in Madagascar for five months. Four of those months I spent studying with a program called the School for International Training's College Semester Abroad (based in Vermont.) We studied cultural history and geography, lived in the homes of Malagasy families, and traveled around the island on field trips and to do Independent Study Projects.

My host mother, Emma Zelia, carved out precious stones to put into jewelry like earrings and necklaces. She traveled to the Seychelles Islands to sell them. We lived in the capital city, Antananarivo (Tana for short) in the Faravohitra neighborhood. It was right near the Zoma, which used to be the world's largest open-air market. It has since been broken up into smaller markets in an attempt to cut down on pick pocketing. While pick pocketing is a concern for travelers, violent crime is such a rarity that locals are shocked for a long time when it happens.

People, while monetarily poor, especially compared to our standards, I feel live rich lives. Families are unbelievably large, and children are all considered great gifts from God.

In the countryside, children work on the family farm, doing tasks like fetching water and pounding rice into flour, to Zebu (Madagascar's humpbacked cow) herding. They go to school, if at all, for about two years, around 3-6 months out of the year. They are needed to work on the farm.

The major occupation is rice agriculture. The Malagasy people descend from Indonesians, thus the Asian element of rice in an African island. Most of the ethnic groups of Madagascar look Indonesian, particularly the Merina, who live in the central highlands of Madagascar. There are about 17 different ethnic groups in Madagascar, however the all speak some form of Malagasy, and so can communicate with each other with relative ease.

People are primarily Christian, however a large population of Muslim and a growing

(Continued on page 5)

NEW 2001 MEMBER DISCOUNTS

HI members with valid membership cards are eligible for the following discounts. Full details can be found in the FREE 2000 North American Hostel Handbook.

Ace Athletic- 10% off any non-sale item, 1214 East Carson Street; phone: (412)381-2520

Alamo Car Rental- Various Discounts. Contact your travel agent or Alamo and request Rate Code BY and I.D. Number 19998.

Andy Warhol Museum- \$1.00 off admission; 117 Sandusky Street, phone: (412)237-8300

Big Bamboo- Free pack of 15 gram bag of Champa Incense with any purchase. 116 Meyran Ave. , phone: (412) 802-8338

(Continued on page 3)

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL

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

Dated material- please deliver promptly
Change Service Requested

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



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 ... **Joel Platt**
412-521-5244
golden_triangle@bigfoot.com

Copy Editor ... **VACANT**
Mailing Labels ... **Larry Laude**
Production ... **Don Hoecker**
Advertising ... **VACANT**

Council Officers

President ... **Kyra Straussman**
(412-521-3641)

Vice-President ... **Tom Hardy**
Secretary ... **George Schmidt**
Treasurer ... **Jeff Krainess**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harold Behar
Ben Brugmans
Bernie Colligan
M. Rosalind Eannarino
Tom Hardy
Maureen Hogan
Jeff Krainess
Larry Laude
Anne-Marie Lubenau
Daniel J. McNulty, Esq.
George Schmidt
Kyra Straussman
Kevin Swenson
Ray Yutzy

Office Staff
Jessica Carpenter
(431-4910)

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:

American Youth Hostels
The Golden Triangle
830 Warrington Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15210

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
ACTIVITY CHAIRS**

Chairman of the
Activities Committee
Ben Brugmans.....361-3623
Canoeing
Paul Henry 724-347-3282
Brian McBane..... 724-443-8972
Cross Country Skiing
Vacant
Cycling
Joan Roof 351-2061
Family Activities
Barbara Hanusa 441-7205
Hiking/Backpacking
Ben Brugmans 361-3623
Kayaking
Ray Yutzy 341-5682
Midweek Rambles
Dick Fisher 421-9215
Rafting
John Orndorff 741-2021
Rock Climbing
Ann Minard.....381-1309
Chuck Jones.....242-6172
Sailing
Bob Zavos 241-0659
Sea Kayaking
Fran Fleming 363-1221
Vickie Gotaskie 344-4929
Trail Systems
Jim Richie 828-0210
Headquarters Programs
Luc Berger 683-3131
Storekeeper
Steve Poprocky 731-2429



HOSTELLING
INTERNATIONAL

Pittsburgh Hostel Manager
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

April ISSUE
All copy, March 1
Binding/Mailing, March 15

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

- January 25:** We show the 16 mm film "The Garden Of Eden". This wildlife sanctuary in Florida was preserved through cooperation between environmentalists, industry and government. Prize winner at American Film Festival.
 - February 1:** Clifton McGill, "Botanical Treasures Of Frick Park". Includes spectacular slides of landscapes and birds, and a visit of Nine Mile Run.
 - February 8:** Pizza and juice party.
 - February 15:** Slides of the good old days of AYH in the 1980s, some from Chuck Ejzak's camera. Meet your friends of times past. See Ohiopyle Hostel, Klaer Lodge, basketball, square dancing, bicycling, hiking, rock climbing.
 - February 22:** We show the 16 mm film "Ghosts Of Cape Horn". Sailing ship's 18000-mile journey between America's coasts. Rare footage of the sailor's lives on clipper ships. Boat building on the coast of Maine in the 1870s.
 - March 1:** Ben Brugmans, "Bumming and Photographing Nature Through The Western USA and Canada". From Wyoming to Arizona. Spring flowers from the desert, late-summer blooms at the edge of the glaciers. Encounters with wild animals.
 - March 8:** Kevin Swenson, "Windjamming Aboard A Tall Ship In The Southern Caribbeans". See Santa Lucia, Grenada and Bequia. Swimming in a bat cave in Trinidad.
 - March 15:** Cookies, crackers and soft drinks party.
 - March 22:** We show the 16 mm film "The Grand Canyon Chronicle". Orson Welles narrates a tour of this natural wonder, emphasizing its two-billion-year evolution. Breathtaking nature photography traces the formation of the Earth and the appearance of life forms.
 - March 29:** Ron Boone: "National Parks Of Northern California And Oregon". Lassen 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.
- 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

HIOhiopyle@stargate.net

HI-Pittsburgh Hostel

830 E. Warrington Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15210

(412) 431-1267
hipgh@sgi.net



HOSTEL HAPPENINGS

Upcoming Events

World Travel 101 – Budget Travel Workshops

Learn to Travel the World without Spending a Fortune. Workshops are perfect for novice travelers. Topics like safety, packing, accommodations, transportation, and more will be covered. Please RSVP by calling or emailing the hostel.

Thursday, February 8	Basics	7pm
Thursday, February 15	Women Traveling Solo	7pm
Thursday, February 22	Hostelling New England	6:30pm
Thursday, March 8	Basics	7pm
Thursday, March 22	Women Traveling Solo	7pm
Tuesday, March 27	Hostelling North America	7pm

Hungry for Interesting Food and Conversation?

Then Join us for our Potluck Dinners. Bring a dish and a friend with a dish! No need to RSVP. Potluck Dinners are free of charge.

Saturday, February 17	6:30pm
Wednesday, February 28	6:30pm
Wednesday, March 28	6:30pm

NEW!NEW!NEW!NEW!NEW!NEW!NEW!NEW!NEW!NEW!

INTERNATIONAL FILM CLUB

Takes place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. We will show international and independent films followed by a discussion of the film. Come for films, conversation, and coffee?.\$3 donation RSVP one week prior

FEB. 6th 2001 7pm
THIS WEEKS FEATURE: from France
The city of lost children
A gutsy little girl and a sentimental strongman join hearts and hands to save a small boy's dreams from a madman's master plan.

A fantastically- twisted fairy tale chock-full of curious characters, spectacular stunts and unforgettable visuals. It's more than just a technological wonder: It's an involving adventure.

Want to volunteer for HI-Pittsburgh?

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Emily McMahon for details!
Tel: (412) 431 4910 email: hip_volunteer@hotmail.com

BIG FAT SALE AT THE TRAVEL STORE

Select Lonely Planet Guidebooks (20% off)
Let's Go Travel Guides (20%)
Trailside Guides (Rock Climbing, Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing, Winter Adventure Guides) (40%)
Vintage AYH Bike Ride T-shirts (\$2)

Sale Begins, Tuesday, January 9, and ends on March 1st

Also Visit the Travel Store for Eurail Passes, International Student identity cards, Hostelling International Membership Cards, Money Belts, Sleepsheets, Hostel Handbooks, and Local Hiking Guides.
Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 12 - 5

Ohiopyle Hostel Events

Kentuck Knob Day at the Ohiopyle Hostel

Saturday, February 24 is Kentuck Knob day at the Ohiopyle Hostel. Our guests will tour this Frank Lloyd Wright home at 2:00 (cost is \$15). Then the tour guide will come back to the hostel with us for a slide show and program featuring information about Kentuck Knob that is not on the tour. A spaghetti dinner will be provided after the program (cost is \$5). Reservations are required for the tour, dinner and overnight accommodations. Call Kelly or Steve at 724-329-4476 or e-mail us at hiohiopyle@stargate.net.

Potluck Dinners
Just bring something to share and join us for dinner! Please RSVP to Kelly or Steve at 724-329-4476 or e-mail us at hiohiopyle@stargate.net.

Sunday, February 4 at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 4 at 5:00 p.m.

Movie Night
Just bring yourself and a snack to share! Please RSVP to Kelly or Steve at 724-329-4476 or e-mail us at hiohiopyle@stargate.net.

Sunday, February 18 at 7:00 showing the Sound of Music
Sunday, March 11 at 7:00 showing October Sky

Wish List for the Ohiopyle Hostel

Here are some things we could really use at the hostel. Call us if you can help!

- * variable speed drill
- * coffee maker
- * hand mixer
- * board games
- * recent new or used books in good condition
- * travel posters
- * CD player/stereo system?

2001 Member Discounts

River'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 and 20 % off any book purchase. PO. Box 240, Route 40, Farmington. 724-329-8573.

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

Wilderness Voyageurs- 10% discount on a whitewater rafting trip on the Lower Yough (Class III+). PO Box 97, Ohiopyle. 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

(Continued from page 1)

Bike Tek- 10% discount. 5102 Liberty Ave. Phone: (412)682-1410

Casbah- 10% off bill. Not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions. 229 Highland Street; phone: (412)661-5656; email: casbah1@bigburrito.com; website: www.bigburrito.com

City Books- 15% off all used books and 10% off on most new books. 111E. Carson Street; phone: (412)481-7555; email: citybooks@sprintmail.com

Climb North- 50% off climb time rates, rentals not included; 2468 Wildwood Road, phone: (412) 487-2145

Dairy Mart- Free 44oz. Fountain drink with \$5.00 purchase; 1125 Arlington Ave., phone: (412) 4122

The Deli Express- 10% off total check amount. 1107 East Carson St., phone: (412) 381-4247

E-House- 10% off any purchase with valid membership card; 1511 E. Carson St., phone: (412) 488-7455

Eljays's Used Books- 10% discount on all books. 1309 E. Carson St., phone: (412)381-7444; email: eljaysbs@aol.com, website: www.abebooks.com

Eye of Horus- 10% off all merchandise, books, and tarot readings. 1305 E. Carson St., phone (412) 481-7887; email: eyehorus2LM.COM

Golden Triangle Bike Rentals- 10% discount on bike rentals. 416 Woodruff Lane; phone: (416)655-0835; email: goldentrianglebikes@yahoo.com, website: www.bikepittsburgh.com

Gray Line Trolley Tours of Pittsburgh- \$2.00 off admission on price on day schedule of Pittsburgh tours, April through October; 110 Lenzner Court, Sewickley, PA, phone: (412)741- 2720

Karakesh- 10% off final bill: 320 Atwood St., phone: (412)687-0533

Kaya- 10% off your bill. Not valid with any order specials, discounts, or promotions. 2000 Smallman Street; phone: (412)261-6565; email: kaya1@bigburrito.com; website: www.bigburrito.com

La Prima Espresso- \$0.50 off any coffee drink. 811 Liberty Ave., phone: (412) 471-4590; website: www.laprima.com

Mad Mex (NORTH HILLS)- 10% off your bill, not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions; 7905 McKnight Road / phone: (412) 366-5656; email: madmex-nh@madmex.com; website: www.bigburrito.com
Mad Mex (OAKLAND)- 10 % OFF your bill, not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions; 370 Atwood Street / phone: (412) 681-5656; email: madmex-oak@madmex.com; website: www.bigburrito.com

Mad Mex (PHILADELPHIA)- 10% OFF your bill, not valid with any other specials, discounts, or promotions; 3401 Walnut Street (The Shops at Penn). Phone: (215) 382-2221; email: madmex-philly@madmex.com; website: www.bigburrito.com

Mattress Factory Museum of Art- \$1.00 OFF admission, and 10% OFF merchandise in museum. 500 Sampsonia Way / phone: (412) 231-3169; email: info@mattress.org website: www.mattress.org

Monti's Studio- 10% discount store-wide; 844 E. Warrington Ave. / phone: (412) 381-3240

Paisano's Pizza- 10% OFF final bill. We have pizza, hoagies, appetizers, chicken wings, salads, calzones, wedgies, gyros and more. 823 E. Warrington Ave. / phone: (412) 381-5530

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 / phone: (412) 622-6914; email: phipps@phipps.pgh.pa.us website: www.phipps.conservatory.org

Pittsburgh Zoo- \$1.00 OFF admission with membership card, not valid for evening events. One discount per person. Phone: (412) 665-3639; email: connie@zoo.pgh.pa.us Website: www.zoo.pgh.pa.us

Pizza Outlet- 20% OFF regular price, or any current coupon discount. 1502 E. Carson Street; phone: (412) 488-7200

Premiere CD's- 10% OFF any purchase. 2336 E. Carson Street; phone: (412) 481-3641

Rachel Carson Homestead- Buy one admission, get one FREE! Take the 1A New Kensington or 20-minute drive from Pittsburgh. 613 Marion Ave. Phone: (724) 274-5459

Saint Elmo's Bookstore-20% discount on ALL novels. 2208 E. Carson Street, phone: (412) 431-9100; email: stelmoport@earthlink.com Website: www.saintelmo.com

Slacker- 20% OFF, except magazines. 1321 E. Carson Street / phone: (412) 381-3911; email: randall@slacknet.com website: www.slacknet.com

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

Southside Card & Gift- 10% OFF any purchase. 1717 E. Carson Street; phone: (412) 481-2500

Spice Island- 10% OFF final bill. 235 Atwood Street; phone: (412) 687-8821

Thoreau NM, a Production Company- \$1 OFF ticket prices. Please call ahead; 209 Moye Place Cottage, phone: (412) 431-8289; email: thoreaunm@juno.com website: www.trfn.clpgh.org/thoreaunm

Wind & Water Boatworks -10% discount; 455 Pittsburgh Rd, Butler, PA 16002, 724-586-2030

Zenith Antiques & Tea Room- 15% discount. 86 S. 26th Street / phone: (412) 481-4833, website: www.concentric.net/~mamarama/zenith.htm

Zythos, Inc.- NO cover charge...except for headliner, National DJ's. 2108 E. Carson Street phone: (412) 481-2234

AYH ACTIVITIES WITH BEN

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. Despite very cold weather, I was pleased to see friends from various outdoor clubs. The AYH holiday party, held at the Allentown Hostel, was a very pleasant and happy dinner, with many new and old members and staff showing up. A Christmas party was generously held at the house of a Rambler and Ambler, with a good representation of Sierra Club present. Christmas Day was a very nice dinner with a joint AYH-Butler Outdoor Club canoeing connection. New years eve was spend going to First Night, again Amblers, Ramblers and Butler Outdoor Club members, as well as KTA representation. A very nice event, the City of Pittsburgh puts on an outstanding show. Due to popularity, the big ticket performances were already sold out. Apparently we should have gotten tickets a few days in advance. But the musical shows we were fortunate enough to see were really fine. The Smithfield United Church has wonderful acoustics, Al Dowe and Etta Cox performed jazz sweet enough to melt the soul. Later The Prima Espresso, a coffee house on Liberty Ave, hosted folk music. We met at six at Station Square, which worked fine last year. This year, new years eve being on a Sunday, we should have started much earlier. After all, First Night is a family event. Better planning for 2001. The Ambles are continuing to give us a chance to stretch our legs. Sundays at 10:00, 4 to 5 miles. In the winter, we try to stay in shape, hiking closer to town and staying on the flatter paths during the snowy weather. In the spring, we will go farther afield and see the natural and wilder areas of Western Pa. Look forward to spring wildflower walks in April. Our Ambles will also be listed on the Sierra Club website. As always, we would like to cooperate with other outdoor clubs and encourage positive and supportive contact with our fellow Western Pa like minded organizations. Have a happy and fortuitous new year. Ben

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, 830 Warrington Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15210

Rambles For Winter 2000

January 2001

- Jan 24** Allegheny Cemetery. Visit the last resting place of a pioneer aviator and other famous? people. Optional lunch at Tram's Restaurant for Vietnamese cuisine. Armand Panson. 488-7612
- Jan 31** Bloomfield Ramble. Marty Brigham. 521-1913

February 2001

- Feb 7** Schenley Park. Don Hoecker. 243-8298
- Feb 14** Point Breeze. Harriet Lakin. 371-7512
- Feb 21** Uniondale Cemetery on the North side. Earl McCabe. 761-1844
- Feb 28** Highland Park. Jean Canfield. 661-3998

March 2001

- Mar 7** Regent Square. See backyard railroad. Richard Fischer. 421-9215
- Mar 14** Greensburg Five Star Trail. \$3 trip. Edmund Appleby. 724-834-5077
- Mar 21** Homewood Cemetery. Billie Woodland. 886-1603
- Mar 28** Strip District. Alex Federowicz. 421-0922

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.

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

POTLUCK PADDLING PLANNING PARTY

Come enjoy good food and pleasant company as the canoeing program gets in gear for the Spring Thaw and the 2001 paddling season. Ellie Stanton has offered to hostess the get-together which will be held on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH. Dining will begin at 6pm, with the planning meeting to follow. Please call Ellie with your RSVP and the dish you will be sharing (main, side, salad, dessert). She will be happy to provide directions to her home, which is not far from AYH Headquarters in Shadyside. Call her at (412) 661-5585. Remember to bring your dish, ideas, comments, suggestions and a CALENDAR! See you there!

--Shelley C. Nilson shelleycn@yahoo.com



SAILING

The Sailing Activity is looking for a new chairperson. If you have experience and interest please contact Bob Zavos at 412-241-0659. We will still offer daily rentals on the two AYH Sunfish at \$20 per boat. You must have prior Sunfish experience and be able to rig the boats yourself. Other activities:

I want to buy- a new or used [in very good condition] 'Super Snark' or 'Snark Sunflower' sailboat. Contact Irene Povlish at 412-422-2313 or at ipovlish@hotmail.com.



SEA-KAYAKING

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

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



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 evens" 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.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE

FACILITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE

by George Schmidt

Welcome to Anne-Marie Lubenau. She has joined the Pittsburgh Council Board of Directors and will be serving on the Facilities Committee. Her experience as an architect will be invaluable to the committee. The Facilities Committee is open to all AYH members and you are invited to join us.

We need a core of people to focus on each hostel. The Facilities Committee is more than work parties. We need people who can help organize maintenance records and plan maintenance and improvements in addition to folks who can help spiff up the buildings and grounds. If you can help contact George Schmidt at 412-521-1538 or email: twoschmidts@peoplepc.com.

Spring is the time to get the hostels ready for the busy summer season. Both hostels will need a good spring cleaning. The Ohiopyle hostel grounds need some attention. The flower beds need replanted and the yard needs repair work where the new waterline was installed last year.

Kelly and Steve, along with the help of some volunteers, have done major painting on the interior of the Ohiopyle Hostel and it made a huge difference. We need to keep the ball rolling and do all the improvements we can within our budget.

Jessica, and her staff have done a great job of keeping the Pittsburgh Hostel looking like new. There are still facilities issues that have developed since the hostel was built that require attention and recommendations for resolutions to the board of directors.

Your time is the most valuable thing you can give to the hostels, but donations of tools, appliances, furniture and, of course, money are always cheerfully accepted.



BICYCLING

Everyone who likes to bicycle are welcome. We are trying to build a group of like minded cyclists who enjoy sharing the experience. So come join us. I know you are out there!

As you can see there are times when we need rides to be led. There are many other great places to bicycle. Maybe you know of some yourself. Call Joan Roof at (412)351-2061 to share your ideas.

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.

This is the time of year to get your bike ready to ride. CCAC offers a bicycle maintenance class at Dirty Harry's in Verona. It begins Wed., Feb. 14th from 6:30 to 9pm. For 3 weeks. It is in the CCAC Spring catalog.

CCAC also offers 2 beginners bicycling classes, including one for seniors. It is a good way to get started---then come with us on some rides.

In April I plan on offering some beginning bike rides for those who want to get back into biking. So if you haven't ridden for awhile, get your bike ready now. Get serious, this is a fun way to get the exercise you need, without the body pounding you get with other sports. Watch for the April newsletter.

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.

Jackfruit

(Continued from page 1)

population of Hindu culture also exist. The Bible was the first book to be written in Malagasy by the English, who settled there. Traditionally, the Malagasy practice what some anthropologists call ancestor worship. The Malagasy highly honor their dead with a very elaborate tomb, and a long funeral celebration. Funerals can last all-night and even several days. A Zebu is typically sacrificed, and relatives come from wherever they are to join the ceremony. The Malagasy love music and dancing, and funerals are a time to enjoy both.

Madagascar used to be a French colony, and so French is widely spoken, and is the official business language. English is becoming more popular, and many people want to learn, so you will be welcomed if you can teach a few words of English, however it would do some good to know some French, and to attempt to learn Malagasy.

My dream is to return to Madagascar to open a youth hostel and to share with those who taught me so much about life and about love. -Nicole

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.



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

2000 North American Hostel Handbooks can be picked up at the Travel Center, the Pittsburgh International Hostel, and the Activities Headquarters. Copies are free when picked up in person.

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.

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



HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS

JANUARY 28 SUNDAY Judy Woodring 412-828-9002
A winter hike around the Saxonburg area. 5 miles, depending on the weather, with a restaurant stop afterwards to warm up and have lunch. Carpooling fee 3.50. Meet at Mellon Park at 10:00 AM.

FEBRUARY 4 SUNDAY Ben Brugmans 412 361 3623
City walk, Troy Hill. 3-4 miles. Visit a historical German church. Lunch on the Northside in a German restaurant. Meet 10:00 AM Mellon Park. Carpool \$1.00

FEBRUARY 11 SUNDAY Lorraine Johnson 724 325 8403
4 mile hike, Sleepy Hollow, Oakmont. Fairly flat, lunch at an intimate Oakmont eatery. Meet 10:00 AM Mellon Park Carpool \$2.00

FEBRUARY 18 SUNDAY Jack Rearick 412 793 5381
4 to 5 miles from Panther Hollow to the Southside over the new bridge. Hike along the Mon. Lunch at a Southside diner. Meet 10:00 AM Mellon Park. Carpool \$1.00

FEBRUARY 25 SUNDAY Judy Woodring 412 828 9002
5 mile roundtrip Washington Crossing to Northside. Lunch at German Restaurant. Meet 10:00 AM at Mellon Park. Carpool \$1.00

MARCH 4 SUNDAY Ben Brugmans 412 361 3623
5 mile city hike to Bloomfield. Lunch at Dell's Italian Restaurant. Meet 10:00 AM Mellon Park.

MARCH 11 SUNDAY Armand Panson 412 488 7612
3 to 4 miles Southside hike, river park exploratory. Good eats on Southside for lunch. Meet 10:00 AM Mellon Park. Carpool \$1.00

MARCH 18 SUNDAY Loraine Johnson 724 325 8403
5 miles on hike bike trail along Yough, from West Newton. Lunch on way back at eatery. Meet 10:00 AM Mellon Park. Carpool \$3.00

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

Note: Bruce Sundquist and I discussed putting the Ambles on the Sierra Club website. I hope the Email address is correct. Am leaving to go on vacation till Jan 31. Ben Brugmans: bbrugmans@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

SKI-TOURING (through Mid-March): Decisions on where and when to go ski-touring depend so much on snow conditions that advance trip planning earlier than a day or two before the trip is impractical. Therefore the list below gives only the name of the leader who has agreed to lead any ski-touring trip on the weekend indicated. Call that leader around mid-week if you want to be notified of any trip going out on the coming weekend. State your experience level and whether you need to rent gear.

For all weekends for which no ski-touring leader is listed, call Bruce Sundquist at 724-327-8737. If you are interested in intermediate-level mid-week trips, call the same number. Nick Broskovich 724-863-6707 will lead beginner trips on every weekend when snow conditions are good during January through mid-March whenever no other beginner trips are scheduled.

Sat.Jan.27 Rock tour near Dunbar--Rock City, Kralic Rocks, Elk Rocks, Cow(?) Rocks. 9-miles--intermediate. \$5.25 carpool-49 miles. Meet at Monroeville P&R lot, 9 AM. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sat.Jan.27 Ski-touring for beginners and intermediates where snow conditions are good. No-snow-no-go. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866

Fri.eve.-Sun. Feb.2-4 Sixth annual ski-touring weekend in the Canaan Valley area near Davis WV. The elevation (3200-4100') produces more snow than Laurel Ridge, and the scenery insures great hiking if snow conditions are not favorable. Rental units must be reserved well in advance and space is limited, so sign up early. \$20 carpool-150 miles. Call Monika Vucic, 412-829-2311

Sat.-Sun.Feb.3-4 Backpacking somewhere in Allegheny National Forest (weather permitting) \$20 carpool. Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196

Sun.Feb.4 Hike, strenuous and exploratory, in the Conemaugh Reservoir area--abandoned stone-arch bridges and Low Ridge. \$3.25 carpool-33 miles. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat. or Sun. Feb.10 or 11 Ski-touring, intermediate. Date/place to be determined by weather/snow conditions. Hike trails in the Dunbar Creek area in Dunbar SGL if we don't ski. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Sat.Feb.17 Ski-touring for beginners and intermediates where snow conditions are good. No-snow-no-go. Call Steve Tubbs, 412-279-4866

Sun.Feb.18 Hike an easy 5 miles in Beechwood Park--Monroeville's secret, largely undeveloped park. Trails follow several streams with the feel of Laurel Ridge but closer to

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 ritchie

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

home. The trip could be extended to follow an undeveloped part of Turtle Creek. Call Donna Allen, 412-372-2993

Sat.Feb.24 Ski touring, beginner, in the Laurel Mountain area. Hike if snow conditions are not good. \$6 carpool-57 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sat.-Sun.Mar.3-4 Backpacking on Laurel Highlands Trail, one of a series to cover the entire 70 miles of trail. Stay in trail shelters. Call Harold Kotchig, 412-341-1196

Sun.Mar.4 Hike an easy 6 miles at the back end of Raccoon Creek State Park. \$3.00 carpool-30 miles. Call Janna Zuroski, 412-422-3406

Sun.Mar.11 Ski-touring, intermediate. Place to be determined by weather/snow conditions. Hike trails in Dunbar SGL if we don't ski. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Sat.Mar.17 Ski-touring, beginner, at Laurel Mountain. Hike if no snow. \$6.00 carpool-57 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sun.Mar.18 Second annual St. Patty's Day weekend hike/X-C skiing. Location depends on conditions. Call Mike Fallon, 412-344-9952

Sun.Mar.18 Easy 7-mile riverside walk below Freeport. \$1.50 carpool-15 miles. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 11 AM. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

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

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), free parking on the street

Wed.Feb.14 "Alaska's Tongass National Forest--a Sierra Club priority and an Eco-tourism Magnet." Don Gibbon

Wed.Mar.21 "Harrisburg Perspective", Jeff Schmidt

Cross-Country Skiing Weekends at Wilderness Lodge

January 26-28, 2001

February 9-11, 2001

If you like your lodging rustic and your ski trails tracked and groomed, these weekends in the Erie snow belt are for you. Nansi Janes' Wilderness Lodge is a perennial favorite of AYH cross-country skiers. Peek'n Peak is within skiing distance for those who want downhill trails. After skiing, come back to the lodge for a warm fire and your favorite libations. The weekend package includes Friday and Saturday night lodging and family style dinner Saturday evening. Vegetarian meals are available upon request. Breakfast and lunches are available at the lodge at an additional but very reasonable cost. No meals are available Friday evening. Rooms are mostly hostel style with 3-6 people in a room but there are a few private double (and one triple) room available for each weekend. Cost does not include transportation. If you are carpooling, the fee for drivers is \$10 per person. Rental skis are available and there is a trail fee charged additionally for each day.

Singles must bring their own linens and towels (clean sleeping bags are ok too). Water is in short supply at Wilderness Lodge so short showers are the rule. Heat, however, is plentiful. **RESERVE EARLY**, we will confirm your reservation by mailing (or faxing!) you a map and information sheet. **Reservations will happen only when we receive your check in the mail or your visa/mc/discover.** There are no refunds within two weeks of the weekend you've registered for, but you may find a same sex replacement for yourself. Prior to two weeks, there will be a \$10 cancellation fee. We will also keep a waiting list. In either event there is a \$10 per person charge. If you have any questions call Marianne at 412-665-9554 evenings or email:marianne@pitt.edu. Please also note if there is a room you will accept if your chosen one is not available.

AYH Member Cost: **\$52 for Single** in a dorm room
 \$66 per person for a Double (two people required)

Non Member Cost: **\$62 for Single** in a dorm room
 \$76 per person for a Double (two people required)

Non-members can pay the lower rate by sending in a membership application with this form

Wilderness Lodge

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____ E-Mail _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____
 Signature _____ Date _____

Weekend: January 28-30 February 11-13

If you are a single: Men's single Women's single

If you are a double, names of persons and address/phone if different than above: _____

Mail to : AYH Wilderness Lodge / 830 E. Warrington Ave. / Pittsburgh, PA 15210

Signature of all participants are required.

In consideration of your acceptance of my application for participation in the Wilderness Lodge Weekend, I, the undersigned, for myself and for 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 or which may accrue to me as a result of my participation. I, the undersigned, discharge and release the Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc., Wilderness Lodge, their activity leaders, and their respective agents, board, commissions and any other involved employees, representatives, and volunteers from all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation, whether or not caused by the negligence of the above parties.

I acknowledge that there are inherent risks and dangers which may arise at any time during the Weekend. 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. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for participation in 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 services and is not a waiver or any of the said parties of any right hereunder.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: _____

