

# Golden Triangle

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 2

APR-MAY-JUN 2006

## Obituary -- American Youth Hostels - Pittsburgh Council

The end of an era - and a long era at that! The last weekly meeting of AYH was held on June 3, 2004 to a packed house, including members dating back to the 1950s. The first weekly meeting was held in the 1930s and, except for a several-year lapse during WWII, had been held weekly ever since.

The cause of death was bankruptcy caused, in turn, by its Pittsburgh hostel on the south side. It was a Black Hole for money as it turns out, pretty much like its Ohiopyle hostel. Below is a bit of history and a biopsy.

AYH's main (and sizeable) contribution to the quality of life in this area has always been its outings program - a lively mix of hiking, bicycling, flatwater canoeing, whitewater canoeing, kayaking, caving, climbing, ski-touring, backpacking and a few others (kite-flying??), plus countless schools in many of these activities. AYH built the Baker Trail and the Rachel Carson Trail that could take one from Pittsburgh to Allegheny National Forest. AYH published numerous editions of numerous guides to hiking and canoeing in the region. Its extended trips in the summer took many of us on unforgettable trips such as backpacking on Mt. Rainier, the Olympic Rainforest, the Olympic Seashore, the North Cascades and Rocky Mtn. National Park, cycling hostel-to-hostel in New England, hut-hopping in the White Mountains, white-water canoeing and sail-canoeing on the streams and lakes of Wisconsin and countless others. No one will ever know how many multi-decade-long friendships came out of the delights, camaraderie, trials and tribulations of all those thousands of trips. Calamity Rock in the Cheat Narrows was named for a terrifying rafting episode on an AYH trip. White water canoe trips have been known to arrive, still cold and wet, back in Pittsburgh around 4 AM. There was a broken back on a bicycle descent off of Pittsburgh's Mt. Washington, and a nasty altercation between a bicycle and a pickup truck.

AYH always had its ups and downs. At times its weekly Thursday evening meetings saw people packed shoulder-to-shoulder watching slide shows of past adventures and listening to 8-10 trip leaders advertising the adventures they had planned for the weekend. At other times the organization was held together by 3-4 people struggling to get the club back on its feet. A lot was learned about the dynamics of "volunteer associations" (as such organizations are called). One example of many: A preoccupation with social aspects and beginner-oriented trips foretells an impending collapse. A focus on substantive outdoor-oriented adventures and pleasures means another growth spurt toward a membership size that tends to attract the purely socially oriented.

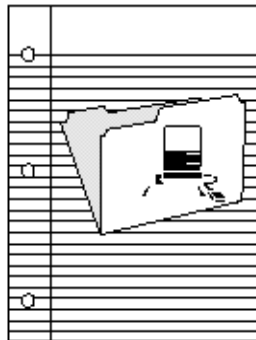
AYH was always a down-to-earth, low-budget operation that attracted people of like mind. Its headquarters/ meeting room was a former Mellon estate chicken coop built on the property line with the Marshal mansion (now Arts Center), apparently as a result of some sort of feud. Outings had always been profitable, even with trip fees of \$0.25 to \$1/day, canoe- and bicycle rentals of a few dollars per day, and sales of modestly-priced trail guides. This combination of profitability and frugality might well have been AYH's undoing. The several hundred thousand dollars in savings generated over the decades was perhaps too much of a temptation to the hostel-oriented faction of the club. (AYH always had an uneasy split personality.) They grabbed control of the club, abolished the Activities Board (that had always handled the day-to-day operations of the club) and sunk everything into a highly leveraged hostel. The rest is history.

Bruce E Sundquist



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## 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 2006

**Number 1** issue ->January/February/March

**Number 2** issue ->April/May/June

**Number 3** issue ->July/August /September

**Number 4** issue ->October/November/December

Editor...

### Triangle Staff

Managing Editor ... **Joel Platt**  
412-521-5244  
golden\_triangle@bigfoot.com

## NOTICE

Please note the deadlines for  
future issues of the  
GOLDEN TRIANGLE

**Jul-Aug-Sep ISSUE**  
All copy, Jun 7

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

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:

**The Golden Triangle**  
1632 Denniston St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

golden\_triangle@bigfoot.com





## SEA-KAYAKING

Kelleys Island, Cape Henlopen and Presque Isle are just a few of the interesting and exciting places we visited last summer. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced paddler, we have a trip for you. So grab your paddle and sunscreen and we will see you on the water.

ActivityCo-Chairs      Vickie 412-344-4929  
                                  Russ 412-331-2073

See  
 Sierra Clubs Hikes, at end.



## ROCK CLIMBING

### Important Notice / Rock Climbing

We regret to inform our members that the Pittsburgh Council is no longer able to sponsor any rock climbing activities for insurance reasons. Our liability insurance is provided through the National AYH organization. After lengthy discussions with National's insurance carrier, we have been notified that a number of activities classified as "high risk" have been excluded from our coverage effective 1 April. While National was successful in negotiating the removal of several activities (such as ice-skating and cross country skiing) from the initial list of exclusions, they were ultimately unsuccessful in being able to have rock climbing covered. While we are disappointed with this exclusion, we have no choice but to stop sponsoring all rock climbing activities. Thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted in the organization and operation of the rock climbing activity over the years. It would not have been possible without you. Discussions are underway with other activities organizations that may be able to sponsor rock climbing activities. For more information, please contact Chuck Jones at [charlzjonz@excite.com](mailto:charlzjonz@excite.com) or (412)766-4036 or Annie Jones at (412) 303-1793. Please call before 10 o'clock at night. <http://www.wpfi.org/>

While it is unfortunate that we will no longer be able to sponsor rock climbing, we would like to remind both members and non-members of the great activities that we sponsor, and encourage everyone's continued participation.



## BICYCLING

### IMPROMPTU BICYCLE RIDES EMAIL LIST

Our bicycle email list is up and running. We have been enjoying some good rides. The biggest need now is for people to announce rides.

If you would like to get on our bike email list our address is:  
[letsbikenow-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:letsbikenow-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

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

**Glenn Oster** continues to ride and report on various trails across the USA. Visit his website at <http://www.intellweb.com/trails/oster.htm>

### UPCOMING SLIDE SHOWS

## Rambles For Spring 2006

### MARCH (Start at 10:00 A.M.)

MARCH 29-Oakmont area. Walk 2-3 miles on Barking Slopes off Hulton Road. Ed Divers 412-828-5154.

### APRIL (Start at 10:00 A.M.)

April 5 - Visit Raccoon Creek State Park with Jim Hurst, 412-276-0447. Bag lunch or at Janoski Farm Restaurant.

April 12 -- Revisit Fall Run and possibly early wildflowers with Marty Brigham, 412-521-1913. Bag lunch

April 19 - Walk the Arrowhead Trail and visit a horse farm with Sue and Dan Sebolt, 412-563-6987. Bag lunch.

April 26 - Visit Braddock's Trail; the "Collinsia verna" (aka Blue-Eyed Mary) should be blooming! Marian Fast, 412-241-2109. Bag lunch.

### MAY (Start at 10:00 A.M.)

May 3 - Visit Trillium Trail with Ed Divers, 412-828-5154. Bag lunch at pavilion, rain or shine!

May 10 - Take the 10:AM bus at 5TH & Shady to Ft. Pitt Museum. Meet at entrance to Point State Park if not bussing. Bag lunch somewhere in the Park. Marilyn Hamm, 412-687-4520.

May 17 - Visit South Park for a 3-4-mile walk. A shorter walk is also available. Helen/Mary Ann Brincka 412-884-0383. Bag lunch.

May 24 -- Walk around Peter's Lake with Sue/Dan Sebolt 412-563-6987. Visit "the Market Place" for lunch or bag it.

May 31 - Visit Wagman Observatory and Deer Lakes Park with stargazer Don Hoecker 412-243-8298. Bag lunch.

### JUNE (Start at 9:30 A.M.)

June 7 -- See beautifully restored entrance and gardens at Highland Park. Walk around reservoir and beyond with Gen Mann, 412-661-5947. Bag lunch. NOTE: June Rambles begin at 9:30 AM.

June 14 -- Visit Old Allegheny/ Mexican War Streets with Earl McCabe, 412-761-1844. Lunch at Greek Orthodox Church Cafeteria.

June 21 -- Oakmont walk - visit Kerr Mansion and other areas of interest in this river community with Joan Roof, 412-351-2061. Good restaurants are nearby.

June 28 - Visit Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve with Margaret Laske, 412-421-5219. Bring binoculars! Bag lunch.

**Rambles begin at 10 A.M. from the parking lot of Phipps Garden Center (Mellon Park) on Shady Ave.** Carpooling is encouraged. Please pay driver depending on distance. Call trip leader for details, especially if you plan to meet at the trailhead. Or call Billie at **412-886-1603(H)- cell 412-889-7048.**



## HIKING/BACKPACKING/TRAILS

**AMBLE HIKES ARE 4-6 MILES IN INTERESTING LOCATIONS AROUND PITTSBURGH. CONNIE BLACK HAS AGREED TO TAKE CALLS FROM THOSE WISHING TO LEAD AN AMBLE AS WELL AS THOSE WISHING TO GO ON AN AMBLE.**

**CONNIE'S PHONE NUMBER IS 412-371-1062 AND HER EMAIL IS [ceblack@libcom.com](mailto:ceblack@libcom.com)**

### ALLEGHENY GROUP - SIERRA CLUB - OUTINGS - FEBRUARY 11 - JULY 30, 2006

- \* Suggested carpool fee: 6 cents/ passenger-mile + a share of any tolls.
- \* All trips begin and end at the trailhead.
- \* (Unless stated, car-miles are one-way from Monroeville.)
- \* For more up-to-date listings, visit <http://www.alleghenysc.org/>
- \* Hardcopy subscriptions to this list are \$2.50/ year (4 issues). Make check payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club and mail to Bruce Sundquist, 210 College Park Dr., Monroeville PA 15146-1532
- \* E-mail subscriptions are free. Contact [bsundquist1@juno.com](mailto:bsundquist1@juno.com)
- \* All participants on Sierra Club outings must sign a standard liability waiver form at the trailhead. If you wish to read it well before you are asked to sign the form at the trailhead, go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a hardcopy.

Allegheny Group offers a 26-page (8.5x11") booklet Ski-Touring in Western Pennsylvania that discusses equipment, clothing, places to go, technique, etc. Edition 4 (2004) is available for \$2.00 + \$1.50 for book-rate postage from Bob Roth, 80 Roseleaf Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220. Make checks payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club.

#### EVENING CONDITIONING WALKS

South Park (year-around). Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM. Call Bonnie Thomas, 412-833-1068, for meeting place. Note the change of date from Thursdays to Wednesdays.

#### DAY- AND WEEKEND TRIPS

Sat. April 1 - Hiking with llamas on Laurel Mountain near US30. About 5 miles. Bring lunch. Meet near Latrobe at 9:30 AM. Inquire about a Monroeville carpool if that is more convenient. Call Diane Neely, 724-459-3012.

Sun. April 2 - Hike an easy 9 miles in Ohiopyle State Park in Ferncliff Nature Reserve and on the Yough River Trail toward Confluence. Meet at Gateway Middle School at 9 AM. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Call John Dern, 412-856-4642

Sat. April 8 -- Day Canoe/ kayak trip to an island in the Allegheny River near Freeport for an all-day cookout and hiking nearby. We'll paddle about 2 miles up the Allegheny from a parking lot near Lock 5 to an island. We'll do some hiking on the island to some spots Ed knows about including an Indian burial ground. Late in the afternoon we'll start the fires and have a cook out. Menu depends on the availability of road kill. We'll paddle back in the evening. If you have a boat - fine - if not we can probably make arrangements for you. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 10 AM. \$2.75 carpool - 22 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582 or Ed Divers, 412-828-5154.

Sun. April 9 (or Saturday depending on weather) - Hike an intermediate 10 miles in Lower Indian Creek Valley from Rt.381-Mill Run Reservoir to the Youghiogheny River. Prime time for wildflowers. Visit a 60 ft. rock face above Lower Indian Creek Valley near the Yough River. See what's left of the 1850 ghost town of Hampton. We may see the Hawkins Hollow Big Blue Holes. \$7.75 carpool - 57 miles. Call Don Stone, 412-441-2027.

Sat. April 15 - Easy 8-mile hike in Quebec Run Wild Area in Forbes State Forest on Chestnut Ridge. Meet in New Stanton at 10 AM. \$5.75 carpool - 45 miles from New Stanton. Inquire about Monroeville carpools if that is more convenient. Call Bill Kozorra or Dianne Ciccarella, 412-531-6236.

Sat. April 15 - Hike 5+ miles in Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve. Fast-paced beginner-intermediate. Meet at the trailhead. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519.

Sun. April 16 - Easter Sunday

Sat. April 22 - Hike an easy 8 miles in Ohiopyle State Park. Enjoy wildflowers, Ferncliff Peninsula and other water features of the park. \$5.75 carpool - 45 miles from New Stanton. Meet in New Stanton at 10 AM. Inquire about a Monroeville carpool if that is more convenient. Call Bill Kozorra or Dianne Ciccarella, 412-531-6236.

Sun. April 23 - Hike about 8 miles on Rachel Carson Trail, from Hartwood to North Park; see the Hartwood Mansion, (almost) the highest point in Allegheny County, and the beautiful hollow of Crouse Run where we should see lots of spring wildflowers; intermediate difficulty; meet at 9 AM; call Jim Ritchie for meeting place and reservation, 412-828-0210.

Sat. April 29 -- Bike trip on West Penn Trail. Peddle 24 tough miles over abandoned railroad bridges, along the remnants of the Pennsylvania Canal and up over Bow Ridge. Start in Saltsburg and turn around by the Westinghouse Plant near Blairsville. There are some steep hills to climb.

If there's enough interest I can arrange a tour through the Conemaugh Dam. Interested participants will have to provide a photocopy of their driver's license in advance. The tour is very well done by a Corps of Engineers Park Ranger who's very informative and entertaining. This is a chance to learn a little more about the ecology and hydrology of the area. Meeting at 10:00 AM at Saltsburg River and Trail in Saltsburg. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sun. April 30 - Five-cave hike along Buffalo Creek. Walk 4 or 7 miles depending on weather. Some small stream crossings. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 10:30 AM. \$4.75 carpool - 38 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sun. April 30 - Hike - strenuous and exploratory - loop from Robinson over Chestnut Ridge and along Packsaddle Gap North, with a fine overlook of the Conemaugh, crossing (yet another) Roaring Run. \$5.25 carpool - 43 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sun. April 30 -- 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.

Sat. May 6 - Visit an organic farm in our region - meet the farmer, see the methods used, see the produce (perhaps buy some), learn about the issues. The trip may take up to 5 hours total. Contact Don Gibbon at 412-362-8451 or [dongibbon@earthlink.net](mailto:dongibbon@earthlink.net) by May 3.

Sat.-Sun. May 6-7 -- Easy backpacking trip in scenic Quebec Run Wild Area on Chestnut Ridge. We'll do about 12 miles total. This will qualify you for our more advanced backpack trips. Limit: 12. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Contact Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737 or [bsundquist1@juno.com](mailto:bsundquist1@juno.com).

Sun. May 7 - Hike about 8 miles in Raccoon Creek State Park on the east loop of a new backpacking trail; there should still be an abundance of spring wildflowers; intermediate difficulty; meets at 9 am; call Jim Ritchie for meeting place and reservation, 412-828-0210.

Sun. May 7 - Hike an intermediate 9 miles in the Mountain Streams area of Forbes State Forest on Laurel Ridge near Donegal. Visit Powder Mill Nature Reserve if time permits. Meet at 9:30 AM at Gateway Middle School in Monroeville. \$6.00 carpool - 42 miles. Call John Dern, 412-856-4642

Sun. May 7 - Hike - strenuous and exploratory - in the Elk Rocks area of the Dunbar Gamelands. Large rock formations and ledges high above the gorge of the Youghiogheny, the historic 1812 New Laurel Furnace and Morgan Run. \$5.75 carpool - 52 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat. May 13 -- Challenging kayak trip from the Loyalhanna Dam to the Kiskiminetas River. 6 miles with class II rapids in spots followed by a leisurely trip further down the Kiskiminetas River. This is a chance to test your kayaking skills a little. You should have some kayaking experience for this. Meeting at 10:00 AM at Saltsburg River and Trail in Saltsburg. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. May 13 - Caving, intermediate, in Bear Cave near Blairsville. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$4.25 carpool - 35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sat. May 13 - Hiking, intermediate, on the Laurel Highlands Trail from Maple Summit Road down to Ohiopyle State Park, about 11 miles total. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Call Donna Allen, 412-372-2993

Sun. May 14 - Mothers' Day

Sat. May 20 - Hike a moderate 8 miles past Casparis Cave and Foley's Pond near Connellsville. Some bushwhacking. Meet at Gateway Middle School in Monroeville at 9 AM. \$5.25 carpool - 40 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sun. May 21 - Easy 5-mile walk on Glacier Ridge Trail starting at the Rt. 528 bridge. Last year we headed west; this year it's east. Enjoy spring wildflowers and scenic views of Lake Arthur. Meet at the trailhead. Call Luc Berger, 412-683-3131

Sat. May 27 -- Long hike at Oil Creek State Park -- 18 miles through the woods down one side of Oil Creek and back through the woods on the other side. Meet at 8:00 AM at Denny's at Cranberry Mall. There are some interesting exhibits in the Drake Well Museum if we have time. \$10.75 carpool - 90 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582.

Sat. May 27 - Hike, intermediate, in Linn Run State Park and the Linn Run area of Forbes State Forest on Laurel Ridge. About 8 miles total. Meet at New Stanton at 10 AM. Inquire about Monroeville carpools if that is more convenient. \$5.25 carpool - 39 miles from New Stanton. Call Bill Kozorra or Dianne Ciccarella, 412-531-6236.

Sat.-Mon. May 27-29 -- Backpacking on Red Creek Plains/ Roaring Plains/ Flatrock Plains of Monongahela National Forest in one of the highest, most rugged, and most scenic parts of the West Va. Highlands. Lots of spectacular views. Prior backpacking experience required. 16 miles total. Limit: 10. Contact Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737 or [bsundquist1@juno.com](mailto:bsundquist1@juno.com).

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*(Continued from page 4)*

Sun. May 28 - Hike about 7.5 miles in Harrison Hills County Park. Fast-paced. \$1.25 carpool - 10 miles from Harmarville. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519.

Sun. June 4 -- Hike an easy 7 miles in Laurel Hill State Park - around the lake, through the virgin hemlocks along Laurel Hill Creek and past an old dam site. \$7.25 carpool - 55 miles. Call Mike Robertson, 412-678-4039.

Sun. June 4 - Bicycle on the Youghiogheny River Trail from Connellsville to Ohiopyle and return - about 17 miles each way. Meet at Gateway Middle School in Monroeville at 9:30 AM. Call John Dern, 412-856-4642.

Sat. June 10 -- Leisurely paddle down Loyalhanna Creek to Loyalhanna Dam. Starting place depends on water level. We saw a bald eagle and two blue herons on this trip in Oct of 2005. Meeting at 10:00 AM at Saltsburg River and Trail in Saltsburg. There's a lot of variety of scenery on this trip. The creek goes several miles through the woods where it's only 15-20 feet wide then it widens into Loyalhanna Lake. We can find a nice spot for lunch at Bush Recreation Area or in the Park above Loyalhanna Dam. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sat. June 10 - Visit an organic farm in our region - meet the farmer, see the methods used, see the produce (perhaps buy some), learn about the issues. The trip may take up to 5 hours total. Contact Don Gibbon at 412-362-8451 or dongibbon@earthlink.net by June 7.

Sat.-Mon. June 10-12 - Backpacking on Allegheny Front Trail (West) on a 25 mile moderate circuit featuring beautiful streams, a couple of vistas and the mystical Moss-Hanne Bogs. In conjunction with Midatlantichikes.com and the Howard County Group of the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. Group size will be limited to 10 to reduce trail impact. Prior backpacking experience required. Maps are available at <http://www.alleghenyfronttrail.info> \$18 carpool - 125 miles from Monroeville. Contact Patrick Roberts at 412-596-3566 or pdroberts19@hotmail.com

Sun. June 11 - Bike 7 miles (or hike 3 miles) from Freeport to a secret swimming hole for lunch, wading or swimming. Meet at Harmarville Ames at 11 AM. \$2.50 carpool - 20 miles. Call Ed Divers, 412-828-5154

Sat. June 17 - Easy 10-mile bike ride along the Yough River Trail starting from Boston. Meet at the trailhead at 10 AM. Call Bill Kozorra or Dianne Ciccarelli, 412-531-6236.

Sat. June 17 - Caving, intermediate, in Barton's Cave on Chestnut Ridge below Uniontown. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$8.50 carpool - 65 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sat. June 17 -- 10 Mile hike on Mt Davis - Pennsylvania's highest elevation. With luck we'll catch the mountain laurel in full bloom. Meet at Duff Park at 8:00 AM. We'll pass a natural spring that bubbles up through loose sand making a very interesting effect and finish at the tower and displays right on top of Mt. Davis. This is a moderately difficult hike with some very nice scenery. \$11.50 carpool - 86 miles. Call Dave Mottorn, 724-327-7582

Sun. June 18 - Fathers' Day

Sun. June 18 - Hike - strenuous and exploratory - loop in the Charles Lewis Natural Area and the Gallitzin State Forest, including views over the Conemaugh Gorge, along Clarks Run, and on Rager Mountain. \$7.25 - 61 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567.

Sat.-Sun. June 24-25 - Backpacking, intermediate, in Otter Creek Wilderness, one of the more popular hiking/ backpacking areas in the Monongahela National Forest. Prior backpacking experience is required. Limit: 10. \$20.25 carpool - 140 miles. Call Fred Kissell, 412-487-1155.

Sun. June 25 - Hike an intermediate 8-9 miles in North Park. Fast paced. Meet at the trailhead. Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519.

Sun. July 2 - Hike - strenuous and exploratory, a loop in the Quebec Run Wild Area, looking at areas not reached on the familiar developed trails, crossing the top end of the Mud Pike to reach the White Tail Trail. \$9.00 carpool - 73 miles from Shadyside. Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567

Sat. July 8 -- Visit an organic farm in our region - meet the farmer, see the methods used, see the produce (perhaps buy some), learn about the issues. The trip may take up to 5 hours total. Contact Don Gibbon at 412-362-8451 or dongibbon@earthlink.net by July 5.

Sat. July 15 - Caving, intermediate, in Casparis Cave near Connellsville. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$5.50 carpool - 40 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068.

Sun. July 23 - Youghiogheny River Valley inner-tube/ hike/ bike from Johnson's Run to Camp Carmel (3 miles of hiking on the Yough River Trail; 3 miles in inner-tubes; 18 miles (total) by bicycle on the Yough River Trail from Connellsville to Johnson Run and back.). If the weather is not hot and sunny the trip will be postponed one week - the Yough is a bit chilly. Great scenery, fun rapids, quiet pools, sandy beaches, clear water, bald eagles, hooded merganser ducks. \$5.50 carpool - 40 miles. Limit: 17. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737.

Sun. July 30 - Bad weather for the Youghiogheny River inner-tube/ hike/ bike. Call Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737

Sat. Aug. 5 - Visit an organic farm in our region - meet the farmer, see the methods used, see the produce (perhaps buy some), learn about the issues. The trip may take up to 5 hours total. Contact Don Gibbon at 412-362-8451 or dongibbon@earthlink.net by August 2.

Sat. Aug. 12 --

Sat. Aug. 19 - Caving, intermediate, in Coon Cave. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$4.25 carpool -35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sat. Aug.26 --

Sat. Sept. 9 - Visit an organic farm in our region - meet the farmer, see the methods used, see the produce (perhaps buy some), learn about the issues. The trip may take up to 5 hours total. Contact Don Gibbon at 412-362-8451 or dongibbon@earthlink.net by Sept. 6.

Sat. Sept. 9 -- Caving, intermediate, in Lemon Hole Cave on Chestnut Ridge near Blairsville. Spend about 3 hours in the cave. \$4.25 carpool -35 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

Sat. Oct. 7 - Visit an organic farm in our region - meet the farmer, see the methods used, see the produce (perhaps buy some), learn about the issues. The trip may take up to 5 hours total. Contact Don Gibbon at 412-362-8451 or dongibbon@earthlink.net by Oct. 4.

Sat. Oct. 21 - Caving, intermediate, in Lower Beaver Hole Cave in lower Cheat Canyon. Spend about 3 hours in the Cave. \$9.25 carpool - 73 miles. Call Norm Snyder, 412-351-4068

**NOTES:** Ask the leader for names and phone numbers of trippers for you to arrange a car pool. Reserve at least 36 hours in advance. If you leave your phone number on the leader's answering machine, give it slowly and clearly. 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. Cell phones have saved the day on several trips when accidents have required evacuation of trippers. Sierra Clubbers planning to lead outings during 7/11/06 - 10/30/06 should contact Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737, bsundquist1@juno.com by 6/5/06.

#### **HELP WANTED:**

Allegheny Group's Outings Chair (Bruce Sundquist) has held that post since 1976 -- much too long. Running the outings program involves 32 well-defined tasks. Most are done quarterly; some monthly. About 12 could be done without any experience, and could be divided among several people. If you are willing to share some of these tasks, please contact Bruce at 724-327-8737 or bsundquist1@juno.com

#### **SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP INDUCEMENT**

If you join the Sierra Club on one of our outings, your \$25 introductory membership will get you a free hip pack. Call 724-327-8737 for application form and pack.

#### **ALLEGHENY GROUP MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Monthly meetings of Allegheny Group are now held at Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center on Shady Avenue just south of Fifth Ave. Driving south on Shady from Fifth, turn left at the second driveway into a parking lot in front of the Scaife Unit of the Arts Center. Parking there is metered (quarters only - 25 cents per hour). Follow the cobblestone driveway back to the Garden Center. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. The first 30 minutes is a business meeting, the main program begins around 8 PM. A social hour and refreshments concludes the meeting. We must vacate the building by 10 PM.

#### **HEADWATERS (JOHNSTOWN) GROUP OUTINGS**

Sun. Apr. 23 - Hike in the Stony Creek River gorge from Carpenter's Park to Foustwell Bridge. Meet at Bens Creek at 1:30 PM. Call Mary Heinlein, 814-539-2371.

Sun. Apr. 30 - Explore the Buttermilk Falls Area. Meet at D Street Athletic Field at 1:30 PM. Call Jean Rigo, 814-255-1180.

Sun. May 6 - Hike the Boswell Lumber Company Trail. Meet at the Interstate Insurance Building at 1:30 PM. Call Ed Statler, 814-255-4775.

Sat. May 13 - Hike and cookout in Canoe Creek State Park. Meet at Rax at 8:30 AM. Call Nancy Woome, 814-943-6146.

Sat. May 20 - Canoeing at Wilmore Dam. Meet at Rax at 8:30 AM. Call Donna Gregory at 814-255-1765.

Sat. June 3 - Bicycle on Ghost Town Trail, starting at Dilltown. Meet at D Street Athletic Field at 8:30 AM. Call Frank or Donna Miler, 814-266-3927.

Sat./ Sun. June 17-18 - Car camping at Beaver Meadows in Allegheny National Forest. Some may also want to camp over on Friday night. Meet at Beaver Meadows. Call Jean Rigo, 814-255-1180.

Sun. Aug. 27 - Annual Sierra Club picnic at Shawnee State Park, Area 6. Pack a picnic lunch and a dish to share. Meet at Shawnee State Park at 2:30 PM. Call Ed Statler, 814-255-4775.

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

**NON-SIERRA CLUB TRIPS**

Trips listed below are in no way connected with the Sierra Club. Sierra Club takes no responsibility, and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of these trips. They are published here purely as a service to our members.

**WEDNESDAY RAMBLES**

Rambles begin at 10 AM. Rambles are leisurely 2-3-mile walks. Meet in Mellon Park upper parking lot on Shady Avenue just south of Fifth Ave. If a bag lunch is not indicated it means that it is possible, time-wise, to return to the meeting place and go your own way. Often spontaneous plans to eat out are made by the group. Carpooling is encouraged. Please pay driver \$1-\$4., depending on length of trip. Rambles are subject to change due to weather or other circumstances. (\*\* means bring a bag lunch.) Call the trip leader for more information, especially if you plan to meet at the trailhead (unless it is listed above). Or call Billie Woodland (Coordinator) at 412-886-1603 or cell 412-889-7048.

March 15 - Visit Allegheny Cemetery with Connie Black 412-371-1062. Lunch at a restaurant is optional.

March 22 - Visit Cloverleaf Estates West in Carnegie with Bob Tait, 412-821-5709.

March 29 - Visit the Oakmont area and walk 2-3 miles on Barking Slopes off Hulton Road with Ed Divers, 412-828-5154.

Wed. April 5 - Visit Raccoon Creek State Park with Jim Hurst, 412-276-0447. Bag lunch or at Janoski Farm Restaurant. (NOTE: April and May Rambles begin at 10 AM.)

Wed. April 12 -- Revisit Fall Run and possibly early wildflowers with Marty Brigham, 412-521-1913. Bag lunch

Wed. April 19 - Walk the Arrowhead Trail and visit a horse farm with Sue and Dan Sebolt, 412-563-6987. Bag lunch.

Wed. April 26 - Visit Braddock's Trail; the "Collinsia verna" (aka Blue-Eyed Mary) should be blooming! Marian Fast, 412-241-2109. Bag lunch.

Wed. May 3 - Visit Trillium Trail with Ed Divers, 412-828-5154. Bag lunch at pavilion, rain or shine!

Wed. May 10 - Take the 10:AM bus at 5TH & Shady to Ft. Pitt Museum. Meet at entrance to Point State Park if not bussing. Bag lunch somewhere in the Park. Marilyn Hamm, 412-687-4520.

Wed. May 17 -- Walk around Peter's Lake with Sue/Dan Sebolt 412-563-6987. Visit "the Market Place" for lunch or bag it.

Wed. May 24 - Visit South Park for a 3-4-mile walk. A shorter walk is also available. Helen/Mary Ann Brincka 412-884-0383. Bag lunch.

Wed. May 31 - Visit Wagman Observatory and Deer Lakes Park with stargazer Don Hoecker 412-243-8298. Bag lunch.

Wed. June 7 -- See beautifully restored entrance and gardens at Highland Park. Walk around reservoir and beyond with Gen Mann, 412-661-5947. Bag lunch. NOTE: June Rambles begin at 9:30 AM.

Wed. June 14 -- Visit Old Allegheny/ Mexican War Streets with Earl McCabe, 412-761-1844. Lunch at Greek Orthodox Church Cafeteria.

Wed. June 21 -- Oakmont walk - visit Kerr Mansion and other areas of interest in this river community with Joan Roof, 412-351-2061. Good restaurants are nearby.

Wed. June 28 - Visit Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve with Margaret Laske, 412-421-5219. Bring binoculars! Bag lunch.

**VENTURE OUTDOORS TRIPS:** For information on VO events, contact Sean Brady sbrady@ventureoutdoors.org 412-255-0564 or visit <http://www.ventureoutdoors.org/> All VO events are open to the public, but there is usually a charge.

**BUTLER OUTDOORS CLUB:** Contact Dave Adams at 724-453-1685 or DaveEAdams@aol.com or Bob Tait, 724-287-3382 BobTait@zbzoom.net or visit <http://www.butleroutdoorclub.com> P.O. Box 243, Butler, PA 16003-0243

**WESTERN PA ORIENTEERING CLUB:** If you like orienteering you might enjoy WPOC's orienteering events. Below is their list of spring events. Registration for all events is from 11 AM - 2 PM. Most of their events are in the Indiana - Johnstown area.

**WISSAHICKON NATURE CLUB:** If you enjoy nature lore, look into the meetings and field trips of Wissahickon Nature Club. They meet every other Thursday at 7 PM (except June-August) at Community Presbyterian Church, 7501 Church Ave., Ben Avon. Contact Chuck Tague, 412-488-8760 or 432 Olympia Road, Pittsburgh 15219

**OUTSIDE ADVENTURE LEARNING OF WESTERN PA -- Winter 2005-06 Outings Schedule**

outsideadventures@yahoo.com Contact Mark Mistrik, 724-230-0237, for more information or to reserve for any of the following trips. Nordic ski equipment is available for all ski-touring outings listed below.

Sun. Afternoons Feb. 12, 19, March 5, 19, 26. -- Winter Indoor Kayak Pool Classes at U. of Pittsburgh (through Outside Adventures). Sea-kayaks & whitewater kayaks available.

Sat. Feb. 11 -- Laurel Mountain Cross-Country Skiing. Pre-tour lesson offered.

Tues. Eve. Feb. 14 -- Citiparks Evening Nordic Skiing in Frick Park. Pre-tour lesson offered.

Thurs. Eve. Feb. 16 -- North Park Evening Nordic Skiing (Lessons And Moonlight Woodlands Tour).

Sat. Feb. 18 -- Laurel Ridge Cross-Country Skiing. Pre-tour lesson offered.

Tues. Eve. Feb. 21 -- Citiparks Evening Nordic Skiing in Schenley Park. Pre-tour lesson offered.

Thurs. Eve. Feb. 23 -- North Park Evening Nordic Skiing (Lessons And Moonlight Woodlands Tour).

Tues. Eve. March 7 -- Citiparks Evening Nordic Skiing in Frick Park. Pre-tour lesson offered.

Thurs. Eve. March 9 -- North Park Evening Nordic Skiing (lessons and moonlight woodlands tour).

Sat. March 11 -- Laurel Mountain Cross-Country Skiing. Pre-tour lesson offered.

**OUTSIDE ADVENTURES SEA-KAYAKING PROGRAM "Sea-Kayaking Taught From Scratch"**

Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pa. is a non-profit educational organization committed to introducing individuals to safe and enjoyable recreational outdoor pursuits. The sea-kayaking program specializes in teaching all levels of sea-kayaking skills and organizing trips from our evening introductory classes for new paddlers up to advanced expedition tours. Outside Adventures welcomes participation from individuals, families, youth organizations and outings clubs. Sea-kayaks, or touring kayaks are versatile, fun, human-powered watercraft that enables us to do all these things and more. They are sleek and fast, more efficient than canoes, more comfortable and stable than whitewater kayaks, have hatches to swallow loads of gear, and steerable rudders that enable even beginners to control the boat with ease.

Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pennsylvania - 2005 Schedule Call 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310 for information or to sign up for any event. Also visit [www.outsideadventures.org](http://www.outsideadventures.org) or email [outsideadventures@yahoo.com](mailto:outsideadventures@yahoo.com)

**HELPFUL HINTS FOR USING OUTINGS-RELATED PARTS OF ALLEGHENY GROUP'S WEB PAGE**

Trail Guides and Patches: Interested in trail guides and/or trail patches? Click on "Publications" near the top of the front page to get a descriptive list of all trail guides that Allegheny Group sells. Near the top of that list you can click on "Order Form" to get an order form that you can copy and mail in if you want to place an order. The top of the order form describes trail patches and guides that you can order.

Outings List: The front page contains a list of outings for the coming few weekends. Each trip is described in only a few words. But at the bottom of that brief list you can click on "more events/ outings" to get a page that lists trips for the coming month or so in far more detail. But they may still be incomplete. To get the complete description, click on that trip's bold-faced title (not just the date). A complete description of that trip will then appear. Read this description before calling the trip leader to sign up for the trip. That helps you avoid trips that do not fit your interests or abilities.

Trails Updates:

The outings committee compiles new information that it learns about hiking trails and bicycle paths in western Pa. It also updates trail descriptions found in Allegheny Groups hiking guide to trails on public lands on Chestnut Ridge, Laurel Ridge and Allegheny Front in southwestern Pennsylvania (Title: The Laurel Highlands: A Hiking Guide) If you are planning to go on a hike or bicycle trip in western Pa., first check this list to learn of any recent changes to the trails you plan to use - or to learn about new trails. To get to this information, click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will appear. Near the top is a sentence on "Trail Updates". Click on that to bring up the updates with a Table of Contents listing all trails covered.

About Allegheny Group Outings:

If you are new to Allegheny Group's outings, you should read a 2-page description of the outings program. To get this, click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will appear and near the top is a sentence on "About Allegheny Group Outings". Click on that to get a page with that title.

Ski Touring for Beginners: If you are contemplating getting into ski touring, you should read about it. Click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will appear and near the top is a sentence on "Ski-Touring for Beginners. Click on that to get a page with that title.

Waiver Form: If you want to go on an Allegheny Group outing, the National Sierra Club requires that you sign a liability waiver form to acknowledge that you are aware of the risks that are inherent in any of the sorts of outdoor activities that the Club is involved in. To read this form before you come on any Allegheny Group outing, click on "Information About Outings" found just below the bottom of the more complete listing of outings described above. A new page will appear. Near the top is a sentence on "Waiver Form". Click on that to bring up a page with that title.

**Other Outdoors Clubs**

**Butler Outdoors Club**

BOC runs the same sorts of trips as Allegheny Group. Contact Dave Adams, 724-453-1685 DaveEAdams@aol.com or Bob Tait, 724-287-3382 BobTait@zbzoom.net or visit <http://www.butleroutdoorclub.com> Some trips by BOC and North Country Trails Assn. (NCTA) are listed below.

**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 Pennsylvania**

BSWP 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 sample newsletter and membership information to [mousemapper@verizon.net](mailto:mousemapper@verizon.net), or call Loree at 724-872-5232.

**WPW (Western Pennsylvania Wheelmen) Bicycle Club**

Home Page: <http://wpwbikeclub.org> Ride Hotline: 412-422-2234 Various length and difficulty rides scheduled each weekend and some during the week. Monthly meeting usually the 2nd Monday at 8pm at the Frick Environmental center on Beechwood Blvd in Squirrel Hill. See home page for details.

**Moraine Sailing Club**

MSC offers sailing opportunities for new and experienced sailors at Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park. They have an active education program for all ages, numerous sailing related social events, Day Sailing at Lake Arthur, and a very active sailboat racing program. For more information see the MSC Web Page at [www.morainesailingclub.org](http://www.morainesailingclub.org) or contact Chris Neuwirth 412-441-5590, email to: [cmn@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:cmn@andrew.cmu.edu)

**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA FIELD INSTITUTE -- TRIPS**

For information on WPMI events, contact Sean Brady [sbrady@wpfi.org](mailto:sbrady@wpfi.org) 412-255-0564 or visit <http://www.wpfi.org/> All events open to the public. Fridays, Noon-12:50 PM Nature Walks starting in Market Square, Downtown Pittsburgh, Cost: Free

**Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pennsylvania**

Outside Adventures 2002 Paddling Schedule Call 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310 for information or to sign up for any event. [www.outsideadventures.org](http://www.outsideadventures.org) or [www.outsideadventures@Yahoo.com](mailto:www.outsideadventures@Yahoo.com) More outings continuously offered. Call for Updates: 724-230-0237 or 412-968-0310. Outside Adventures Sea-Kayaking Program "Sea-Kayaking Taught From Scratch" Outside Adventure Learning of Western Pa. is a non-profit educational organization committed to introducing individuals to safe and enjoyable recreational outdoor pursuits. The sea-kayaking program specializes in teaching all levels of sea-kayaking skills and organizing trips from our evening introductory classes for new paddlers up to advanced expedition tours. Outside Adventures welcomes participation from individuals, families, youth organizations and outings clubs. Sea-kayaks, or touring kayaks are versatile, fun, human-powered watercraft that enables us to do all these things and more. They are sleek and fast, more efficient than canoes, more comfortable and stable than whitewater kayaks, have hatches to swallow loads of gear, and steerable rudders that enable even beginners to control the boat with ease.



**CANOEING**

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



**SAILING**

The AYH no longer owns its own sailboats or runs trips but Bob Zavos will help coordinate sailing interests with other area organizations. The Moraine Sailing Club (MSC) is the largest local sailing group. Most activities are on Lake Arthur in Moraine State Park which is about 35 miles North of Pittsburgh. They offer education, social events and run a youth summer sail camp. They also have a large racing program and sponsor a Community Sailing Program for people without their own sailboats. They help organize/publicize Cruising Trips, but do not officially sponsor them. More information is on their website at [www.morainesailingclub.org](http://www.morainesailingclub.org). Big boat sailors may want to check out the Erie Yacht Club: [www.erieyachtclub.org](http://www.erieyachtclub.org) or the Erie Bayfront Center for Marine studies: [www.goerie.com/bcms](http://www.goerie.com/bcms)

**Moraine Preservations Fund (MPF)**, is looking for volunteers to help with the 50 passenger pontoon boat which they run on Lake Arthur in the Summer. It is used for scientific hands-on field trips for students and summer and fall tours for the public. They are looking for people interested in becoming volunteer mates and captains. You will need to have a boater's safety class, which you may already have taken or is easily available locally. To be a mate you must be 16 and 18 to be a captain. The boat training is given by experienced MPF captains, and you will be tested and licensed by the Fish and Boat Commission. The times and amount of time you would volunteer is completely by your choice. Even limited help is appreciated. If you have questions or would like to sign up, please contact Ruth Roperti at 724 843 7046, or email: [missionmorain@zoominternet.net](mailto:missionmorain@zoominternet.net)

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual **Lake Arthur Regatta is scheduled for August 14 & 15**. This is one of the largest water and boating related activities in the area. Mark your calendars and look for more information later in the season on the MSC Website or the Butler County site: [www.visit-butler-county-pennsylvania-pa.com/](http://www.visit-butler-county-pennsylvania-pa.com/)

**Baker Trail and Rachel Carson Trail  
Trail Maintenance Opportunities for 2006**

The Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels, conceived and built the Baker Trail in the late 1940's and dedicated the Trail in 1950. It was built by returning war veterans who envisioned a network of "youth hostels" along the Trail where the youth of the world could find safe, inexpensive shelter while touring rural America on foot. Today the Trail is 141 miles long and extends from Freeport, PA to the Allegheny National Forest, and traverses Cook Forest State Park, several State Game Lands, Kittanning State Forest, the Mahoning and Crooked Creek Army Corps of Engineers projects, and several local recreation facilities. All AYH members are asked to spend one day a year helping us maintain the Trail. The Baker Trail is 100% volunteer-supported. We use no Federal, State, or Local government funding.

Right now the trail needs AYH members who would like to participate in trail crew maintenance activities. Please contact Steve Mentzer SGMentzer@TrueCommerce.com

**Adopt-a-Trail Volunteers needed.** We also need volunteers to become trail stewards who are willing to adopt a 3-5 mile long section of the Baker Trail. Trail stewards will be independently responsible to work on their section of the trail on their own schedule. Responsibilities include painting yellow blazes on the trail once a year, picking up debris and trash off the treadway, and trimming vegetation away from blazes. Optional skills include chain saw work, shelter repair (we have 10 overnight shelters on the trail that require yearly maintenance—adopt a shelter as your own personal project) and/or you can build bridges, sidehill supports, benches, and other trail amenities. Regardless of the level of your effort, you would be expected to walk your trail section twice a year, preferably once in the spring (April, May) and once in the fall (September, October). All expenses for supplies—paint, brushes, etc.—are reimbursed.

Pennsylvania State Parks  
Reservations & Information

Call Toll Free  
**1-888-PA-PARKS**

Reserve up to 11 months in advance  
Cabins - Pavilions - Camping

Mastercard www.dcnr.state.pa.us Visa

**Baker Trail/Rachel Carson Trail Resources**

- Rachel Carson Trail website:** [www.rachelcarsontrail.org](http://www.rachelcarsontrail.org); **this website has information about the Rachel Carson Trail, the Baker Trail, and the Rachel Carson Trail Challenge.**
- Baker Trail website:** [www.geocities.com/bakertrailpa](http://www.geocities.com/bakertrailpa); **this website has some abbreviated information concerning the Baker Trail.**
- Hostelling International website:** <http://trfn.clpgh.org/ayh/>; **general information about the BT/RCT sponsor organization.**
- Keystone Trails Association:** <http://www.kta-hike.org/>; **has information about all Pennsylvania hiking trails**
- “Guide to the Rachel Carson Trail”;** this is a trail guide, with topographic maps, and some interpretive information about the 34-mile long trail, available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.
- “Baker Trail Guide Book”;** a trail guide with topographic maps, and interpretive information about the 141-mile long Baker Trail. Available from HI-Pittsburgh for under \$10, including postage and handling. Call 412-431-4910 to order.

**\*\*\*\*\*HIKER ALERTS\*\*\*\*\***Current hiker alerts for both the Rachel Carson Trail and the Baker Trail may be found at [www.rachelcarsontrail.com](http://www.rachelcarsontrail.com).

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