



Scioto Valley News

Winter 2009

A Publication of Hostelling International USA, Central and Southern Ohio Council

"To help all, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling."

CSOC Plans 2009 Excursions

By Angela McFarland

Do you want to travel but are afraid you can't afford it?

No problem! Staying in hostels is the best way to travel without breaking the bank. During 2009, join CSOC for tours of two domestic hostels and one international hostel.

April 23-26: HI-Gardners (Gettysburg) Hostel, aka HI-Ironmaster's Mansion, Gardners, PA.

June 12-14: HI-Malabar Farm State Park Hostel, Lucas, OH.

Oct 16-18: HI-Niagara Falls, aka HI-Niagara Rainbow Hostel, Niagara Falls, Ontario, CA.



Just when spring is replacing the winter blues, CSOC is sponsoring a trip to the historic city of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. We will stay in HI-Gardners (Gettysburg) Hostel, a historic hostel also called the Ironmaster's Mansion.

Located in beautiful Pine Grove Furnace State Park, the Ironmaster's Mansion was built in 1829 as the home of the ironmaster of the Pine Grove Furnace Ironworks. The ironworks manufactured cannonballs during the Revolutionary War, and the hostel was a stop on the Underground Railroad for sheltering runaway slaves.

The hostel has a hot tub and is on the Appalachian Trail. Bike trails for both mountain and road bikes crisscross Pine Grove Furnace State Park. It also features lakes and streams for fishing and swimming. Tour members will be able to enjoy the natural features of the park and the historic features of the city.



Our second domestic hostel trip in 2009 will visit HI-Malabar Farm Hostel in Lucas, Ohio. June offers one of the best times to visit Malabar Farm State Park. Trip participants will be able to hike or

bike in the park, participate in activities on the farm, and dine on fine French food, locally grown where possible, at the historic Malabar Farm Restaurant.

In October, we will explore Niagara Falls from the Canadian side. Our tour will start at the HI-Niagara Falls "Rainbow" Hostel. This traditional hostel is a historic Georgian style home with beautiful oak woodwork. The falls are so close to the hostel you can hear them at night. Besides visiting the falls, we will enjoy the restaurants and night life on the newly renovated Third Street. We plan to explore parks, museums, and wineries also.



Contact Angela McFarland at alm2111@ameritech.net, or (614) 353-4930 to book your place today.

Hostelling Memory Book

2009 marks the 75th anniversary of hostels in the United States. In honor of that anniversary, HI-USA, Central and Southern Ohio Council is putting together a written and audio-visual memory book. We are asking people to send in their best hostelling stories. The stories can be in written, audio, or video form.

If you would like to record your story as a video but need technical help, contact me and we will arrange a time and place to record your story. Any materials collected will only be used to promote hostels and hostelling.

Contact: Angela McFarland, (614) 353-4930.

From the President

My name is Angela McFarland and I am excited to take over the reins of HI-USA, Central and Southern Ohio Council's presidency. Before assuming this position, I served a year as the council's Vice-President. During that term, I produced promotional materials for the Council and organized the Women of the World Travelers group on Meetup.com. I also led domestic and international hostelling trips.



My goals for CSOC:

- (1) to create activities that will increase the number of member participants in Council events,
- (2) to educate HI-USA members and non-members on the benefits of using hostels,
- (3) to recruit people to join the CSOC Board of Directors (BoD), and
- (4) to create an internship program that will offer college students and graduates employable skills while helping the CSOC BoD pursue its mission.

-Angela

CSOC Events Calendar



April 23-26, Gettysburg Tour, HI-Gardners (Ironmaster's Mansion) Hostel, Gardners, PA. See front page article for details.



June 12-14, Malabar Farm Tour, HI-Malabar Farm State Park Hostel, Lucas, OH. See front page article for details.



October 16-18, Niagara Falls Tour, HI-Niagara Falls (Rainbow) Hostel, Niagara Falls, ON. See front page article for details.

Interested? Call CSOC's Angela McFarland, (614) 353-4930, for more information or to sign up. Get involved with your Council and have some fun!

2009 HI-USA Toledo Area Council Bicycle Tours

Portage River Tour

Sunday, June 28

Elmore, Ohio

In cooperation with the Elmore Historical Society.

21st Annual Metroparks Tour

Sunday, July 18

Whitehouse, Ohio

In cooperation with Metroparks of the Toledo Area.

37th Annual Irish Hills Tour

Sunday, September 20

Centennial Terrace, Centennial and Sylvania-Metamora roads.

32th Annual Tombstone Tour and Family Haunted Bike Ride

Saturday, October 17

Secor Metropark, Berkey, Ohio

In cooperation with Metroparks of the Toledo Area.

For more information, see <http://www.hitoledo.org/>.

HI-Malabar Farm State Park Hostel Opening Times for 2009

Now through December 15, 2009:

Open Thursday night – Sunday morning (evening hours 5-10 PM; morning hours 7-10 AM)

HI Member Rates:

- Dorm rooms: \$20/adult for the 1st night. Discounts for each additional night and for children.
- Family Room Rates: \$30 for 1 person; \$50 for 2 persons, \$70 for 3 persons. Discounts for children.

Non-member rates: Additional \$3/person per day.



Inquire about reservations and special arrangements for groups. Rates checked at time of printing but subject to change.

Hi-Malabar Farm State Park Hostel
3954 Bromfield Rd
Lucas, OH 44843

Tel: 1-419-892-2055

Fax: 1-419-892-3055

E-mail: hi-malabarfarm@juno.com

Book online at hiusa.org or hihostels.com.

Spring Events at Malabar Farm State Park



March 28, Bee, Bat & Bluebird Workshop, 10 AM. \$20 fee.



April 18, Wildflower Hike, 10 AM. Free. Meet at the Visitor's Center.



April 25, Mushroom Madness, 10 AM. \$15 fee. The workshop will help identify and explore vast amounts of mushrooms growing throughout north central Ohio.



May 2, Beekeeping/Barn Dance. Beekeepers Workshop 12 Noon. Participants will learn about the benefits provided by these little insects as well as the basics of beekeeping. Wildlife Barn Dance 7 PM -10 PM. Live music and caller, beginners welcome! Free.



May 16 & 17, Plow Days, 11 AM. Draft horse plowing skills and contests. Free.



May 23, Barn Dance, 7 PM -10 PM. Live music and caller, beginners welcome. Free.



May 30, Night Haunt I, 8 PM – 12 Midnight. Dare explore local hauntings and history. \$30 pre-registration required.

For the best information on Malabar Farm State Park events, check www.malabarfarm.org, the official website for the Malabar Farm Foundation. Program contact: Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Sybil Burskey, sybil.burskey@dnr.state.oh.us, or (419) 892-2784. For additional information on the park, check www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/762/Default.aspx.

New in 2009: CSOC accepts commercial advertising for our quarterly print and electronic newsletter, *The Scioto Valley News*, provided content is substantially related to CSOC's mission, as determined by CSOC. Rates per issue: 2"x4" - \$25; ¼ page - \$33; ½ page - \$55; 1 page - \$120. Contact CSOC for more information.

Hostelling History: International, National and Local

By Allan & Phyllis South

School teacher Richard Schirrmann started the Hostelling movement in Germany in 1909. Concerned about the effects of industrialization, he took his students on field trips. He wanted to get them out of the city to experience unspoiled countryside.

Later, he wanted to prevent the devastation he saw in WWI by ensuring that young people from different nations knew one another. He believed that if they did, nations wouldn't go to war as easily.

Farmers' barn lofts and school gymnasiums became the first hostels. The practice quickly spread to other European countries. In 1932, volunteers formed the International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF).

In 1933, Isabelle and Monroe Smith took a group of young Americans to Europe on a hostelling trip. They returned to the U.S. to found American Youth Hostels (AYH), what is now known as HI-USA. They opened the first U.S. hostel in 1934.

FBI and Naval Intelligence staff has investigated AYH several times, the latest occurring in 1952. They could only determine that "hostellers seemed different from ordinary people" and suggested that they might be subject to Communist infiltration.

In 1947, John D. Rockefeller, III agreed to serve as president of AYH. Rockefeller felt strongly that business management and centralized planning should be incorporated in the organization. AYH incorporated, moved its headquarters to New York City and hired an executive director who had been active at the local level.

AYH's development continued with significant events bringing national attention. AYH began



100 YEARS OF
HOSTELLING
WORLDWIDE

2009

75 YEARS OF
AMERICAN
YOUTH HOSTELS

to market itself to youth groups. AYH owned its first hostel in Washington, D.C. in 1967.

By the early 80s AYH established a greater connection with IYHF and developed travel and educational programs. Strategic planning put in place a focus and a direction: "To help all people, especially the young, gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling."

AYH came to Columbus in 1937. Its Columbus Council grew and operated a number of hostels. The council was a fantastic outdoor activity-based organization. with incredible boating and biking programs.

As with many families, serious disagreements arose – in this

case concerning the council's relationship with the national office arose. In 1995, the membership of AYH's Columbus Council voted to disaffiliate from AYH's national organization. The matter went to court, and from our point of view, everyone lost. Columbus Council renamed itself Columbus Outdoor Pursuits and lost the Heart of Ohio Hostel in Columbus and great deal of cash.

The hostelling presence in Columbus remained in the form of the Central and Southern Ohio Council (CSOC) – the publisher of this newsletter - a smaller organization than before. We have looked for a local mission. Economic downturns and the September 2001 terrorist attacks hurt us. AYH doing business as HI-USA sold the Heart of Ohio Hostel.

We are beginning to find ourselves. We have developed a great partnership with Girl Scouts USA. We have a women's travel club and we support HI-Malabar Farm State Park Hostel in Richland County. We have trips planned to hostels in the USA and Canada. We are on our way back and with your help will continue to grow.

The following appears at www.hiusa.org. Find more history, events, and updates on the value of your HI-USA membership at www.hiusa.org.

Welcome!

This is a very special year for hostelling! 2009 marks the [75th Anniversary of HI-USA](#) and the 100th Anniversary of the worldwide hostelling movement. HI-USA is celebrating all year long across the country. You are invited to join in the fun! Check back often for updates on what's happening.

Youth Peace Conference

April 24th – 26th

Join the 2nd Annual Peace Building Conference in San Diego. Young people between the ages of 18 and 30 are invited to join the Peace Conference in person in San Diego. Or join virtually from one of the participating hostels which will gather local youth to watch the keynote via video feed, thanks to a grant from the International Youth Hostel Federation! Not near a hostel? Then apply for a spot to join us from your own computer with a high speed internet connection.

<http://www.sandiegohostels.org/peace.shtml>

Photo and Video Contests!

May 1st – August 30th

Give Us Your Best Shot and we just might send you packing...On a hostelling adventure that is! Check back soon for contest details.

Open Hostel Week

August 23rd – 30th

Hostels all across the world will be opening their doors to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the hostelling movement. Check back for details about the HI-USA hostel open houses.

Tell Us Your Story!

Got a great story to share about a hostelling experience? Whether it is one of romance, adventure, or just sharing a cup of tea with new friends, share it with HI-USA as part of our Anniversary Story Collection. Your tale may be published or included in a time capsule to be opened in 2034 – when we turn 100! Send your hostelling tale to [CSOC's Memory Book – see p. 1 - and] myhostelstory@hiusa.org.

Look What They're Saying About Us!

One thing Congress can agree on is what a great organization HI-USA is! Read recent floor speeches by Congressional representatives honoring our anniversary.

Relive Your Hostel Travels and Reconnect with HI-USA

Calling all past hostellers and HI members! Come relive your travels with other hostellers at one of our Anniversary Alumni Celebrations this year. HI-USA Councils across the US will be hosting special events to reconnect alumni with the organization and each other. [Keep informed of CSOC events at <http://ayhcs.netwalk.com>.]



History of Hostelling

The HI-USA organizational history is closely tied to the international hostelling movement and to trends in global travel.

The hostelling story has six chapters:

- **1909-1934: Origins** The idea of hostelling is conceived in Germany, embodied in the International Youth Hostel Federation, and brought to the United States.
- **1935-1945: Shadows of War** A thriving hostelling movement in Europe and North America is stalled by the advent of World War II.
- **1946-1965: Rebuilding and Renewal** Hostelling rebounds with the new value placed by governments on international travel as an answer to isolation and misunderstanding, and national hostelling associations proliferate worldwide.
- **1966-1980: An Explosion of Global Travel** Economic prosperity, low-cost jet travel and Baby Boomers spur interest in foreign travel and hostelling.
- **1981-2000: Growth and Transformation** Record numbers of young people are served in hostels worldwide as large urban hostels are developed with high quality standards and program offerings.
- **2001-Present: Tragedy and Renewal** While the aftermath of September 11th causes sharp travel declines worldwide and massive financial pressures for HI-USA, it also prompts a bold new commitment to cross-cultural exchange.

Today in the U.S., there is a network of about 75 hostels hosting over 1 million overnights annually. Worldwide, there are nearly 4000 hostels recording over 33 million overnights in more than 75 countries.

Cabbage is Not Lettuce, and Other Important Life Lessons

By Anna Messinger

I am very lucky to have grown up in a family of adventurous tastes. Every New Year's Eve since I was a child, we had a feast dedicated to trying new things, a delightful and eclectic meal consisting of everything from sushi to *spanakopita*.

Some things (lox, gouda, and *edamame*) quickly became family favorites; other things (*pupusas*, fish-balls, and ginger beer) only made it around the circuit once. But we never regretted anything. The point was to eat things we had never eaten before.

Each year it grows a little bit harder to find foods that we have not yet sampled, but fortunately our various travels create opportunities for us to share. We also draw inspiration from our daily lives; for example, my awesomely diverse college roommates addicted me to *chai*, Vietnamese spring rolls, and *samosas*.

It's no surprise that I recently began working for Hostelling International. It's also unsurprising that I jumped on the Cultural Kitchen (CK) program. However, for all my seeming worldliness I'll admit that CK has taught me an eye-opening lesson: I'm **sheltered**. I live in a bubble in which everyone around me likes sushi and has studied abroad or will do so.

My first Cultural Kitchen was a beautiful lesson in the diversity of other people's experiences. I'd



taken for granted that everybody grew up in contact with food and folk from different cultures, which made the astonishment and wonder of the Girl Scouts a wonderful, surprising reward. Watching the girls eagerly devour their rice balls or scrunch up their noses at

the soba, I felt an enormous gratitude at having been given a chance to expose them to this.

Girl Scouts and their leaders peppered me with questions, then gathered around for cute, informative presentations on Japan. I have been studying Japan for a while, but during these presentations I learned something new: people in Japan apparently like beetles. They also (the girls secretly hope) play hooky now and then with the understanding that their parents will go to school in their stead.

All in all, the CK program's culmination proved a great evening of multicultural learning for everyone, capped by one final important take-home lesson for me: cabbage is not lettuce. Make sure you know that before you buy and lug 6 heads of cabbage into a troop leader's kitchen.

For more information about CSOC's Cultural Kitchen program, contact me, Anna Messinger, at messinger.11@gmail.com or (513) 284-6036.

Do you belong to a club, church, or organization whose members want to support non-profit educational workshops for children and adults? CSOC would love to come and share the ways we fulfill our mission of helping the young gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling.

Contact CSOC's Angela McFarland: (e-mail) alm2111@ameritech.net, (phone) (614) 353-4930.



Do you belong to a school, or youth organization that is planning a trip sometime this year? CSOC would love to offer your group a free World Travel 101 workshop.

HI-USA designs travel education workshops for novice travelers who want to be well prepared for travel, either here in the United States or abroad. Emphasizing how to travel safely, affordably, and responsibly, workshop topics include planning and budgeting, accommodations and transportation, and respecting cultural differences. **We present workshops free of charge as part of our mission.** Contact CSOC's Angela McFarland to set up your workshop.

E-mail: alm2111@ameritech.net

Phone: (614) 353-4930

"Travel with simple respect for the people and cultures you encounter"

CSOC awards a special T-shirt for the best guest contribution to each newsletter edition. You can send a hostel report, photographs or art, hostelling story – whatever might be of interest to the hostelling community. This newsletter: no guest contributions! Want to win a T-shirt? Send us your contribution. You may see it in the next newsletter!

Board of Directors Meetings

*The CSOC Board of Directors welcomes all council members to our meetings; please let us know in advance if possible. If you have a HI-USA membership and live in our jurisdiction – receive this newsletter – **you are a council member.***

*We also encourage potential new Directors to contact us.
Next scheduled meeting: Contact us for location and details.*

Hostelling International USA, Central and Southern Ohio Council

Address: PO Box 41, Columbus, Ohio 43216

E-mail: ayh@netwalk.com

URL: <http://ayhcs.netwalk.com>

Board of Directors

President: Angela McFarland

Vice President: Phyllis South

Secretary: Jon Porter

Treasurer: Allan South
Matthew Heller

Contributors to this issue of Scioto Valley News

Brian Stettner (editor).

Barbara Dolezel, Angela McFarland, Anna Messinger, Allan South, Phyllis South.

Photos of HI-USA Hostels and web content courtesy of HI-USA and the Malabar Farm Foundation.

To renew your HI-USA membership, purchase a new HI-USA membership, or purchase HI-USA Directories, please call CSOC's Allan or Phyllis South at (614) 276-0447.

Newsletter delivered to your E-mail Inbox!

CSOC offers this newsletter in two formats: the familiar print version or a link to our on-line color PDF version in an e-mail sent to your e-mail address.

Additionally, you may completely cancel your subscription to this newsletter, although we hope you won't.

You will continue to receive the print version if you ask us to, or if we believe we do not have a valid e-mail address for you. Otherwise, you will receive an e-mail from us linking to our updated web site.

To change your format preference for receiving this newsletter, please e-mail a brief message to ayh@netwalk.com, subject = "Newsletter."

Hostelling International USA, Central and Southern Ohio Council
PO Box 41
Columbus, OH 43216-0041

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, OH
Permit No. 2609

2009 Hostelling Calendar Clearance Sale!

CSOC created a 2009 calendar that contains pictures and details of 12 fabulous HI-USA hostels. Imagine staying in a hostel that used to be a lighthouse or a hostel where every room contains a view of the Redwood National Forest!

We are selling remaining stock for \$5 per calendar, including shipping and handling. We accept checks, money orders, or cash as payment.

Money from calendar sales funds CSOC's educational programs, such as Cultural Kitchen, Travel 101, and Community Walls.

Mail the order form or contact Angela McFarland at (614) 353-4930.

You still have nine months to enjoy it - get your 2009 HI-USA calendar today!

2009 CSOC HI-USA Wall Calendar Ship-to name: _____

Shipping Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

\$5/calendar includes shipping & handling.

Amount enclosed: _____ Payment method : Check: ___ Money Order: ___ Cash: ___

Bill-to Phone Number: _____

Mail to: HI-USA, CSOC, PO Box 41, Columbus, OH 43216.