

## DAY OUTINGS

**Bear Run Nature Reserve**, 4 miles north of Ohiopyle on Route 381, lies along the west slope of the Laurel Ridge, facing the spectacular Youghiogheny River gorge. Over 20 miles of trails traverse an area of great natural diversity; the trails are suitable for day hikes and short backpacking trips. The reserve contains six primitive campsites as well as a group campsite. Also in Bear Run Nature Reserve is **Falling Water**, architect Frank Lloyd Wright's most widely acclaimed work. Bear Run drops in a waterfall below the home's main terrace. Reservations advised: Mill Run, PA 15464; (724) 329-8501.

Some ideas for a **Day Hike of Butler**:

Old Hospital, south end of Main St. Bridge

Jeep Marker at the rear of Diamond Park

The Butler County Court House is a fine example of the French Gothic Style of architecture; for tours, call (724) 285-4731.

Butler Eagle, 114 W. Diamond St.; (724) 282-8000

WBUT/WLER, 494 Sunset Drive; (724) 287-5778

WISR, 357 Main St.; (724) 283-1500

Police Headquarters, 124 W. North St.; (724) 287-7743

Fire Department, (724) 283-3100

the Mayor's Office, 287-5547

Little Red Schoolhouse, at the corner of south Cliff and Jefferson Sts., maintained by the Butler County Historical Society, Box 414; (724) 283-8116

Any questions regarding things to do in Butler County may be directed to the Butler County Travel and Convention Bureau, 100 North Main St., P.O. Box 1082, Butler, PA 16001; (724) 283-2222.

The **Drake Well Museum** near Titusville features a full-scale replica of the world's first oil well, drilled by Edwin L. Drake in 1859. The museum contains documents, photographs, and artifacts recording the early growth of the petroleum industry. RD 3, Titusville, PA 16354; (814) 827-2797. Fourteen miles from Drake Well Museum is **Pithole City**, the site of a famous oil boom town founded in 1865 and abandoned in 1867. Pithole City is off Rte 272 north of Plumer.

A good way for Scouts to see **Erie**, Pennsylvania's third largest city, is by following the **Erie Historical Trail**. A trail guide is available from French Creek Council BSA.

The **Flagship Niagara**, which was constructed in Erie, served as Commodore Perry's flagship in the victorious battle of Lake Erie against the British fleet on September 10, 1813. The ship is on view at 80 State Street; (814) 871-4596.

**Six-mile Creek Park** in Harborcreek, is a 250-acre park that remains totally in its natural state. The highlight of the park is the view of the deep Wintergreen Gorge.

The geological, biological and historical significance of Presque Isle make **Presque Isle State Park** an especially interesting place to visit. The park offers fishing, ice skating, hiking, boating, water skiing, as well as miles of beautiful beaches for swimming. Box 8510, Erie, PA 16505; (814) 871-4251.

**Exodus Experience** is a "Cope-style" facility run by the Bair Foundation north of New Wilmington. It features two 30-foot climbing towers and a 250-foot zip-line across a small pond. The experience includes activities of three kinds: cooperative group, group initiative, and high adventure. (724) 946-2838.

**Harmony** was settled by the Harmony Society, a religious community founded by George Rapp and his followers who came to America in 1803. The settlement under Father Rapp's direction chose celibacy as part of its life-style, which inevitably led to its demise. In 1815, the Harmonists moved to Indiana; in 1825 they returned to Pennsylvania and established the community of Ambridge (Old Economy). The **Harmony Museum** features memorabilia of the Harmonist Society including a huge wooden clock that is probably the oldest clock in the Western Hemisphere. (724) 452-7341

**Old Economy Village** was the third and last home of the Harmony Society. There are many interesting old buildings in this well-preserved settlement now operated by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. In Ambridge, 14th and Church Streets. (412) 266-4500.

**Jennings Environmental Education Center**, near the intersection of Rtes 8 and 173, is noted for its relict area of native prairie which sustains the beautiful prairie flower, the blazing star. This small prairie is one of the few remaining areas of a prairie that once stretched from the Rocky Mountains to the Appalachians. Weekend and evening programs are scheduled each month; special programs for groups, including snow shoeing in the winter, can be scheduled. RD 1, Slippery Rock, PA 16057; (724) 794-6011.

**Meadowcroft Village** is an old-time rural community of about 30 buildings, most of which have been brought from elsewhere. There are several log cabins and houses, a blacksmith shop, an old-time barber shop, trapper's cabin, blockhouse, smokehouse, and two country stores stocked with old-time goods. Near Avella, PA; (412) 587-3412.

**Todd Sanctuary**, on Kepple Road about 2 miles north of Cinema 356, is owned by the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania. The sanctuary offers the day-hiker 11 trails of quiet beauty within its 160 acres. A trail map is available at the Visitors Center. For information, call the society's office at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve. (412) 963-6100.

**Tour-Ed Mine**, located one mile from Rte 28 on Bull Creek Road in Tarentum, offers half-hour underground tours of the first mine in the Allegheny Valley and displays depicting the various phases of coal mining. RD 2, Tarentum, PA 15084; (412) 224-4720.

## **PITTSBURGH DAY HIKE**

Formerly there were two trail guides available for scout units - the Golden Trail guide distributed by Allegheny Trails Council and the Golden Triangle Historical Trail guide distributed privately. The former is out of date and the latter is out of print, but either will be helpful in planning a hike in downtown Pittsburgh. Three other valuable resources for planning a Pittsburgh outing are "Pittsburgh To Go" with maps, addresses, phone numbers and a calendar of events (Greater Pittsburgh Office of Promotion, Four Gateway Center, Suite 514, Pittsburgh, PA 15222); "A Walking Tour of Pittsburgh" which details 70 points of interest in the city (Pittsburgh Council for International Visitors, Room 263 Thackeray Hall, 139 University Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15260; (412) 624-7800); and "Pittsburgh in Your Pocket", a guide to over 60 buildings in and around Pittsburgh (call the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation at (412) 471-5808).

Call (412) 391-6840 for a recorded message of current happenings; questions about Pittsburgh may be directed to the Visitor Information Center at (412) 281-9222. For current Pittsburgh weather, call (412) 936-1212. Units may wish to use Pittsburgh's rapid transit system; for PAT information, call (412) 231-5707 or visit the PAT Service Center at 534 Smithfield Street.

Outlined below is a hike of downtown Pittsburgh that begins and ends at Flag Plaza. Each unit will, of course, wish to tailor a hike to its own abilities and interests. Other convenient starting points with parking nearby: Mellon Square Park, Three Rivers Stadium, Station Square, Monongahela Wharf.

1. **Flag Plaza Scout Center** is directly east of the Civic Arena on top of the hill above the Penn Central Railroad Station. Flag Plaza, which has the world's largest collection of American flag art and a duplicate of the Liberty Bell, stages a Historical Flag Ceremony each evening. Troops may take part in the flag ceremony and view the animated mural, "You Are The Flag" and the film, "Old Glory." The National Scout Shop in Flag Plaza stocks nearly everything in the

Official Boy Scout Catalog. For further information, tour guide arrangements or reservations for the Flag Ceremony, contact Flag Plaza, 1275 Bedford Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219; (412) 471-2927.

2. The **Civic Arena**, Washington Place at Center and Bedford Avenues, features a stainless steel retractable dome roof; it is the home of the Pittsburgh Penguins hockey team. If no show is in progress during daytime hours, a guard at Gate 2 will admit visitors. (412) 642-1800.

3. The **U.S. Steel Building** at Grant Street and 7th Avenue stands 64 stories high and is the tallest building between New York and Chicago. The building has ten triangular exposed columns (filled with water and antifreeze for stability) and exterior paneling of U.S. Steel.

4. **Federal Building**, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. The **Immigration and Naturalization Service** conducts naturalization ceremonies on the third Friday of every month beginning at 10 AM; Scouts may perform the Flag Ceremony. Call (412) 644-3356 at least three weeks in advance. **FBI** (tour and fingerprinting demonstration) (412) 471-2000; **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**, (412) 644-6924.

5. **Mellon Square Park** at Smithfield St. and 6th Avenue has fountains, walks, benches, trees, and thousands of flowers.

6. Sports junkies will enjoy the **Honus Wagner Company**, 320 Forbes Ave., which sells virtually every kind of sports equipment. Phone (412) 471-3045.

7. **Heinz Hall for the Performing Arts**, 600 Penn Avenue, is the home of the Pittsburgh Symphony; call (412) 392-4800 to make reservations for a guided tour. The adjacent **Heinz Hall Garden Plaza** has a granite waterfall and a water-powered sculpture.

8. The striking **PPG Place** near Market Square is covered by one million square feet of reflective silver insulating glass.

9. The **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**, 34 Blvd. of the Allies, offers a slide show and a tour of their building Wednesdays and Fridays; call (412) 263-1421 well in advance for reservations.

10. **KDKA** offers tours; write or call well in advance for information and reservations. One Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; (412) 392-2200.

11. Take the 6th St. Bridge across the Ohio River and walk through **Roberto Clemente Memorial Park** to **Three Rivers Stadium**, which offers a walking tour and a **Hall of Fame Museum**. Stadium Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; (412) 321-0780.

12. Take the Fort Duquesne Bridge to **Point State Park** at the confluence of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio Rivers. The park contains a computer-controlled fountain, the **Fort Pitt Blockhouse**, and the **Fort Pitt Museum**. Point State Park, Pittsburgh, PA 15222; (412) 281-9284.

13. From Fort Pitt Museum, walk up the ramp and cross the Monongahela River on the Fort Pitt Bridge, turn right on West Carson St. and proceed to the **Duquesne Incline**. Ride the incline to the top of **Mount Washington**. Walk along Grandview Avenue for a superb view of the city ending at the upper station of the **Monongahela Incline**. Ride the incline down to Station Square; both inclines require exact change. Incline information: (412) 381-1665.

14. **Station Square**, Southside at Smithfield Street Bridge, is a restoration of the old P & LE Railroad Station. It houses a shopping center and the Transportation Museum. The **Gateway Clipper Fleet** provides cruises of Pittsburgh's three rivers from its dock at Station Square as well as a shuttle to and from Three Rivers Stadium on evenings of Pirate games. (412) 355-7980.

15. Cross the Monongahela River on Pittsburgh's oldest bridge, the Smithfield Street Bridge. The **Allegheny County Court House**, Grant Street and 5th Avenue, has been called Pittsburgh's most outstanding architectural landmark. Passport Office, (412) 355-5770; County Sheriff, (412) 355-4700; general information, (412) 355-5410.