

THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

317 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20003



HIKANATION: A Sponsorship Proposal

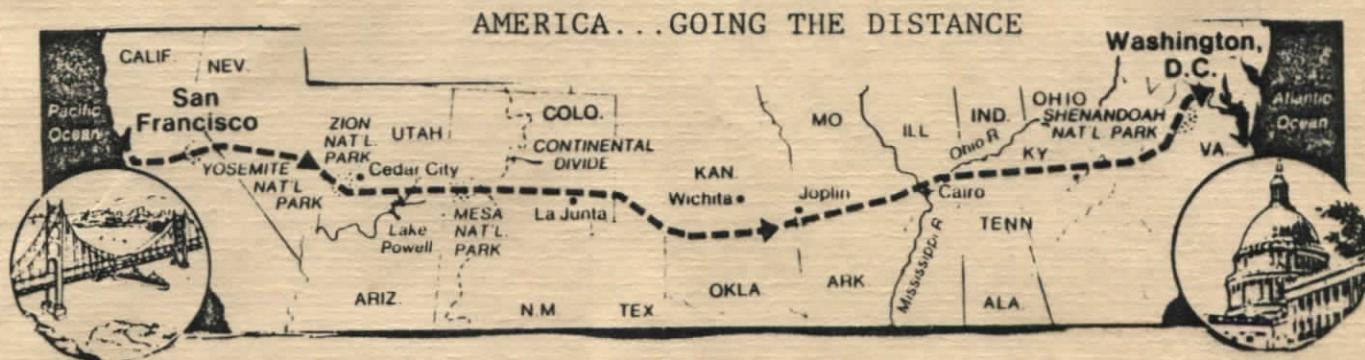
HikaNation is a thirteen-month, 4,500-mile walk across America organized by the American Hiking Society as the American people's expression of a unified America... going the distance.

The American Hiking Society is a national non-profit organization (IRS Chapter 501(c)3) formed to meet the needs of those who enjoy the natural world on foot. The Society and the U.S. Department of the Interior, the two sponsors to date, want to dramatize walking and hiking as the ideal low-energy form of recreation in a growing high-energy consumer society. But a corporate sponsor is needed to help fund this project.

Consider this: From the American Forest Institute by Opinion Research Corporation, December, 1977...

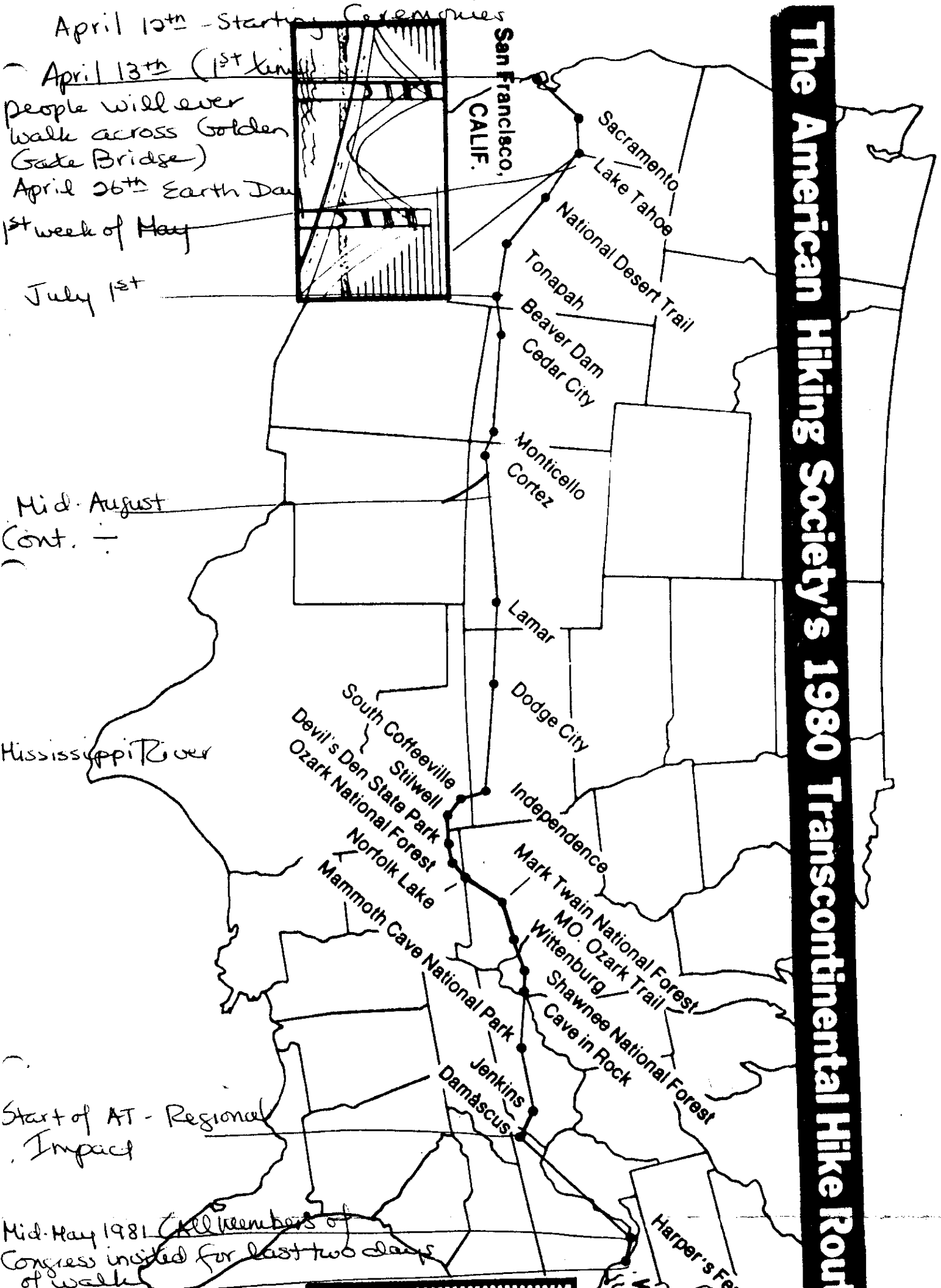
20% of the American public hiked on accessible trails in the last year.

Consider this: Simon & Schuster is advising its book salesmen that it expects hiking and walking to be the next national fad. As documented by the American Forest Institute, more people walk and hike on footpaths than play golf, play tennis, jog or go boating.



OFFICERS: James A. Kern, President; Thomas S. Deans, Vice President; William Kemsley, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer; Craig Evans, Executive Director. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Beverly Byron, Thomas S. Deans, Gudrun Gaskill, Jack Gilbert, William Kemsley, Jr., James A. Kern, Bjorn Kjellstrom, Henry Lautz, Louise Marshall. ADVISORY BOARD: Boyd Evison, Colin Fletcher, William J. Holman, William E. Rennebohm, David Richie.

The American Hiking Society's 1980 Transcontinental Hike Route



April 15th - Starting Ceremonies

April 13th (1st time)

people will ever walk across Golden Gate Bridge)

April 26th Earth Day

1st week of May

July 1st

Mid-August

Cont. -

Mississippi River

Start of AT - Regional Impact

Mid-May 1981 (All members of Congress invited for last two days of walk)

San Francisco, CALIF.

Sacramento
Lake Tahoe

National Desert Trail
Tonapah
Beaver Dam

Cedar City

Monticello
Cortez

Lamar

Dodge City

Independence
Mark Twain National Forest

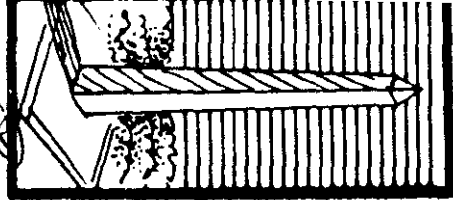
MO. Ozark Trail
Wittenburg
Shawnee National Forest

Cave in Rock

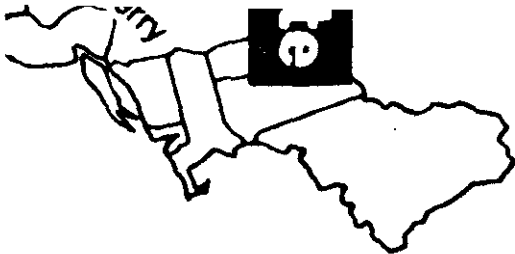
Jenkins
Damascus

Harper's Ferry

Final Ceremonies
president invited to re-
ceive hand-carved staff
carried across the
Nation as symbol of
America... going the distance
with microfilm of all hikers' names
enclosed



Washington,
D.C.



THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY 1980

HIKANATION

CROSS COUNTRY HIKE

According to the U.S. Forest Service, there were less than 1,000,000 hikers and backpackers using 325,000 miles of trail in 1945. Today, there are nearly 42,000,000 hikers and backpackers using 218,000 miles of trail. This increase of hikers and reduction of trails is apparently continuing today in spite of the fact that an energy crisis looms that will severely curtail the interest in high-energy forms of recreation.

The American Hiking Society believes that America and its elected representatives should wake up at once to these facts and encourage walking and hiking. To dramatize this need and the size of the hiking community, AHS has planned a dramatic hike from Golden Gate Park in San Francisco to the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C. The hike will begin in mid March, 1980 and end in the spring of 1981. Hiking clubs all along the proposed route are being alerted and will be involved in the hike. State coordinators for every state have already been selected and are finalizing the route through their state. Three thousand inquiries have been received about the hike to date, although publicity has been almost nil. The Sierra Club has volunteered to support the hike in the west, the Appalachian Trail Conference in the east. We expect huge numbers of people to depart Golden Gate Park and even larger numbers to make the last few miles of the hike into Washington, D.C.

The hike could not be more timely. The impending energy problems will turn our attention to low-energy forms of recreation. (See Appendix A). Several independent sources are predicting that walking and hiking will be the next national fad. Simon & Schuster is even advising its book salesmen that it expects this to happen and is preparing to market several new books on walking and hiking in 1980. A hike across America is just what America needs.

LEADERSHIP

The American Hiking Society is fortunate in having the services of Lawrence M. Montgomery in the execution of its 1980 HikaNation. "Monty" Montgomery is ideally qualified to serve as the Hike Coordinator for the entire project. His reasonable remuneration is reflected in the proposed budget which certainly indicates a strong desire on his part to make a contribution to an exciting idea.

His background of military service, of considerable time working with college students since his military retirement, and the fact that he is one of those few Americans who has hiked the entire length of the 2,035 mile Appalachian Trail, uniquely qualify him for the job he has offered to do.

Monty graduated from Western Illinois University with a B.S. in recreation and park administration. He also attended graduate school there from 1973 to 1975 doing further study in his field and in camping. Only his thesis needs to be completed for his Masters degree. He has been involved in the Boy Scout program much of his life as an adult leader, troop committeeman, district commissioner and camp commissioner. His interests include camping, hunting, target shooting, canoeing, nature study and backpacking.

James A. Kern has ultimate responsibility for the planning and execution of the hike as President of the American Hiking Society. In 1966 he founded the Florida Trail Association and built it to an organization of 5,000 members dedicated to building a footpath the length of Florida. Six hundred fifty miles of a proposed 1300 mile trail have been completed. He was President of FTA for its first nine years. During that time he organized a hike from southern Florida northward to the capitol in Tallahassee, following the route of the trail whenever possible. Hundreds of people took part in this activity. A scroll and hiking staff are now on display in the capitol as a testimony to this achievement.

Jim Kern is one of the original three founders of the American Hiking Society.

Kern graduated from Andover in 1952 and from Yale in 1956. He is a past trustee of the Museum of Science in Miami; past Board member of the Tropical Audubon Society, Miami; presently a Board member of the South Florida Council, Boy Scouts of America. He is a wildlife photographer and writer and is active in the south Florida real estate market. Kern is married and has three children.

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

The sponsor's product will be the official product of the walk across America, for the entire thirteen months. Every public relations release and every piece of printed material will state sponsorship. The corporate sponsor can create (with approval of AHS) a symbol of this sponsorship for distribution by American Hiking Society and may provide printed material (with approval of AHS) which will be distributed by HikaNation. (Example - flyer for envelope given to each hiker at Golden Gate Bridge.)

Expected news media coverage: National, state and local T.V., radio, newspapers, magazines...

Public officials: Public officials have been and will continue to be invited to participate as the hike proceeds through the state, county, city...Governors, Mayors, etc. are expected across the Nation, culminating the last two days at Harpers Ferry, where Congress will be invited to participate from Harpers Ferry to Washington, D.C. along the C&O Canal. Then, the President of the United States will be invited to receive the symbolic expression of a unified America...a hand-carved staff carried the entire walk across America, in which (by microfilm) all the participants of the hike will be listed.

Circulation reached through publications of organizations associating with the hike:

BOY SCOUTS through BOYS LIFE and EXPLORERS Magazines

BACKPACKER

Conservatively 186,000 subscribers and 639,840 readers. This figure is on increase under new ownership. Demographics: 54% married, 3.3 persons per household, 75% head of household, \$29,000 average household income, 66% reader response to survey, 73% discussed ad within one yr.

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

125,000 member subscribers.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

25,000 member subscribers.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE NEWS 80,000 member subscribers.

HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION SERVICES NEWSLETTER
(through their six regional offices)

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS ALUMNAE

The corporate sponsor will be listed at all times with the other two sponsors of the hike who are:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, U.S.

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

Other benefits will evolve as the planning stage continues right up to April 12th, the departure date, and throughout the hike. Monty Montgomery, the Hike Coordinator, can be counted on to provide local public relations effort in communities that lie ahead of the hikers. Regional and national public relations will be handled separately by the public relations advisor and the sponsor's own public relations firm.

BUDGET FOR DEPARTURE CELEBRATION - HIKANATION

Piper Band	\$ 500.00
Garbage Pickup	100.00
Stage, Banners, Mikes	500.00
Insurance bond	1000.00
Insurance-Bridge	4000.00
Bridge set-up	2000.00
Toilets	450.00
Printing	
Rules and Regulations	\$ 160.00
Certificate	300.00
AHS Brochure	260.00
T-shirt order form	50.00
	770.00
Envelopes	300.00
School Buses	280.00
Security Police	260.00
Posters	300.00
Answering Service	100.00
Telephone	1000.00
Travel Expenses -Montgomery & Kern	600.00
Postage	300.00
Public relations	
Miscellaneous	1200.00

PARTICIPANTS

Organizations

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY - A two and one half year old organization formed to represent the interests of the hiking community.

BOY SCOUTS - All local councils will be notified about the details of HikaNation by the national office in Dallas. The national office is not able to endorse HikaNation but will urge Scouts throughout the country to become involved in it. BOY'S LIFE and EXPLORERS magazines are expected to do stories on HikaNation.

SIERRA CLUB - A well-known conservation organization with headquarters in San Francisco, the city of our departure celebration. 125,000 members.

APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE - A conference of all organizations that build and maintain the Appalachian Trail. 80,000 members.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB - The oldest and largest hiking club in America, founded in 1878. 25,000 members.

THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS ALUMNAE - Representing the Youth Conservation Corps, a government program that puts young people to work in our national forests and parks. (No exact figure is available on the number of people who have worked in this program.)

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE - A division of the U.S. Department of the Interior, it provides planning and programs for the department. It is also providing support personnel for the hike as one of its sponsors.

BACKPACKER MAGAZINE - The preeminent magazine of hikers in this country has been supporting HikaNation since it was conceived over a year ago. It has 186,000 subscribers. It will give major coverage to the hike.

State Planners

California - Dr. Glenn Seaborg, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Nevada - Jean Beam, Jr., 1205 Palm Terrace, Las Vegas, NV 89106.

Utah - Gerald Evans, 2512 Cinnabar Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84121

Participants (con't.)

- Colorado - Gudrun Gaskill, 548 Pine Song Trail, Golden, CO 80401.
- Kansas - Stan Adamson, PO Box 595, Jetmore, KS 67854.
- Oklahoma - Robert Smith, Chouteau Lock and Dam #17, Porter, OK 74454.
- Arkansas - James Brown, MD, 6810 So. T Street, Ft. Smith, AK 72903.
- Missouri - Al Schneider, RR #5, Box 190, Jefferson City, MO 65101
- Illinois - S.A. Larsen, 3515 Vine Street, McHenry Shores, IL 60050.
- Kentucky - Ron Keal, RR #1, Box 152A, Rinneyville, KY 40162.
- Virginia - To be announced
- Virginia/AT - Appalachian Trail Conference affiliated clubs.
- C&O Canal/D.C. - Ed Garvey, 1015 Parker Street, Falls Church, VA 22046.

Special Contacts

- Bill Rennebohm - Outdoor Recreation Planner - Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service - Department of the Interior
- Craig Evans - Executive Director of AHS
- James Kern - President of AHS
- William Kemsley, Jr. - Chairman of AHS, Editor of Backpacker
- Lawrence Montgomery - Hike Coordinator
- Dr. Glenn Seaborg - Nobel laureate and past chairman of Atomic Energy Commission
- Beverly Byron - U.S. Congresswoman from Maryland- Board Member of AHS
- Ed Garvey - Author of Appalachian Hiker
- Mike McReynolds - Chairman, Departure Celebration
- Saralee Weintraub - Public Relations Advisor

CALENDAR FOR THE PLANNING STAGE

- April, 1979 - Final selection of all State Route Planners for the following states through which the hike will proceed: California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C.
- May, 1979 - Annual Meeting seminar on plans for the cross country hike. Final corridor selection, logo contest winner announced.
- July 1979 - State-led survey hikes over the proposed route.
August
- September, 1979 - Planning meeting in Berkeley, CA for March departure.
- October, 1979 - Final route selection.
- November
December 1979 - Discussions by state representatives with private land owners, governmental agencies concerning hike plans.
- December, 1979 - Complete plans for departure celebration,
January, 1980 invitations to dignitaries, etc.
- February, 1980 - Preparation of public relations kit for media.
- Mid April, 1980 - Beginning of hike.

APPENDIX "A"

Walking, hiking and backpacking are in the path of the future.

In a sales bulletin issued this spring, Simon & Schuster advised its sales people: "Walking may well be the next rage in this fad-ridden land." With fossil fuel becoming scarcer, and the costs of off-road vehicle operation on the rise, other companies are also predicting a surge in the popularity of walking, hiking and backpacking.

This is no surprise.

During the past ten years, the number of hikers and backpackers in the United States has increased more than tenfold. Winter camping, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing have also become increasingly popular during this decade.

A recent survey by the American Forest Institute shows that one out of every five Americans hiked on an accessible trail last year -- more people than jogged, played tennis, played golf, hunted or went boating -- while 11% of the population, or about 24 million people, backpacked on a remote trail. These figures (see report which follows) are confirmed by National Park Service estimates.

But an incredible fact is this: we have 33% fewer miles of usable foot trails than we did 25 years ago. The most recent statistics reveal there are presently 280,000 miles of trails in the U.S., compared with 325,000 miles in 1945. The bulk of these trails -- nearly 145,000 miles -- are on private lands. Of the rest, 30,000 miles are provided by state and local governments, 8,000 miles are contained in our national parks, and 97,000 miles are in the national forests and on Bureau of Land Management lands. But nearly 60% of all the trails on federal lands -- more than 62,000 miles -- have been allowed to deteriorate beyond their usefulness as trails!

A comparison with Europe is useful. West Germany is only half the size of Idaho, but has half as many miles of trail as the entire United States. England has an equivalent trail mileage, and it is smaller than Florida. Even tiny Luxembourg (the size of Rhode Island) has three miles of foot trail for every square mile of countryside.

APPENDIX "B"

The American Hiking Society was incorporated in Virginia in 1977 as a non-profit organization to provide a national voice for hikers. The founders of AHS adopted the following goals and objectives for the new association.

GOALS

1. To educate the public in appreciation of walking and the use of foot trails.
2. To provide for and protect the interests of hikers.
3. To encourage hikers to build and maintain foot paths.
4. To encourage others to enjoy the aesthetic and spiritual experience of hiking in the natural world.
5. To foster research related to the goals of the organization.

OBJECTIVES

1. To develop a set of standards for hiker education programs that stress respect for nature.

To encourage the development of hiker education programs built on these standards.

To promote the use of educational programs by government agencies, equipment manufacturers and suppliers, children's summer camps, outing organizations, and all other users of foot trails.

To encourage the development of educational materials.

2. To work with affinity groups to insure that hikers' interests are represented in responses to environmental issues.

To communicate the needs of walkers in land and resource management decisions to state and federal administrative agencies.

To establish close relationships with the private sector to insure the provision of hiking opportunities on private lands.

3. To provide information and awareness about existing hiking organizations.

To provide information and awareness about specific

governmental programs in which hikers can volunteer their services to build and maintain trails.

To foster the development of local hiking organizations to build and maintain trails where no such organization exists.

4. To provide information on quality outing programs offered by other organizations and outfitters.

To encourage the authorship of articles, books, films, photography, painting and other representations of the hiking experience.

5. To identify and make available existing research on the relationship of the hiker to the natural world and the impact of all users on the hiking environment.

To identify areas of need for further research.

To encourage research on areas of need.

In its first two years, the American Hiking Society has begun to constructively work toward achievement of most of these goals and objectives. For instance:

- A Board of Directors has been selected that brings together many of the top representatives of the U.S. hiking community.
- AHS played the leadership role in successful opposition to a proposed excise tax on backpacking and camping equipment that would have provided funds for projects unrelated to foot trails and their use.
- An AHS Director, the late Representative Goodloe Byron of Maryland, sponsored the Appalachian Trail Bill, which was signed into law by President Carter on March 21, 1978. The Bill, which provides \$90 million for the purchase of trail rights-of-way, is the first piece of legislation in the U.S. to: a)legally establish a permanent right-of-way for a trail, and b)protect that right-of-way from closure or diversion because of development.
- AHS published Volunteer Vacations' on America's Public Lands, a directory of volunteer work opportunities in the nation's forests and parks, the first such directory ever published. The book includes a foreward by President Carter who commends the AHS for its efforts to maintain and improve the national parks - an unusual distinction.
- The Society sent a representative to the October, 1978 European Ramblers Association meeting in Yugoslavia to:

Appendix "B" con't.

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- The Society sent a representative to the October, 1978 European Ramblers Association meeting in Yugoslavia to:

a)brief European groups on the AHS program, b)provide information on the status of trails and the opportunities for walking and backpacking in the U.S., c)engender a closer cooperation between U.S. and European trail groups, and d)explore the establishment of formal ties between the AHS and major European hiking organizations.

--The AHS compiled a status report on the 23 proposed trails that are under study by the U.S. Department of Interior for designation as National Scenic Trails, a report that was picked up by Associated Press and released to the nation's press on May 18, 1989.

--The Society hired an Executive Director and opened an office in Washington, D.C.

--The Society established four standing committees, staffed entirely by volunteers, to oversee: a)short- and long-range planning, b)education, c)membership growth, and d)monitor state and federal legislation.

--The Board of Directors and Advisory Board began the challenging task of setting organizational priorities and of raising required financial resources.

Still, this is a mere beginning.

"APPENDIX C"



American Forest Institute, 1619 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

research recap

December, 1977

Number 10

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AND ATTITUDES TOWARD WILDERNESS—1977

Opinion Research Corporation
Princeton, New Jersey

I. DESCRIPTION

This study was undertaken to measure attitudes toward forest-related recreation vs. development, especially as these attitudes relate to wilderness.

The public survey covered a range of subjects. A parallel study of Washington thought leaders compared attitudes toward National Forests with those held by the public.

The survey, conducted in September, 1977, consisted of interviews with 2,000 members of the general public and 100 Washington, D.C., thought leaders.

In interpreting figures, it must be emphasized that attitudes, not facts, were measured: one in five Americans believe they have visited wilderness areas. True or not, that's a political reality.

It also must be remembered that because 20 percent want more campsites does not mean that 80 percent do not. It is necessary to consider how strongly that 20 percent feels and how effective it might be in the political area.

II. GENERAL SUMMARY

Overall, there was the predictable confusion over the precise definition of statutory wilderness. Wilderness is whatever an individual believes it is. There also were many ambiguous terms: "remote" trails, for example, were simply secluded to most urban respondents. In general, it appears that there is substantial public anxiety about a perceived shortage of *available* wilderness. The city dweller is not aware that many areas that would satisfy his wilderness criteria are available near at hand and automatically supports any proposal he believes will relieve his anxiety.

■ One in five said they had hiked on "accessible" trails in the last year; one in ten in "remote" areas. "Developed" campsites drew 20 percent, "remote" campsites 11 percent. More people expect to participate in each activity in the next year, with by far the largest growth expected in "remote" camping.

■ Generally, the public knows that wilderness areas are different from parks or

other recreation sites, and knows what the differences are. Overall, however, the differences don't appear to be overly important. Of those who expressed an opinion, 48 percent said they would not object to "some development" in wilderness areas; 38 percent would object. Here, again, the emphasis was on a recreational experience, not a pure "wilderness" experience.

■ Only 7 percent say there is "too much" wilderness and 32 percent say "too little." (Males 18-29 in age say "too little" by 51 percent. Overall, 46 percent say "about right," but it would be erroneous to believe this group would oppose new wilderness areas; this simply is an expression of satisfaction.)

■ Among the 7 percent who say there is "too much" wilderness, economic reasons are most important. The argument that "only a few benefit" from wilderness areas appeals to only 3 percent of this already small group. These percentages (who accept the "elitist" argument) probably are too small to have any significance, but 11 percent of nonwhites say "too much," against 7 percent for whites.

■ Those who answer "too little" responded in several ways, all reflecting concern that wilderness and wildlife habitat are being lost to development and population pressures. (This parallels concern found among the leadership in other surveys.)

■ Picnic areas (36 percent) and campgrounds (35 percent) are about equal in leading the list of facilities the public believes should be expanded. Bicycle trails and accessible hiking trails (both 31 percent) are next, followed by beaches and remote hiking trails (both 29 percent) and construction of remote huts and shelters (26 percent). The rankings are about the same for all demographic groups, except among the 18-29 age group, where remote hiking trails vastly outrank everything else.

■ Non-whites, who are virtually excluded from forest-related recreation, have slightly different expansion goals, but remote hiking outranks more accessible facilities even here.

More Support for Preservation

After an explanation, both the public and Washington leaders were offered a choice:

"... increase the yield and sales of timber from our National Forests or ... preserve these trees in their natural state?"

	Public %	Leadership %
INCREASE TIMBER SALES	28	36
PRESERVE TREES	62	38
NO OPINION	10	7
BOTH		10
OTHER (*see below)		9

Following another explanation, the same groups were asked if they favored an increase in timber sales to provide money for road expansion and more public access to National Forests.

	Public %	Leadership %
FAVOR	29	15
OPPOSE	57	69
NO OPINION	14	3
OTHER (*see below)		8

*In both questions, there was criticism of the explanation and the nomenclature from the leadership. Some was of the same type encountered in other surveys: industry often is accused of perverting the definition of multiple use. For example, industry uses "multiple use" to mean available for logging, when that often is the only use prohibited on some land described as "single use."

Public Wants Nearby Facilities

The public appears to be marginally inclined toward more developed recreation, and strongly inclined toward sites nearby.

The public is nearly indifferent to the idea of "vast." However, other surveys show the public is unconcerned about a timber shortage and does not believe that the interests of the forest industry and themselves are the same.

Support for "bigger" wilderness really is support for more recreation sites that are available for desirable activities. New proposals are automatically endorsed because the principle is popular.

Little Support for Timber

It is obvious that opposing wilderness or other set asides on the basis of lost timber-growing potential has no appeal to the public.

Opinion Research Corporation, in a preliminary evaluation of the study results, had this to say:

"We do not find sufficient latent support among the American people to warrant a mass communications program to increase

(A) Which of these activities have you participated in during the last 12 months?

(B) Which of these activities do you expect to participate in during the next 12 months?

	Total Public		Total Public	
	% Question A	% Question B	% Question A	% Question B
DRIVING FOR PLEASURE	58	55		
WALKING FOR PLEASURE	56	52		
SIGHTSEEING	50	46		
SWIMMING	43	40		
PICNICKING	42	39		
INDOOR SPORTS	42	42		
OUTDOOR SPORTS	41	38		
ATTEND SPORTS	38	39		
FISHING	32	32		
NATURE WALKS	27	28		
BICYCLING	26	27		
OUTDOOR DRAMA, CONCERTS	22	24		
CAMPING, DEVELOPED	20	21		
HIKING: ACCESSIBLE TRAILS	19	20		
TENNIS	17	19		
JOGGING	17	17		
CANOEING/SAILING/ROWING	14	16		
POWER BOATING	14	13		
HUNTING	13	14		
CAMPING: REMOTE	11	14		
GOLF	11	12		
MOTORCYCLE/TRAIL BIKE RIDING	11	10		
HIKING/BACKPACKING: REMOTE TRAILS	10	11		
ICE SKATING	9	12		
SLED/TOBOGGAN	9	11		
WATER SKIING	8	9		
HORSEBACK RIDING: ACCESSIBLE TRAILS	6	7		
4-WHEEL, OFF-ROAD	6	6		
DOWNHILL SKIING	5	8		
HORSEBACK RIDING: REMOTE TRAILS	5	6		
MOUNTAIN CLIMBING	5	6		
SNOWMOBILE				
RACING	4	5		
RAFTING	3	4		
AERIAL ACTIVITIES	3	4		
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	2	3		
NONE	8	9		

public support for greater timber harvesting on federal lands.

"Instead, since this issue is perceived more rationally and with greater expertise among Washington thought leaders, we recommend that your persuasive efforts be directed toward this target audience, among others.

"One factor seems to cut both ways in the arguments on this issue: U.S. population pressure. On the one hand, this is seen as a reason to set aside even more wilderness for future generations. On the other hand, it can become a cogent argument for providing access now to areas which can offer recreational opportunities to people who already live in

crowded surroundings.

"The forest industry and its trade associations might consider a public communications program advocating greater federal activity in setting aside forests for recreation and preservation in the more heavily populated areas of the country, such as the pine barrens of southern New Jersey, and diverting future federal activity away from the spacious western areas already set aside."

In whatever course the industry takes, it is obvious that the effort will have to be long term, and that it must recognize the needs felt by the public as well as the needs of the economy.

Which of these kinds of national recreational facilities do you think should be expanded?

	Total Public	18-29	City	Non-White
PICNIC AREAS	36	36	36	35
CAMPGROUNDS	35	40	34	30
BICYCLE TRAILS	31	42	32	24
ACCESSIBLE HIKING TRAILS	31	40	31	17
BEACHES	29	36	32	27
REMOTE HIKING, BRIDLE	29	45	29	18
REMOTE HUTS/SHELTERS	26	28	24	15
HOTEL/MOTEL/COTTAGE	16	12	16	18
EASILY REACHED: BRIDLE PATHS	14	20	15	12
RESTAURANTS	12	10	13	15
MOTORBIKE TRAILS	9	15	11	7
POWERBOAT MARINAS	6	8	6	5
NONE	7	5	7	9
DON'T KNOW	12	4	11	18

Appendix D

Backpackers finally have a national organization dedicated to looking out for their interests—

THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

BY WILLIAM KEMSLEY, JR.

SHORTLY AFTER BACKPACKER started publishing in 1973, I began to get mail from readers urging me to help start a national hikers' organization. But why start another when there were already so many? Well, conservation organizations such as the Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society are so embroiled in broad environmental issues that they don't have much time for narrower issues of special interest to hikers. For instance, when the National Trails Bill was introduced in Congress, virtually no conservation organizations aided it. The Sierra Club was asked to testify, but a spokesman said the club had higher priorities.

Generally, hiking clubs do an excellent job of looking out for hikers' interests on the local level. But there have been few efforts on the national scene, except when hikers' interests coincide with broader conservation objectives, like setting aside wilderness lands.

A few people actually started organizations, but they were unable to attract active boards of directors and sufficient members to become real national forces. Despite their energies and good intentions, none of these organizations seemed to have the rare combination of circumstances needed to achieve national leadership.

In 1975 I got to know James A. Kern and Paul Pritchard. Jim was the founder of the Florida Trail Association, whose 6,000 members had built 500 miles of trail. Paul was then the new executive director of the Appalachian Trail Conference. Whenever we met, we found

ourselves talking about the need for a national hiking organization.

Later that year, I asked Jim if he'd be willing to take on the responsibility of founding such a thing, and

he immediately agreed he would.

It took him a couple of months to clear away other business, but once he began, Jim moved fast. In April, 1976, he called Paul and me to a meeting in Brevard, North Carolina, in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. For three days Jim worked us hard, systematically raising points that each of us felt important to the establishment of an effective national organization. The outcome was the draft plan of The American Hiking Society: a set of bylaws, a list of goals, and a step-by-step program of how to go about building the society.



Photo: William Kemsley III

Jim Kern, American Hiking Society president, and William Kemsley, Jr., chairman of the AHS board, hold an informal business meeting (above) on top of Mount Madison in New Hampshire. Below, two of the founders of the AHS, Paul Pritchard and Jim Kern, at the Kern camp on Fish Eating Creek in central Florida.



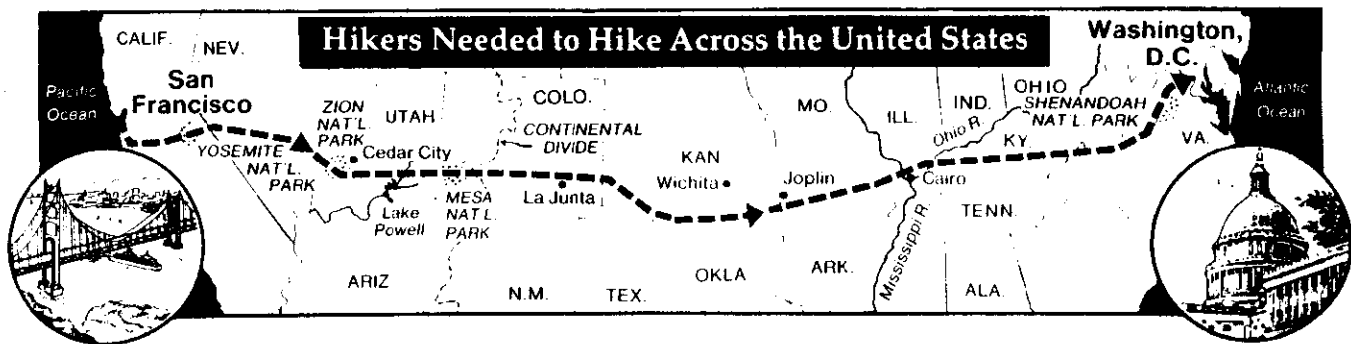
Photo: William Kemsley, Jr.

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS to be done was to put together a board of directors to get the organization off first base. We wanted them to be leaders in the hiking community. It took a fair amount of persuasion to convince them to join the board, for they are all busy people. But we now have an excellent group:

- Louise Marshall is the founder of *Signpost Magazine*, a hikers' newspaper in the Pacific Northwest. She is the author and publisher of many books on backpacking, including a number of trail guides. She has been active in conservation organizations, and she is executive vice-president of Recreation Equipment, Inc.

- Goodloe E. Byron is a congressman from Maryland as well as a hiker and runner. He recently authored the Appalachian Trail Bill, the first legislation enacted by Congress to earmark a significant amount of money for hiking trails.

- Tom Deans is the executive director of the Ap-



The American Hiking Society needs hikers from all parts of the U.S. to join in a cross-country hike to dramatize the lack of sufficient hiking trails. The San Francisco-to-Washington, D.C., hike begins in March, 1979. For more information, write to: AHS, 1489 South Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33130.

palachian Mountain Club, the largest hiking organization in the U.S.

- **Bill Ruskin** founded the National Hiking and Ski Touring Association (NAHSTA). He was instrumental in merging NAHSTA with The American Hiking Society to create a more forceful organization. He also founded the Volunteer Conservation Corps, which, under his aegis, AHS will expand into a national volunteer trails organization.

- **Bjorn Kjellstrom**, an avid hiker, orienteer, and ski tourer, is the founder and president of the Silva Company.

- **Gudrun Gaskill**, president of the Colorado Mountain Club, is a recent addition to the board. A backpacker and mountaineer, she has climbed extensively with her husband and children in Colorado, Alaska, and abroad.

Employees of government agencies whom we asked to be on the board were enthusiastic, but felt that, because of their positions in government, they could not serve in official capacities. Instead, they agreed to be advisors:

- **Boyd Evison** is the superintendent of Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

- **Dave Richie** is the manager of the Appalachian Trail Project for the National Park Service.

- **Bill Holman** is national trails supervisor for the U.S. Forest Service.

- **Colin Fletcher**, author of *The New Complete Walker*, joined us as an advisor.

Jim Kern became AHS president, and I am currently chairman of the board of directors.

After President Carter's election, Paul Pritchard was appointed deputy director for programming of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Ser-

vice (formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation) of the Department of the Interior, so he moved to the AHS advisory board. Replacing him as a director is Jack Gilbert, executive vice-president of The North Face.

IN DECEMBER, 1976, the formation of The American Hiking Society was announced through an advertisement in *BACKPACKER* Magazine. In the spring of 1977, the first membership campaign was launched. The response was encouraging. Between the ad and the mailing, AHS acquired its first

issue. So AHS called a conference in May, 1977, at the Potomac Appalachian Trail Conference headquarters in Washington, D.C. Twenty-three people attended, including representatives from *Wilderness Camping Magazine*, the Potomac Appalachian Trail Association, the Appalachian Trail Conference, the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Adirondack Mountain Club, the Boy Scouts, and many conservation organizations.

Attendees were provided with resource material on different kinds of recreational taxes—licenses, fees, permits, excise taxes—and the implications of each. In a few hours we had a cram course on taxation.

A follow-up session was scheduled to coincide with the National Trails Council meeting at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, last September. The second conference attracted 26 people, many from the same organizations, plus a few others. They voted unanimously to oppose any tax on hikers unless it would directly aid hikers.

When Congressman Barber B. Conable introduced his bill (H.R. 10915) calling for an 11 percent excise tax on such items as sleeping bags, tents, backpacking stoves, and sleeping pads, AHS was ready. We phoned Congressman Conable's office and those

of the committee members hearing testimony on the bill. We wrote letters to conservation organizations that were supporting the bill. We persuaded the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association to oppose it. We talked to other hiking organizations. Finally, we got the bill withdrawn. *For the time being.*



During the summer of 1977, Jim Kern toured the United States to meet with leaders of hiking organizations. In Lynnwood, Washington, he discusses his route with AHS board member Louise Marshall.

thousand members.

Among the first issues AHS tackled, despite the embryonic stage of its development, was that of a hikers' tax. Such a tax was proposed in various forms by several congressmen.

Little was known about the implications of the tax or what the rest of the hiking community thought about the

"APPENDIX E"

The American Hiking Society...

for those who enjoy the natural world on foot.

If you enjoy walking on soft earth and fallen leaves, if you come alive with a face full of wind while treading a ridgeline, if you are at home with a pack on your back and no one else in sight, there are some things you should know. You are among the people most neglected by our representative system of government. More importantly, there has been no organization of national

Photo: William Kemsley, Jr.



influence seeking to educate the public in the pleasures of hiking and the use of foot trails. There has been no national organization effectively promoting research in what things hikers enjoy, who they are, or where they go. And there has been no national organization effectively promoting educational programs to reach the millions of people who have only recently discovered the pleasures of walking, hiking, backpacking, snowshoeing and ski-touring. *The American Hiking Society* is for those who want to see these things changed.

Just how neglected is today's hiker? There are ten million of us without the kind of voice we need. Sixteen years ago, Congress set up the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission to evaluate the needs of U.S. outdoorsmen. In the Commission's exhaustive report is the following statement: "It is something of a tribute to Americans that they do as much cycling and walking as they do, for very little has been done to encourage these activities, and a good bit, if inadvertently, to discourage them." Things have gotten worse since then. America has only about 100,000 miles of trail, less than one yard per citizen. If all the hikers got on the trails at the same time they could hold hands. And now that fire fighting utilizes airplanes, helicopters and trucks, one of the main reasons for having trails has disappeared and total trail mileage probably is declining. Urban sprawl, the interstate highway system and the growth of airports also are responsible for eliminating many of the unofficial and unmaintained paths that used to surround our cities and towns.

Hiking appeals to everyone. Studies by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation show that hikers are about evenly divided between men and women. Hiking is a family affair; it is a challenge for the rugged individualist and an opportunity for the elderly, too.

Other studies by BOR indicate that hiking will grow tremendously in the years ahead. Will sufficient land be set aside for trails? Will government be responsive to the



Photo: Kenn Petsch

needs of hikers? Will hikers themselves be properly educated in the use of foot trails? An effective national organization can help see that these questions are answered properly.

Here are the goals of The American Hiking Society

1. To educate the public in the appreciation of walking and the use of foot trails.
2. To provide for and protect the interests of hikers.
3. To encourage hikers to build and maintain footpaths.
4. To encourage others to enjoy the esthetic and spiritual experience of hiking in the natural world.
5. To foster research related to these goals.

Benefits of Membership

The American Hiking Society will not be a one-way street. You will receive many benefits of membership—as well as knowing that you are furthering the interests of hiking and backpacking in America.

Among the benefits you will receive:

- **Newsletter.** You will receive a quarterly newsletter describing out-of-the-way places to hike, trail conditions, new products and legislative news of interest to hikers.
- **Deadheading Service.** Through members of the society, you will be offered a deadheading service enabling you to get from bus, train or airlines terminal to the trailhead in areas where you plan to hike.
- **Insurance.** As a benefit of membership, you will receive an insurance policy which will include special benefits for people in the outdoors.
- **Decal.** Your official decal of the American Hiking Society will be provided upon joining. It will identify your vehicle when parked on American Hiking Trust lands.
- **Membership Card.** Your membership card in the society will entitle you to all privileges of membership that will be developed in the future, so long as your dues are current.



Photo: Lionel A. Atwill



Photo: David Sumner



Photo: Kenn Petsch



to hike and backpack on outstanding scenic lands which will be set aside for exclusive use of hikers and be closed altogether to trail bikes and snowmobiles. These lands will be located adjacent to and provide backdoor access to some of America's most outstanding national parks, forests and wilderness areas. The first of these properties has already been acquired. It is located adjacent to the Flathead National Forest, about a mile west of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and just a few miles south of Glacier National Park in Montana.

• **Privilege of Doing Something.** By joining *The American Hiking Society* you can have the privilege of knowing that you have done something important to help preserve hiking opportunities in America. This is the most important benefit of all. For it will benefit not just you and the other hikers of today—but all future generations of hikers, as well.



Photo: Ruth Smiley



Photo: William Kemsley, Jr.

The American Hiking Society

1255 Portland Place
Boulder, CO 80302

YES count on me. I want to be a member of *The American Hiking Society*. My \$15 dues for the current year will be paid as follows:

- Bill me.
- I'd rather pay now and save AHS the expense of billing me.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

I would like to volunteer the following services:



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TRAIL STUDIES PROGRESS

Most hikers are generally aware that Congress passed a National Trails Systems Act in 1968 in an effort to preserve the Appalachian Trail and that this act set up a mechanism to study other proposed trails for possible inclusion into a nationwide trails system; but beyond that most hikers are not well-informed on the progress of the study bills and how they, as private citizens, could help in the study process. AHS wants to keep its members better informed on these matters so hikers themselves can effectively be a part of the process.

The National Trails Systems Act provided for eminent domain, the power to condemn property, to preserve the continuity of the AT. None of the other proposed trails have been provided with this power. Fourteen other trails were proposed, however, for study. A progress report on these studies follows:

1. Continental Divide Trail. The completed study stated that this proposed 3100 mile trail did qualify for National Scenic Trail designation. The general corridor of the trail was established last October by act of Congress. The Secretary of Agriculture now has two fiscal years to come up with a development and maintenance plan for the trail.

2. Potomac Heritage Trail. A favorable report has been completed, but no legislation has been introduced. Apparently, there is opposition to the idea of this trail in the northern neck of Virginia.

3. Cattle Trails of the Southwest. While the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR) was still in existence, it determined that these trails did not qualify for National Scenic Trail designation. (The BOR has been replaced by the Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service - HCRS.)

4. Lewis & Clark Trail. While this trail was being studied, the National Trails System Act was amended on November 10, 1978 by Public Law 95-625 establishing an Historic Trails category. This designation developed out of a need to preserve remnants of historic trails in areas where footpaths might not be appropriate. Four trails in particular, including the Lewis & Clark Trail, were given a new life by this designation because they probably would not have qualified as National Scenic Trails. Two fiscal years have been allowed the Park Service to develop a management plan for the Lewis & Clark, the Oregon and the Mormon trails. The Bureau of Land Management must devise a similar plan for the Iditarod trail in Alaska within the same two years. A word about each of these trails: The Lewis & Clark Trail is proposed to be 3700 miles long. The

journey was made mostly by river, hence the legitimacy of a footpath was questioned, but historical markers along the route would describe the journey. The Oregon Trail is approximately 2000 miles long and runs from Independence, MO to Portland, OR. The Mormon Trail begins in Navoo, IL and ends in Salt Lake City, UT, approximately 1300 miles. The actual trail is mostly under highways and the study will probably recommend a marked route with only historical significance. The Iditarod Trail extends from Seward to Nome, Alaska, and is 2000 miles in length.

5. Nachez Trace. This 450 mile trail from the vicinity of Nashville, TN to Nachez, MS has been studied. A report is now out for review by the various federal agencies involved. If you want detailed information about this trail contact: Joe Brown, NPS, SE Regional Office, 1895 Phoenix Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30349.

6. North Country Trail. The Park Service study is complete and states that this trail qualifies for National Scenic Trail designation. Bills have been introduced in both houses of Congress to establish this trail: House Bill #1307 and Senate Bill #683. To support the passage of these bills write: Congressman Phillip Burton, Chairman House Subcommittee on National Parks & In-sular Affairs, Room 1522, Longworth Building, 20515 and Senator Dale Bumpers, Senate Subcommittee Chairman; Parks, Recreation and Renewable Resources; Room 3102, Dirksen Building; 20510. You should also write your own state's Congressmen and Senators. This trail is proposed through public lands in seven states. No organized opposition to the bills exists. For additional information write: Lance Feild, IBA, PO Box 85, Lincoln Center, ME 04458.

7. Kittanning Trail. The BOR determined that this trail did not qualify.

8. Oregon Trail. Created by Public Law 95-625 (see the Lewis & Clark Trail #4 above).

9. Santa Fe Trail. The BOR determined that this trail also did not qualify.

10. Long Trail. This trail also did not qualify, primarily because private citizens in Vermont, from the Governor down, did not want it. They felt the trail was receiving too much use and was nearing capacity, and they did not want the extra recognition.



*Clearing Brush Along the
Florida Trail*

11. Mormon Trail. Created by Public Law 95-625 (see Lewis & Clark Trail #4 above.)

12. The Gold Rush Trails. A numerous and diverse number of trails were eliminated and a single trail, the Iditarod, was created by Public Law 95-625 (see Lewis & Clark Trail #4 above.)

13. Mormon Battalion Trail. The study on this trail was completed by the BOR and it was found not to qualify. The route to California was a tortuous one. Narrow ledges were chiseled in the sides of steep mountains and wagons were disassembled and carried across in pieces. This one-time expedition was not deemed to be in the

same category as other historic trails although the physical accomplishment of it was immense.

14. El Camino Real Trail. The BOR determined that this trail did not qualify for National Scenic Trail designation.

The National Trails Systems Act created a vehicle whereby other trails could be proposed for study for National Scenic Trail designation and over several years, numerous trails were proposed for such study. On October 17, 1976 Public Law 94-527 was passed authorizing the study of nine additional trails. A status report on these follows:

15. Bartram Trail. A report on the proposed 1900 mile Bartram Trail is presently out for review by agencies and by the public. The final report is due by the end of May. We understand that the report is negative for National Scenic Trail designation. Bartram Trail Associations in several states have worked hard to make this trail a reality. According to Martha McInnis, editor of EnviroSouth magazine and Chairman of the eight-state Bartram Trail Conference, the Conference will seek National Historic Trail designation. For more information, write the Bartram Trail Conference, 3815 Interstate Court, Suite 202, Montgomery, AL 36109. They need your support.

16. Daniel Boone Trail. This proposed trail is 350 miles long. Remnants of this Wilderness Road still exist in Kentucky. The study has not yet been started.

17. Desert Trail. This proposed 2000 mile trail runs north and south east of the Sierras, thence east through southern Idaho to the Continental Divide Trail. Short sections of the trail already exist. A 100-foot-wide corridor is contemplated where hikers would walk as they pleased, reducing damage to the ecology. Desert Trail Associations have been formed in Oregon and California. While there is no organized opposition to the trail, the constituency promoting it is small. For more information about the proposed route contact: Russell Pengelly, Desert Trail Association, PO Box 589, Burns, OR 97720 or Darrel Tomer, 2020 Berwick, Cambria, CA 93428.

18. Dominquez-Escalante Trail. The study of this proposed 2000 mile trail is just beginning. There appears to be no organized opposition to this trail, and there is some local support. Handling this study for the Park Service is Eugene Duhamel, Denver Service Center, NPS, PO Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225. 303-234-6241.

19. Florida Trail. Construction of the Florida Trail began in 1966. Of a proposed 1300 mile trail, 500 miles have been built by volunteers through the Florida Trail Association. Public hearings have been held. Workshops are being scheduled now. Some opposition by private landowners concerning federal government interference has been expressed. The Park Service person responsible for the study is Bob Fiore, US Department of the Interior, NPS, SE Regional Office, 1895 Phoenix Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30349. The Florida Trail Association is strongly in favor of preserving the right-of-way for posterity in one form or another. For information write to FTA at PO Box 13708, Gainesville, FL 32604.

20. Indian Nations Trail. This proposed 200 mile trail has had only pre-

liminary studies by the Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service (HCRS). No new trail has been built. Remnants, possibly 20 miles long, may exist. Work on this study is to begin this month. For information on government progress of the study, contact Bart Young, Denver Service Center, NPS, PO Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225. For more information on how you can support the concept of this trail, contact Bob Farris, Oklahoma Trails Association, 2811 E. 22 Street, Tulsa, OK 74114. 918-747-4836.

21. Nez Perce Trail (Nee-me-poo). This proposed 1350 mile trail is being studied right now by the Northern Region, US Forest Service and the Denver Service Center, NPS. Study leaders are Ray Thompson (USFS) and Gene Balaz (NPS). The trail follows the route taken by the Nez Perce Indians under Chief Joseph during their historic retreat from the US Army as described in the March, 1977 issue of National Geographic. The Appaloosa Horse Club, PO Box 403, Moscow, ID 83843 is promoting the trail.

22. Pacific Northwest Trail. This proposed 1200 mile trail would run from Glacier National Park in Montana to Olympic National Park in Washington. The trail study is being conducted by Stan Young at the NPS and Don Warman at USFS, both in the Northwest Regional Offices. The PNWT Association is promoting the trail. Their address is PO Box 1048, Seattle, Washington 98111. Seven town meetings have been held along the proposed route, which has been hiked end-to-end by Signpost editor Janet Garner and others. Oddly, some conservationists have opposed the trail because of certain fragile alpine ecologies in the vicinity of the proposed route, although no final route selection has yet been made. For more information about how you can support this trail contact Ron Strickland at the PNWT address or direct letters of support to Russell Dickenson, Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, Fourth & Pike Building, Seattle, WA 98101.

23. Overmountain Victory Trail. This proposed 300 mile trail would begin at Elizabethtown, TN and extend to Kings Mountain, NC. No study has yet been initiated, but work is to start at the end of April. No study coordinator has yet been assigned, but a local group has formed an organization to promote the trail. For information contact Thomas Gray, The Overmountain Victory Trail Association, Rt #8 - Box 48, Elizabethtown, TN 37643. 615-542-8756. The trail retraces the rebellious colonists route from Tennessee to North Carolina to fight the British. An annual reenactment of this march takes place each October, largely over roads.

VCC NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Kay Beebe, our VCC Coordinator, will be at the Annual Meeting (see details on page five). She's got several groups put together to work on public lands as a "volunteer vacation", and she has a few spaces open for any latecomers who would like to sign up. To inquire, contact Kay immediately at 116 Captain Peirce Road, Scituate, MA 02066. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for an application.

AHS T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE NOW!

We are walking around here with very smart-looking tan T-shirts on: dark brown collar and arm border and dark brown printing that says "AHS The American Hiking Society". If you would like one or more, send \$5.50 (postage included) for each shirt to 18600 SW 157 Avenue, Miami, FL 33187. Be sure and tell us your size.

ANNUAL MEETING "HIKE-IN"

Our Second Annual Meeting has developed into our First Annual "Hike-In", an exciting, educational schedule of events for the weekend of May 18, 19 & 20 at Prince William Forest Park in Triangle, VA. Steve Doyle and a group of loyal, hard-working AHS members in the Washington area have done a superb job of arranging details. Here is the program they've set up:

7:30 pm. Friday, May 18 - Informal get-together: Welcome by Jim Kern, AHS President, and the Board of Directors.

Saturday May 19th will be a very full day:

9:30 am. - Seminars on Wildlife Photography, Orienteering, and Clothing and Sleeping Bag Insulation.

11:15 am. - Discussion and more seminars on Advanced Backpacking, Gourmet Trail Cooking and Fun Things for the Backpack.

2:00 pm. - Becoming Effectively Involved in Political Action and National Trails Systems Planning seminars.

3:15 pm. - Developing Volunteerism in Local Clubs, Developing and Producing your Club Publication programs.

4:30 pm. Carving the Pacific Northwest Trail and the AHS Cross-Country Hike.

Your registration fee will include the Saturday evening dinner. The annual business meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. William Kemsley, Jr., editor and publisher of Backpacker, will be the featured speaker after the meeting. He will be followed by Richard Kern, noted Audubon and National Geographic lecturer, with a film on the Secret World of the Big Cypress.

Sunday we'll have a manufacturer's show and the Board of Directors meeting will begin at 10:00 am.

MONTY AT "HIKE-IN"

A lot of people are getting excited about our Cross-Country Hike from the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco to the Washington Monument. Monty Montgomery, our Hike Coordinator, will be talking shop all weekend with people interested in the details. Some important Hike decisions will be made by the group that gathers at his seminar.



"Monty" Montgomery
Hike Coordinator

THE "AHS MEMBERS' ONLY APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKE

Hiking enthusiasts, whether members of AHS or not, are being invited to our Annual "Hike-In" because we think the seminars/panel discussions and even-

Yes, I am interested in more information on the American Hiking Society "Hike-In" at Prince William Forest Park, Triangle, Virginia on May 18, 19 & 20, 1979. (Tear off and mail to Steve Doyle, 200 N. Pickett St., Alexandria, VA 22304.)

Please send information to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

journey was made mostly by river, hence the legitimacy of a footpath was questioned, but historical markers along the route would describe the journey. The Oregon Trail is approximately 2000 miles long and runs from Independence, MO to Portland, OR. The Mormon Trail begins in Navoo, IL and ends in Salt Lake City, UT, approximately 1300 miles. The actual trail is mostly under highways and the study will probably recommend a marked route with only historical significance. The Iditarod Trail extends from Seward to Nome, Alaska, and is 2000 miles in length.

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THE
AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

317 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20003



Please Reply To: 18600 SW 157 Avenue Miami, FL 33187

February, 1980

MEMORANDUM #8

FROM: James A. Kern
TO : HikaNation Hikers and Supporters

There will be a lot of important information in this memo and memo #9, which will be the last one published before the hike and which will appear about the middle of March.

While 50¢ contributions cover postage and printing for one mailing of past "Memos to Hikers", an enormous amount of staff time and expense has gone into the research and planning reported to you in these memos. Earlier we have asked for a donation of \$10 to support this work and many have contributed. If you have not yet done so, may we ask you to do so now. Consider the information in this one memorandum, and you will have an idea of the expense involved in making HikaNation possible.

Beginning April 1, hikers all over the country will be able to call a central number from 8:00 pm. to 2:00 am., local time, and get a recorded message telling the caller about progress of the hike, where mail drops may be made, and where and when hikers may rendezvous to be met by the Hike Coordinator and taken to the hiking party. (Locations for California and Nevada are included in this memo.) This phone number is 1-305-251-1401. Please make a note of it. Be sure not to phone before April 1 and then only between the hours of 8:00 pm. and 2:00 am. your time.

This week a letter is going out to 150 manufacturers and suppliers of clothing, hiking equipment, and lightweight foods. We are inviting these folks to make special offers to HikaNation participants. These offers will be summarized in "Memo to Hikers #9". This last memorandum will also include information on how you can obtain accident insurance, a short recommended list of modestly priced hotels and motels in the Bay Area where hikers can stay as they arrive for the departure celebration and any other last minute information.

More details of the departure celebration will be supplied in the next memorandum, but the general plan for the first three days is as follows: Saturday, April 12th, gather in the Polo Grounds in Golden Gate Park between 9:00 and 10:00 am. At 10:00 am. there will be announcements, introductions, and some short send-offs by local dignitaries. Then the Black Raven Pipe Band will pipe us down to the Pacific Ocean where the through-hikers, in particular, will want to get their feet wet. We will then hike around past Golden Gate Bridge, Ft. Mason, Fisherman's Wharf and conclude the day near the Embarcadero. The next morning, Sunday, April 13th, we will walk up the Fremont exit and onto the Bay Bridge and become the first people to walk across this six mile bridge since it was built in the 1930's! We must be across the bridge by 9:00 am. Two lanes on the upper deck will be specially coned off for hikers. We will conclude the day at Tilden Park in Berkeley. At this point the weekenders will return home, and in a sense the real cross-country hike will begin. Registration will be completed for latecomers on Monday, and we will leave Tilden Park about 9:00 am. and hike about 12 miles to Briones Park.

If you want to join or leave the hike anywhere in California or Nevada, or if you want packages sent to you in these two states, you will need to know where you can be met or where your packages can be picked up. The additional states will be provided at a later date, but here are the towns for California and Nevada. ("M" for mail pick-up, "A" for air service, "T" for train service, "B" for bus service in and out of the town.) Address packages to yourself care of General Delivery. The Hike Coordinator will pick them up at the post office and bring them to you.

CA

San Francisco	M A T B	(4/1/80)
Antioch	M	B (4/20)
Sacramento	M A	B (4/24)
Folsom	M	B (4/26)
Placerville	M	B (4/28)
Little Norway	M	(5/4)

NV

Gardnerville	M	B
Wellington	M	B
Hawthorne	M	B
Mina	M	B
Tonopah	M	B
Hiko	M	
Pioche	M	
Pinaca	M	

The average distance covered the first two weeks will be 12½ miles a day. This is high but was dictated by the location of campsites. Be sure you are in shape for these first days. Don't wait for the hike itself to condition you. You should be an experienced hiker for this trek; but if not, be sure you do plenty of reading, consult expert hikers, and conduct a shake-down hike before the 12th.

The Hike Coordinator will have a supply of food staples on hand for purchase at cost and will also pick up drug store items. Your daily registration fee of \$1 goes toward providing this service. If you have not done so, we would ask you to prepay this fee of \$1 per day for each day you plan to hike up to a maximum of \$30 (do not prepay the initial registration fee of \$3 which includes a 6-color embroidered HikaNation patch and will be collected on site). Make your check payable to the American Hiking Society-HikaNation.

Over the months we have received many encouraging offers to help with HikaNation. If we have not yet been able to make use of your offer, consider making it again through the State Route Planners nearest you. Here's the current list of names and addresses:

California - Dr. Glenn Seaborg, Lawrence Berkely Laboratories, U.C., Berkeley, CA 94720.

Nevada - Jean Beam, Jr., 1205 Palm Terrace, Las Vegas, NV 89106.

Utah - Gerald Evans, 2512 Cinnabar Lane, Salt Lake City, UT 84121.

Colorado - Gudrun Gaskill, 548 Pine Song Trail, Golden, CO 80401.

Kansas - Stan Adamson, PO Box 595, Jetmore, KS 67854.

Oklahoma - Robert Smith, Chouteau Lock and Dam #17, Porter, OK 74454.

Arkansas - James Brown, MD, 6810 So. T Street, Ft. Smith, AR 72903

Missouri - Al Schneider, RR #5, Box 190, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

~~Illinois - S.A. Larsen, 3515 Vine Street, McHenry Shores, IL 60050.~~

Kentucky - Ron Keal, RR #1, Box 152A, Rinneyville, KY 40162.

Virginia - To be announced

Virginia/AT - Appalachian Trail Conference affiliated clubs.

C&O Canal, D.C. - Ed Garvey, 1015 Parker Street, Falls Church, VA 22046.

We find we still need people interested in collecting data for research on the hike: geographical, physiological, psychological, etc. If you are interested in studies of this nature, please write to James A. Kern, 18600 SW 157 Avenue, Miami, FL 33187.

Monty Montgomery and Jim Kern are looking forward to meeting all the hundreds of people who have written us personal letters and who are supporting HikaNation. The departure celebration will be a great place to get together, and we hope you all can make it. San Francisco is going to be impressed with our two-day event, and we think you will too.

Jim K & Monty M.

THE
AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

317 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20003

Please Reply To: 18600 SW 157 Avenue Miami, FL 33187

December 23, 1979



MEMORANDUM #7

FROM: James A. Kern, Monty Montgomery
TO : HikaNation Hikers

In making plans to walk out of San Francisco, there always seemed only one alternative: to walk across the Bay Bridge. The big problem was that no one had ever done it. The Bridge had been closed a couple of times for foot races, but never for the general public to use. And, a few months ago we were told that permission to cross would be impossible to get. Mike McReynolds, with the help of Glenn Seaborg, Norman Gee and others, has performed a veritable miracle. He secured the help of Honorable Art Agnos, California State Assembly, and Leo T. McCarthy, Speaker of the Assembly, and thereafter good things began to happen. We will be walking from Golden Gate Park to the foot of the bridge on Saturday, April 12th, and will then be leaving early Sunday morning to walk the six-mile bridge. Planning for this two-day departure celebration is moving along beautifully. The Black Raven pipers will lead us from the Polo Grounds in Golden Gate Park down to the ocean, and from there we will start north to the Golden Gate Bridge then past Fort Mason and over to the Fremont exit of the Bay Bridge where we'll spend the night. Dr. Seaborg has carefully mapped the rest of the route through California to the Nevada border, so things in California are looking good.

IMPORTANT! The U.S. Department of the Interior, through the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, is now officially a co-sponsor of the cross-country hike. Their contribution to the hike will be made through the efforts of Craig Evans, our new Executive Director. The timing of the hike fits with HCRS's National Trails Planning Effort, a nationwide task to assess the status of America's trails and its trail needs for the future. Bill Rennebohm, trail coordinator with HCRS, is our link with the Interior Department.

We are pleased to report also that Phyllis Kern, (no relation to Jim) has come aboard the HikaNation effort as Research Coordinator. We will be collecting data on this hike of use to the physical and social sciences. Such information should be directed to her at PO Box 114, St. Mary's City, MD 20686.

The HikaNation logo, selected at our Annual Meeting, has been designed in six colors for our patch. You will be getting one later with your registration packet, but if you would like to have one as soon as we get our order, send a check for \$2.25 to Nancy Miller, 18600 SW 157 Avenue, Miami, FL 33187.

As you know, we have been looking for a national corporate sponsor to join us and HCRS. We have had the good efforts of an outstanding New York public relations firm, Carl Byoir & Associates, in our effort to find this sponsor, but the Firm has been unable to come through thus far. We have also been looking on our own and are happy to report that three major U.S. Corporations are giving serious consideration to supporting this adventure. We will keep you posted.

Monty M. & Jim K.

OFFICERS: James A. Kern, President; Thomas S. Deans, Vice President; William Kemsley, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer; Craig Evans, Executive Director. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Beverly Byron, Thomas S. Deans, Gudrun Gaskill, Jack Gilbert, William Kemsley, Jr., James A. Kern, Bjorn Kjellstrom, Henry Louise Marshall. ADVISORY BOARD: Doyd Evison, Colin Fletcher, William J. Holman, William E. Rennebohm, David Richie.

THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY



SUGGESTED "EQUIPMENT" LIST

The suggested "equipment" list is intended to be inclusive for a routine trail hike, but is not considerate of all possible seasonal weather variations and trail conditions.

The quantity of each item to be procured by each hiker is a decision of that hiker. The sex of the hiker is rather immaterial.

The abbreviated comments, associated with each item, are intended to assist in the hiker's decisionmaking process.

1. Hiking boots (leather, cleated or smooth sole, 6 in hgt)
2. Wool socks (over the calf, stretch type)
3. Wool hiking socks (heavy stretch type)
4. Nylon socks (stretch type)
5. Trousers/hiking shorts (manmade fibre (mmf), or wool blend, seasonal wt)
6. Windbreaker jacket shirt (mmf, snap buttons, closed waist and cuffs, unlined, hood in collar)
7. Underwear shorts (mmf, male swim trunks ok, dark color)
8. Underwear (top and bottom, wool blend, fish net type, dyed dark brown)
9. Sock cap (wool blend, with face protector)
10. Gloves (use spare long socks)
11. Rain suit (coat and overalls, mmf, coated nylon, dark color)
12. Gaiters (seasonal wt and style)
13. Vest/Jacket (down or mmf fill, cover upper butt area, snap buttons, hood in collar, closed waist and cuffs, dark color)
14. Bandanna (dark color)
15. Sun Glasses (dark green, unbreakable, polarized)
16. Towel (household hand size, dark color)
17. Tent (two man size, wt less than 5 lbs, dark color, minimum pegs)
18. Backpack and frame (compartmentalized, open front, waterproof, dark color, have waist belt, have side pockets, external frame)
19. Sleeping bag (mmf fill and cover, 3 seasons wt, dark color)
20. Ground pad (closed and open cell laminated, 3/4 body lgth, with roll straps)
21. Stuff bags (quantity and size depends on frame rigging, dark color, waterproof)
22. Straps (mmf, dark color, 1/36 in with buckle)
23. Bottles (associated sizes, flat profile, wide mouths, bulk pill bottles not always OK)
24. Knife (pocket type, three blade, ring in handle)
25. Spoon (large mixer type, stainless steel, all metal)
26. Cup (stainless steel, over 4 oz., have handle)
27. Bowl (pliable plastic (i.e., Sue Bee Honey), 8 oz or more, with top)
28. Cook pot (alum. 36 oz., have top, wt less than 1/2 lb., rectangular bread pan ok)
29. Stove (pack type, gasoline fuel, self priming, pressure tank, wind shield, sturdy, stable)

SUGGESTED "EQUIPMENT" LIST - 2

30. Fuel Flask (flat profile, large fill hole, small spout, 1 qt capacity)
31. Flashlight (two "C" cell battery size)
32. Candles (six inch, long burning wax)
33. Lighter (small, pocket, disposable type)
34. Match case (waterproof, filled with waxed farm matches)
35. Compass (moderately priced, liquid filled)
36. First aid kit (home made, flat profile, secure cover, with needles and thread)
37. Medication kit (small, contains histamines, antibiotics, vitamins, plus personal necessities)
38. Insect repellent/head net (rub on type)
39. Rope/line (nylon 1/8 to 1/4 inch, 125 lb test, 50 ft long)
40. Log book and pencil (small lined, with calendar)
41. Camera (light wt, small, with timer, haze filter, film)
42. Water purifier (iodine preferred, chlorine popular)
43. Rations (high energy with one fat, two proteins, three carbohydrates ratio, quick cooking, light wt, no refrigeration, dry storage, easy to repack, off shelf variety, supplemented with freeze dried, sufficient for hike plus three days)
44. Toilet paper (NO other tissue used on the trail for any purpose)
45. Maps (small scale with hike route details shown)
46. Determination with caution.

The best source of advice on equipment, including what to look for when buying it and tips on using and caring for it, is the Backpacking Equipment Buyer's Guide, compiled by the editors of Backpacker Magazine. Another good source of trail tips is Backpacker Footnotes, published bi-monthly by Ziff-Davis Publishing Company. Both the Buyer's Guide and Footnotes can be obtained by writing to Backpacker Magazine, 65 Adams Street, Bedford Hills, NY 10507. The Buyer's Guide is \$8.95, plus \$1 for postage and handling. Subscriptions to Footnotes are \$6 per year. Subscriptions to Backpacker Magazine are \$15 per year.

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

1255 Portland Place, Boulder, CO 80302

Please Reply To: 18600 SW 157 Avenue Miami, FL 33187



*** NOTE CHANGE IN DEPARTURE DATE from March 15th to APRIL 12th, 1980.
October, 1979

MEMORANDUM NO. 6

FROM: James A. Kern & Monty Montgomery

TO : HikaNation Hikers

We had an excellent meeting recently at the offices of The North Face in Berkeley, California, to discuss the departure celebration for our cross-country hike. Bill Kemsley came west from New York, Monty Montgomery from Macomb, Illinois, and Jim Kern was there from Miami. The highlight of the evening was seeing the slides that Dr. Glenn Seaborg has made of the route as he has laid it out from Golden Gate Park in San Francisco to the California-Nevada border, a total of 240 miles. He and his family worked diligently on this task through the summer and the pictures were most interesting. Most of us had no idea the first few days of the hike would be so attractive as it appears they'll be. Monty Montgomery gave an updated report on how route selection work is being completed along the entire length of the corridor. As of this date, Monty has either hiked the route (as in the case of the Appalachian Trail, from Damascus to Harpers Ferry) or has this summer traveled along roads nearest the route from Kentucky all the way to the Nevada-California line. So at this time, our route reconnaissance is in excellent shape.

During the evening meeting, Glenn Seaborg urged us to reconsider the departure date. The weather normally improves dramatically in April, and he was hoping for a later departure date from the Bay Area. The following morning, Monty, Bill and Jim met to see what effect a delay would have on other points along the route. To our surprise, we came to the conclusion that with the exception of the Utah portion, weather conditions would improve. There would be less snow in the Sierras and at the Continental Divide, and the weather would be better across Kansas in the fall. So we have set back the departure date to April 12, 1980. Please note this important change. There was another reason for doing so. A huge Saint Patrick's Day parade is planned in San Francisco on Sunday, the 16th of March. We would not be out of the city limits on that day and were concerned about competing for attention with the media. Palm Sunday and Easter necessitated the selection that we made. But we really do feel we have improved the plan.

The meeting in Berkeley produced a core group to make plans for our departure. Mike McReynolds has agreed to head up this effort, but he has a good group of people backing him up. As the departure date approaches, we hope to add to this number with another meeting in the Bay Area. Glenn Seaborg has agreed to show his pictures again for the purpose of doing this and for spreading word about the hike.

Several companies have offered discounts of various kinds on equipment and food to people taking part in the hike. These offers will be circulated to all those on our mailing list shortly.

Some of you may want to go on the hike but don't know how to find financial support for an extended period of time on the trail. Perhaps local backpacking stores, radio or T.V. stations, or local manufacturers of hiking and sports equipment would be happy to underwrite a portion, or all, of your individual expenses. If you would like us to write a letter of introduction for you which you could show to possible sponsors, we would be happy to do so.

THE
AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

317 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20003



Please Reply To: 18600 SW 157 Avenue, Miami, FL 33187

August, 1979

MEMORANDUM NO. 5

FROM: James A. Kern & Monty Montgomery

TO : California AHS Members and Cross-Country Hikers

Our "HikaNation" plans, the hike from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Washington Monument, have caught the imagination of a lot of people. We want to dramatize the pleasures of walking and hiking and the need for foot trails. The reoccurring energy problems of the last few months have laid an opportunity in our lap. With the enthusiasm that we have already generated, the hike should be a big success. Whether we have 5 or 10 or 1,000 people hiking across Kansas in the fall of 1980 is probably not too important, but we are leaving a large city and arriving at a large city, and this is where we want to make our impact. We will have about thirteen months to plan our arrival in Washington, once the hike begins, but March 15, 1980, our departure from Golden Gate Park, is coming up.

In order to make March 15th a real smashing day, we are going to meet in the Bay Area and make plans. Jack Gilbert, Vice President of The North Face, has offered the use of company facilities for 7:30 pm., Thursday, September 20th at 1011 Gilman Street, Berkeley, California. I have asked Bill Kemsley to come out to Berkeley with me for the occasion. Can you be there? Please phone Jack's secretary at 415-524-8432 and let him know. If you can bring friends, tell him how many.

I'd like to see 10,000 people in Golden Gate Park that morning for a real upbeat celebration. Perhaps the Governor would talk to us. We'll invite others also. Perhaps we'll have an early picnic lunch in the park, and then set off for an afternoon of walking. This event will be a wonderful way to get our message across. These are only ideas. We need a lot of input on how the day should be planned. Then we'll need some people to help with the details.

Also, we welcome this opportunity to get to know fellow members on the west coast. I am hoping some of you will have connections with other conservation organizations and that they'll be interested in celebrating March 15th with us. Bill and I are looking forward to meeting you on the 20th of September.

Jim & Monty

THE
AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

317 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20003



Please Reply To: 18600 SW 157 Avenue Miami, FL 33187

June 25, 1979

MEMORANDUM NO. 4

FROM: James A. Kern & Monty Montgomery

TO : Cross-Country Hikers

We want to make a big event out of our departure from Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. We hope a real crowd of people will join us for the day to walk eastward through the city and out toward the Bay Bridge. Governor Jerry Brown has been invited. The date will be either March 15 or March 22, 1980. We will have a send-off party in the park in the morning, then an early picnic lunch, then we'll step off. To make all this happen smoothly, Jack Gilbert, Vice-President of The North Face and an AHS Board member, has invited us to have a planning meeting at his company's place in Berkeley on Thursday evening, September 20th. We hope a lot of the far-west folks getting this memo will be there that evening. Bill Kemsley and I will both be on hand. If you can come, write to Jack Gilbert, The North Face, 1234 Fifth Street, Berkeley, CA 95710 and let him know.

Glenn Leach won the logo contest at our cross-country hike seminar at the Annual Meeting. We are making some modifications in his idea. Possibly this isn't the final word, but we're getting close, and we thought you might like to see the logo, essentially as it will be subsequently printed on stationary, patch designs, etc.



Also, we now have a route coordinator for Utah. Kansas is the only state yet to be filled.

Utah - David Pappas
Box 6951
Goodfellow Air Force Base
San Angelo, TX 76903

A small-scale map showing the up-dated route corridor is provided on the back of this memo.

You'll notice that this memorandum is numbered. When you first inquired about the hike, you were sent earlier memos. If you don't have them and want them, please let us know at the time you send us your support check. (see enclosed buck slip.)

Jim & Monty

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

1255 Portland Place, Boulder, CO 80302



Please Reply To: 18600 SW 157 Avenue Miami, FL 33187

MEMORANDUM

April, 1979

FROM: James A. Kern, President; Monty Montgomery, Hike Coordinator
TO : Cross-Country Hikers

I received a telephone call last week from Dr. S.A. Larsen (this charming gal is called "Sam" by her friends). She was in town for several days attending a Neuroscience Seminar and wondered if we could get together to talk about the cross-country hike. Sam had previously volunteered to be the Illinois State Hike Planner and select the corridor for our hike through Illinois. She had a map she wanted me to see.

A few hours later we met, and I had a chance to view a meandering line from west to east through the Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois, our first state-long, large-scale section map with the completed, proposed route on it. It was an exciting session, talking out the details of a portion of our hike.

We can now provide you with a more complete list of State Hike Planners for our hike. Their names and addresses appear below:

California	- Craig Evans 210 W. 101 St - #20 New York, NY 10025	Glenn Seaborg Lawrence Berkeley Lab Berkeley, CA 94720
Nevada	- Mr. Jean Beam, Jr.	1205 Palm Terrace Las Vegas, NV 89106
Utah	-	
Colorado	- Gudy Gaskill	548 Pine Song Trail Kinnikinnik Hill Golden, CO 80401
Kansas	-	
Oklahoma	- Tom Creider	Oklahoma Tourism & Rec. Dept. Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Arkansas	- James Brown	6810 South T Street Fort Smith, AR 72903
Missouri	- Al Schneider	7219 Amherst University City, MO 63130
Illinois	- Ms. S.A. Larsen (Sam)	3515 Vine Street McHenry Shores, IL 60050
Kentucky	- Ron Keal	Route #1 - Box 84AA Upton, KY 42764
Appalachian Trail	-	
Maryland	- Ed Garvey	1015 Parker Street Falls Church, VA 22046

THE
AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

18600 S.W. 157th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33187

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People wishing to volunteer their time and energy in preparing for the hike should contact the above person nearest to them. There will be a lot of preliminary plans and decisions to make, and each Hike Planner will need all the volunteers he can get. He'll also need a number of "pathfinders" to stay with the hikers as they traverse his state. We still need a lead person for Utah and Kansas.

The American Hiking Society Annual Meeting and "Hike-In" will be held at Prince William Forest Park, 31 miles south of Washington D.C., on May 18, 19 and 20. Monty Montgomery and Jim Kern will be conducting a seminar on the cross-country hike at 4:30 pm, Saturday, May 19. We would like to see you all there, particularly if you have input or questions. Write Steve Doyle, 200 N. Pickett - #807, Alexandria, VA 22304 immediately for registration information.

Hundreds of people have written and asked for information about the cross-country hike. A few are planning to try hiking the entire distance. Many are planning to join the group for a portion of the trip. Whether you are one of these or just want to lend moral support and enthusiasm to the project, we want to keep sending you memorandums on the progress of our plans. To do this, we need financial support to avoid a large burden upon the general fund of the American Hiking Society. We have printing and postage, long-distance phone calls, and transportation expenses. We also need a "kitty" to draw on in order to begin a concerted search for a sponsor for the hike. To these ends we are asking each subscriber to send \$10. If you would like to renew your \$15 membership in the American Hiking Society or join AHS for the first time, please send us \$20, a savings to you of \$5. Be sure and indicate whether you're a new member or a renewing member when returning the bottom portion of this page with your check.

Our cross-country hike has an important statement to make. We want to let Americans know the size of the hiking community (see the last issue of the AHS News - February). And we want to announce clearly the need for hiking trails. With a crunch in energy use coming (no one knows how soon or how deep the crunch will be) we want to dramatize the value of walking, hiking and backpacking as low-energy forms of recreation. We want America to be ready and informed when the recreation we enjoy will be one of the options remaining in a low-energy future.

Most of us have no idea of the potential demands that might be made on walking facilities in the future. Comparing America to western Europe provides some startling insight. Germany, which is the size of Oregon, has 2000 more miles of trail than the entire United States. It has 48 trail clubs with more than 2,500 local chapters and 450,000 members. These trail clubs operate nearly 700 trail lodges. They also maintain and mark trails. About half of their funding comes from the local Bundesland, or State.

England, which is smaller than the State of Florida, has as many miles of trails as the entire United States. Its major walking organization - the Rambler's Association - has 30,000 members, larger than any single trail club in this country, yet small by European standards.

Luxembourg, which is about the size of the state of Rhode Island - 1,000 square miles - has more than 3 miles of trail for every square mile of countryside.

Switzerland, which is half the size of Lake Superior, has 35,000 miles of trail. Austria, which is about the same size and shape as the state of Kentucky, has 26,000 miles of trail maintained by the Austrian Alpine Club alone. And it has 160 local chapters scattered throughout the country and more than 205,000 members. It also operates 258 mountain huts, publishes maps and guidebooks, supports scientific expeditions and arranges more than 400 hiking trips in Austria and abroad each year.

Need we say any more? These surprising statistics should urge you to support the cross-country hike. Won't you do so today? We want to keep your name on the list of those who receive these memos. We also hope we'll see you on the trail.

Jim Kern & Monty M.

AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY 18600 SW 157 Avenue Miami, FL 33187

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____.

- \$10 - Hike Supporter
 \$20 - New Member & Supporter
- \$20 - Renewing Members & Supporter
- Addition Donation \$ _____

January, 1979

FROM: James A. Kern, President ; Monty Montgomery, Hike Coordinator
 TO : Cross-Country Hikers

The list of people interested in knowing about our 1980 transcontinental hike is growing. So too are the offers to help. Almost 50% of those who write volunteer services. Often the letter is a general one, just asking us to let them know if we need assistance. One person living near the proposed route offered to feed the hikers on their way through. In time we will probably have a specific suggestion for virtually every one of these offers.

We have been looking for people to recommend a route through each state, and we have made a good beginning. Here is our route selection team, state by state, so far:

California	- Craig Evans, New York, NY
San Francisco Bay Area	- Glenn Seaborg, Berkeley, CA
Missouri	- Al Schneider, University, MO
Kentucky	- Ron Keal, Upton, KY
Maryland/Washington, D.C.	- Ed Garvey, Falls Church, VA
Illinois	- S.A. Larsen, McHenry Shores, IL

If you haven't received a map of the proposed route alignment, see page 67 in Backpacker 30. We're particularly interested in the states shown in the alignment, but we would also like to hear from people in Arkansas, Tennessee and West Virginia. We could still be talked into route changes if people think the route can be improved on. We particularly hope to hear from people in Nevada, Utah, Colorado and Virginia. And we need people to assist those who have already volunteered. So don't be shy.

Funding for the hike is a major immediate task for the Society. Large corporations that we think can benefit from the exposure we can offer them are being contacted now. A lot rides on finding an acceptable sponsor soon. Don't hesitate to suggest possible sponsors.

Later on, we will provide each of you with the names of fellow hikers in your area, should you want to get together to plan the project. Here is one benefit of getting involved: You will learn more about your own state and meet state recreation planners, if you don't already know them. You will then be in a better position in the future to voice your opinions on planning and construction of trails and other recreation facilities in your area.

Usually people write with questions, and we have been doing the best we can to answer them individually. The enclosed Information Sheet should help further. It will be updated from time to time.

Jim K. Kern

THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

1255 Portland Place, Boulder, CO 80302

Please Reply To: 18600 SW 157 Avenue Miami, FL 33187



October 26, 1978

MEMORANDUM

#1

FROM: James A. Kern, President

TO : Cross-Country Hikers

About 11:00 Sunday evening, October 15, we concluded an 8-hour Board meeting. A good portion of that time was spent discussing concerns of the Board for our up-coming hike. From the enthusiastic response of members who have said they want to be a part of the hike and from others who had read about it in Backpacker magazine, it looks very apparent that a group of us could begin at the Golden Gate Bridge on schedule and walk across the country to the Washington Monument. The challenge of completing this enterprise would be something to be proud of and an end in itself. But the Board was concerned about missed opportunities that might result from not having allowed sufficient time for the planning stage. These include:

1. Using the hike to emphasize the size of the hiking community to the general public and to public officials.
2. Making them aware of the limited hiking opportunities available. (The miles we are forced to hike on roads would dramatize this.)
3. Involving to the fullest extent hiking clubs along the route of the trail.
4. Maximizing exposure of the trip to the media.
5. Maximizing the participation of local officials in the states through which the hike goes.

While I was concerned about the large number of enthusiastic people already interested in the hike, many of whom may have begun making plans to free up their calendars for the spring of next year, and though I didn't want to disappoint these people, I agreed in the end with the decision to postpone the hike for one year.

After word of the hike was announced, an important person wrote to offer his help. Lawrence "Monty" Montgomery from Macomb, Illinois, an Appalachian Trail end-to-ender and retired military man with experience in areas important to us, offered to be the Hike Coordinator, to provide his car and Airstream trailer in support of this effort and to perform numerous functions for us: to do advance planning for the hike, to work with hike leaders as the hike progressed, to provide "hospitality" and briefing for arriving and departing hikers, to pick up mail, to meet local officials and bring them to the hike when possible, to distribute a media package, etc. It has been apparent for some time that he could be a key to the success of the hike. Sunday evening we phoned him and asked him if he could fly to Miami and meet with the Board.

In a 3-hour meeting the next evening, Monty expressed similar concerns that to maximize all the opportunities that the hike represented for AHS and to provide for a richer experience for the hikers, six months was not enough lead time.

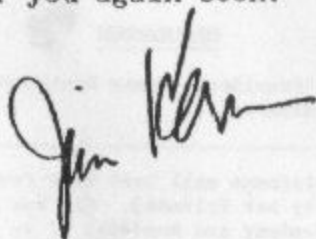
After another long meeting on October 17, the idea of a March or April departure month was confirmed and so the hike was advanced one year. A tentative budget was prepared, much larger than the original one, and the decision was made to seek a national sponsor for the event. The general corridor as shown on the maps you have already received was confirmed. The decision was made to write to all those

(over)

who have expressed an interest in leadership roles for '77 p in . . . the exact route. While AHS cannot promise to supply the individual needs of hikers (equipment, food, etc.) a decision was made to solicit the help of organizations that might be willing to supply such needs.

Much more was discussed as to how the goals of the adventure could be reached, and a good start was made on the mechanics of making it all come together. But this information will follow in later correspondence. One thing we would like to do early on, and that is come up with a name and logo for the hike, something a little more original than "the AHS cross-county hike". We would use this on patches, T-shirts, stationary, etc. We would like to provide a complimentary pack and frame to anyone who can come up with a name and logo we can use for our trek. Let us have your ideas.

And we will be in touch with all of you again soon.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Kern". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script. The first letter "J" is large and loops around. The name "Kern" follows in a similar cursive style. There is a horizontal line at the end of the signature.

THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY



1980 Transcontinental "HikaNation" Hike

INFORMATION SHEET

1. How many miles are the hikers to hike each day? AHS likes to think in terms of hours per day instead of miles per day. Whatever the criteria for measurement, a lot will depend upon the daily weather, the season of the year, the terrain and other personal and impersonal factors. We expect to make the national average of two miles an hour for every hour we hike.
2. Are we going to hike on trails? Yes, wherever possible and if the trail is conveniently located near our planned route. We have attempted to plan the route to pass through scenic public lands, away from congestion and motor traffic. When roadways are used we intend to use backcountry unimproved roads. We don't intend to "peak pack" or "bushwack" unnecessarily.
3. How many hikers will participate in the hike? We hope there will be hundreds and possibly thousands at the beginning in San Francisco and at the ending in Washington, D.C. We want to dramatize the pleasures of hiking and the need for more footpaths. At the present time, we have indicated that about 50 people want to hike all the way across America. We expect the group size to vary on a day-to-day and seasonal basis. We encourage hikers to join the group whenever it is convenient for them.
4. How long will the hike take? We are estimating that it will take about a year to complete the hike. We will be leaving San Francisco on April 12, 1980 and will hike across California in about a month. We estimate that it will take about 30 days to cross Nevada, 60 days to cross Utah, 60 days to cross Colorado, 30 days to cross Kansas, 15 days to cross Oklahoma, 15 days to cross Arkansas, 20 days across Missouri, 10 days in Illinois, 30 days to cross Kentucky, 45 days to travel up the Appalachian Trail through Virginia to Harpers Ferry, West Virginia and 5 days to travel down the C&O Canal to Washington, D.C.
5. What is the job of the hike leader? He is to be responsible for up to 25 hikers except at the beginning and the end of the hike where we expect large crowds of day hikers. Even though the group is considered to be a loose confederation of hikers, the individual hikers are expected to recognize the hike leader as the person responsible to AHS for the safety and welfare of hikers within the group. For the hike leader to recognize his responsibility to the individual person, that hiker must be properly registered for that portion of the hike.

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6. What are some of the hiker's responsibilities to the hike leader? The hiker is encouraged to assist in the planning of the daily activities, to adhere to the adopted trail procedures, be properly registered, to offer and accept the expertise of other hikers, to show concern for the group's safety and welfare, to practice good conservation of natural resources and his own energy and other personal resources.

7. Who and how many people will normally be involved in the on-trail management of the hike? As presently planned, there will be four people involved in the process. a. The Hike Coordinator, who is responsible to AHS. All other people involved in the enroute management are subordinate to the Hike Coordinator. b. The Hike Leader is responsible to the Hike Coordinator. The Hike Leader's responsibility includes, among other things, the safety and welfare of the hiking group. c. The Pathfinder is the hiker representative from a state through which the hiking group will travel. It is the responsibility of the Pathfinder and his fellow state hikers to know the route across their state. d. The Service Person is the hiker who assists the Hike Coordinator in various tasks and tries to keep the hikers happy with the resupply of their food, equipment and mail.

8. Can any outdoor-oriented organization participate in the hike as a group? Yes, AHS encourages existing organizations to join at any time in the hike. If the group consists of young people, they must be 12 years or older and come with experienced leaders in a ratio of one counselor for each eight youthful hikers.

9. Is this hike to be primitive all the way? Yes, AHS is not planning for the provisioning of modern in-town facilities or services. Each hiker is expected to be equipped to live in the out-of-doors for the duration of his hike. Each hiker may leave the hiking group to go to town whenever transportation is available.

10. What is the State Representative to AHS? That's the hiker who has agreed to assist AHS in the planning and accomplishment of the hike. He coordinates all the offers and efforts of those hikers living in that particular state. They and their fellow state hikers will act as Pathfinder for the HikaNation group when the hikers pass through their state.

11. Is it the intent of AHS to provide group meals while out on the trail? No, each hiker is responsible for all his activities while out on the trail. Of course, AHS does not object if several hikers share cooking responsibilities.

12. If this is a primitive hike, can a hiker use a pack stove? Yes, in fact AHS mandates that campfires will not be built for any purpose unless there is an established fireplace near by. AHS does not want a string of fire scars tracing our route across America.

13. How can a hiker know where to send "care" packages and mail? The Hike Coordinator will designate certain post offices along the route as resupply and mail drop locations.
14. Will there be an advance registration and a registration fee? Yes, advance registration will be encouraged. A nominal initial fee will include a special cross-country hike patch, decal and certificate. A second fee of \$1 per day not to exceed 30 days will be added to the first fee, depending on the number of days to be hiked.
15. What about health and accident insurance? AHS encourages each hiker to obtain health and accident insurance. If AHS is fortunate enough to obtain a group insurance plan, the cost will be prorated among those hikers who use the plan.
16. How long does a hiker have to stay on the trail? This is a decision for each hiker. If the hiker has an up-to-date schedule of the hike and has easy access to the hiking group, he can join for a single day.
17. Does a hiker have to carry all his needs or will a support vehicle do it? Each hiker must carry what he needs. Our support vehicle will be used to resupply the hikers with drinking water, food and equipment, whenever the route is accessible by a suitable road.
18. How can a hiker secure financial or material assistance? AHS is raising money to provide for competent planning and support services. We hope to be able to arrange for discounts on equipment and food. Also, we will write personal letters of introduction for hikers who want to raise their support from local merchants and organizations in their area.
19. Are pets allowed on the trail with the hiking group? We are very concerned about changes in the weather, fences to cross, the inconvenience to the hiker caused by the prohibition of pets in restricted areas, the rejection of the pets by other hikers, and the safety and welfare of pets, and so the answer, reluctantly, is no.
20. How can a hiker help AHS plan for this hike? Our hike will dramatize the size of the hiking community to the American public, particularly people in public offices; and we intend to dramatize the need for additional foot trails. You can help by spreading the word about the hike and by taking part in it, even though you hike only a short distance. If you think you have a special skill that would be useful to the overall project, let us hear from you. If you live anywhere near the selected route, I am sure that the State Representative could use your help. You could act as the Pathfinder when the hiking group comes through your area.

21. Can you describe the atmosphere of the hike? It is to be a pleasurable hike in which every hiker will enjoy the adventure. We all want this hike to be a memorable experience.
22. Does AHS provide a check list of equipment for the hikers? We are working on a check list which will appear in a "Memo to Hikers". As may be expected, the hike will be traversing a variety of terrains and in all kinds of weather, so it is the responsibility of the individual hiker to make equipment decisions based on his own needs and desires. It is suggested that various backpacking reference books found in most libraries be consulted. It is also suggested that you consider using The Wilderness Bookstore of AHS to purchase backpacking reference books. Regardless of the type and quantity of equipment that is selected, it is a good idea to ensure that each item has at least two good uses.
23. How can a prospective hiker know where to join the "HikaNation" group? A telephone number will be provided all who register. After the hike begins, a recorded message will be changed daily giving the progress of the hike and when hikers can join.
24. Can a hiker get academic credit for independent study while hiking on the trail? Yes, AHS encourages such activity, but this is a matter between the student and the school administration. If a hiker is to be involved in such an endeavor, please advise the hike coordinator as soon as the subject is known.
25. Can university students do academic research on hikers participating in the hike? Yes, AHS encourages such research and insists that the hikers cooperate to ensure that the data is valid. AHS reserves the right to approve research projects. The Hike Coordinator must be informed as soon as the subject and method of research are known so a communications channel can be established with the AHS research coordinator. AHS wants a copy of the final paper.
26. Is the hiker restricted from making public news releases or publishing other material? There is no restriction on publicizing the event. AHS hopes that the material is in good form and tells the true story of our adventure. AHS will make the appropriate national news releases.