

Reese -  
Thanks for your mailings. This will bring  
you up-to-date on our end.  
Tom

# THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

1701 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009



February 1981

## HIKANATION ARRIVAL

EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY, FIFTY HIKANATION WALKERS are getting closer . . . and closer . . . to Maryland, D.C., and Delaware--and at this end of the line the momentum is building for those brightest hours when the hikers will enter "our" territory. They're in Kentucky now, breathing down the neck of Virginia, 10 months and 3,000 miles after leaving the Pacific coast.

A gala event is planned in Washington, where the presidents of the local hiking clubs will lead the hikers--and anyone who wants to join--down Pennsylvania Avenue past the White House, then up Constitution Avenue to the Washington Monument. There the hikers will be welcomed and warmly congratulated by the people of Washington and our national leaders. The enterprising Steve Doyle is putting together a celebration that nobody will want to miss. The tentative date for the ceremony is Saturday, May 16.

IN EARLY MAY, PATHFINDER ED GARVEY will greet the hikers when they reach the C & O Canal at Harpers Ferry. Ed will lead them down the towpath and find places for the hikers to plop down at night. Ed has a big job because he may have to shelter hundreds of people. At the District line, the group will be welcomed by the presidents of the local hiking clubs--including Ed Evangelidi (Center), Bill Hutchinson (Potomac Appalachian Trail Club), Ted Tidwell (Wanderbirds), and others.

After the celebration and a "tourist" stop in Washington, the hikers will follow pathfinder Ben McGimsey and the trail gang out to the Beltway. Pathfinder Carol Robertson will tuck them in at night and lead them on bike paths to the Chesapeake Bay.

Watch for a surprise crossing the Chesapeake--pathfinder Ted Sanderson and the Mountain Club of Maryland may have to perform some magic for this part of the trip. Then Ted and MCM will lead the hikers across the back roads of the Eastern Shore to the Delaware state line.

THE FOLKS IN DELAWARE--the nation's first and oldest state--are going to be ready and waiting. At the state capitol, park official Charles Salkin almost dropped the phone when pathfinder Pat Boyle told him that Hikanation was coming to Delaware. The state will open the parks and forests and put on a real Delaware-style reception. Helping in Delaware will be the Mason-Dixon Trail System, the Wilmington Trail Club, and the University of Delaware Outing Club.

The hikers will plunge into the Atlantic surf and end their trek below a light house near Cape Henlopen. They should get there about May 30. Mark it (tentatively) on your calendar.

Tom Floyd

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.



HIKANATION ARRIVAL COMMITTEE  
(Current Feb. 1981)

CHAIRMAN

Tom Floyd (703) 521-6329 (h)  
2121 Columbia Pike - 811  
Arlington, VA 22204

WASHINGTON MONUMENT CEREMONY

Steve Doyle (202) 331-6048 (o)

PRESS RELATIONS

Gene Oliva (212) 986-6100 (o)

PATHFINDERS

C&O CANAL TOWPATH

Ed Garvey (703) 534-0092 (h)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Ben McGimsey (703) 354-0289 (h)

GREENBELT TO CHESAPEAKE

Carol Robertson (301) 972-1582 (h)

CHESAPEAKE AND EASTERN SHORE

Ted Sanderson (301) 335-2146 (h)

DELAWARE

Mr & Mrs Padraic P. Boyle (302) 764-8456(h)

Charles Salkin (302) 736-4401 (o)

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS (partial list)

C & O CANAL ASSOCIATION

CENTER HIKING CLUB

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM

MOUNTAIN CLUB OF MARYLAND

POTOMAC APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

WANDERBIRDS HIKING CLUB

WILMINGTON TRAIL CLUB

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE OUTING CLUB

HOT LINE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON LOCATION OF HIKERS AND  
MAIL DROPS - (305) 251-0484

(Other committees to be added.)



## POINTERS FOR PATHFINDERS

- The purpose of Hikanation is to promote hiking and the development of public footpaths in America.
- The hikers usually do not like to be "led." Sometimes, they may be in a mood to walk alone. Sometimes in small groups. Some get up and leave at 6 a.m. Some sleep till 9 a.m. While hiking, they usually spread out over several miles, usually meeting at the same camp each night. They have agreed to stay together and follow a leader or pathfinder as they approach and leave Washington.
- The hikers like to be consulted on decisions affecting them. They are organized and have an executive committee. If you need to consult them about something, mail a letter to Monty Montgomery at the Hot Line address and ask him to call you collect.
- Monty Montgomery, the field coordinator, travels with them in a truck and camper trailer. He keeps them supplied with fuel, food, etc., which they purchase individually.
- The hikers like showers, hot meals, and backpacking food. Most of them are on a tight budget.
- They prefer gravel and dirt roads to pavement.
- The 4,000-milers have a sense of identify which we should respect. At ceremonies and receptions, keep them together--not lost in a crowd.
- The hikers are accustomed to publicity. Newspaper and television media across the country are having a field day. The reporters and hikers have good relationships. Publicity is handled by Gene Oliva for the American Hiking Society.
- The hikers will be wild with excitement being in D.C. Very proud. Very interested in making points for trails. They'll also be anxious to get on to Delaware and the Atlantic.
- Thus far, the hikers have averaged  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles per day. They may need a rest stop on the Eastern Shore, but let's try to get them to the Atlantic on a Saturday or Sunday, when we can all go meet them.