

Georgia to Maine  
Appalachian Trail 1978/79

Pacific to Atlantic  
Hikanation 1980/81

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Mr. James A. Kern  
18600 SW 157th Ave.  
Miami, Fl. 33187

Dear Jim,

Hope it is not too late to put my two cents worth in regarding Hikanation II proposal. My first comment has to do with my duties as Secretary, I researched the records to determine who the nominated and approved by the board members of the Hikanation II committee are and it doesn't appear from your Memo that the information was sent to all members of the committee. The committee members per Paul Pritchard's motion which was passed by the board are, Tom Haas, chairman, Jim Kern, Glen Seaborg, Reese Lukie and Butch Henley. I have no objection what so ever and strongly support others especially Monty and Bill being included in discussions, plans etc. but I feel strongly that all members of the committee should also be informed and consulted.

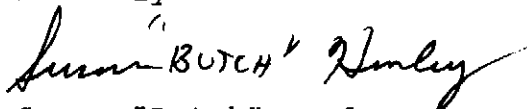
I strongly support the #2. Club Participation aspect of the proposal. However I feel that there will be more participation at this level if the clubs feel they are joining a group who are indeed hiking across the country, as opposed to a few people doing segments.

I feel very strongly that it will be a big mistake to limit the possibility of any individuals hiking all the way. I agree that the press focused on individuals rather than the goals of AHS during Hikanation I but I think this can be controled by having a good press agent working with the local press in advance of the groups arrival. I also think the leadership group should be made up of 6 to 12 strong mature individuals some from Hikanation I others not. These individuals should have the option to go all the way and there should be definate guidelines prior to the start of the hike as to what qualifys as all the way. There should be definate selective screening of the 6 to 12 leadership group. One of the goals of the screening process would be to eliminate individuals who would capture the interest of the press as individuals rather than the goals of the hike. Another advantage of the screening could be to insure that all members of the leadership (possible all the way group) subscribed to the goals of AHS in promoting trails and the use of trails where they are available. I don't think the participation level will be large enough to generate interest, especially during the winter months

or in the not so interesting states without the possibility of some individuals going all the way.

I would also, as an experienced hiker, 2100 miles on the Appalachian Trail and 4032 miles on Hikanation I as well as many other hiking or canoe trips with various clubs and scout groups, like to express my opinion on at least the normal standard safty practices of keeping track of all members of the group on a daily basis be followed. I do not wish to limit any participant from doing his own thing or being an individual but I do feel very stongly that every member of the group should be accounted for on a daily basis. If it is made clear to each club, their participants and the leadership group at the beginning of their involvement that they are expected to let the Hike coordinator know if they are leaving the group for a given time, this should not create an imposition on anyone.

Sincerly



Susan "Butch" Henley

cc: Haas  
Montgomery

Hi Jim & Lynn,

Thanks for your kind hospitality to Bruce & I in early Dec. You are most welcome to stay at my home any time you are in the D.C. area.

My knee surgery the week before Christmas in Georgia went well as far as I can tell so far. I did get home for Christmas, at 4:00 Christmas eve. and am able to walk without crutches already.

BUTCH