

**THE BURLINGTON SECTION**

**OF THE**

**GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB**

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I am indebted, and I believe the Club and the Section are indebted, to Marion Holmes for recording our early history.

I am also very grateful to Dane Shortsleeve, Gardner Lane, and Beverly Remick for additional information on early history.

I especially want to thank Al Perkins, Harris Abbott, and Herman Hoffman for the use of their photographs.

Finally, in addition to the above I want to thank all who provided information or helped in any way, particularly Jan Abbott, Pat Collier, Judy Lance, Madeline Miles, Agnes Richardson, Shirley Strong, and Peg Whitson.

# **PART I**

## **1910 to 1974**

May 24, 1974

Marion Holmes, Middlebury, VT  
(from accounts in the Long Trail News, the Burlington Section  
newsletters, the local press, and existing records and correspondence.

With footnotes and pictures added by Dorothy Myer, 1999

## HISTORY OF THE BURLINGTON SECTION OF THE GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

On that historic day of March 11, 1910 when James P. Taylor called together 23 citizens of Vermont in the sample room of the Van Ness House in Burlington to found the Green Mountain Club, seven of those present were recognized as residents of Burlington: Seneca Haselton, C. W. Brownell, J. L. Southwick, J. E. Tracy, M. D. Chittenden, Clarence P. Cowles, and Edward K. Allen. Judge Haseltine was elected to serve as Vice President of the Club and Hon. C. W. Browness as Treasurer. Although early records have disappeared, it may be assumed that these men were the nucleus of the Burlington Section.<sup>1</sup>

In a letter from Mr. Taylor to Mr. Cowles on May 11, he asked, "How fares the Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club?" and Mr. Cowles replied on May 16, "There has been 'nothing doing' thus far that I know of toward the organization of the Burlington section." He goes on to explain that Mr. Brownell "seems to be too busy" and that Judge Haselton is "attending Supreme Court in Montpelier." He says that "It strikes me that some one individual should take hold of this matter and push it along. I feel sure that I am not the one to do that, but I would push all I could." And "push" he must have, for on August 16, 1910, the Mansfield Section at Burlington was organized with 10 members and Judge Cowles was later referred to as the founder of the Section. On September 19 of that year, Mr. Cowles states in a letter that "We have 55 members to date here in Burlington."

What happened to the Section between its organization and a well-documented reorganization meeting in 1916 is shrouded in mystery. Judge Cowles wrote many years later, "The first question put at the Reorganization Meeting was this: Shall the Section be kept alive? That indicated little prior activity in the Section." One suspects that the energies of its members during those early years were being expended in building the Long Trail and in carrying out the object of the Green Mountain Club to "make the Vermont Mountains play a larger part in the life of the people."<sup>2</sup>

As early as October 5, 1910, Mr. Taylor refers to the fact that "the work of creating a map and a guide book is before some committees of your section." And Mr. Cowles wrote him of plans for an "excursion to the summit of Mount Mansfield" to take place at the end of September and says that he is "pushing along the building of the trail from the summit of Mt. Mansfield to Bolton Mountain with a branch running down to the Mansfield Trout Club" by which they might get back down from the excursion. He concludes that letter with a query to Mr. Taylor to "please let me know whether we are right in taking ladies into our organization."

The second annual meeting of the Green Mountain Club was called together in Stowe on June 10, 1911 by President Taylor. The minutes of that meeting list among those present: Mr. Harry G. Burrough, president of the Mansfield Section, and Dr. L. J. Paris of the Mansfield Section. Judge Seneca Haselton of the Burlington Section was re-elected vice president and Fred. F. Smith of Burlington was elected to serve as secretary. Dr. L. J. Paris of Burlington was appointed by President Taylor to serve as Membership chairman and Mr. W. S. Carpenter of Burlington as Publicity chairman.

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<sup>1</sup>The participants at that first meeting all agreed with Taylor's concept "to make the mountains play a greater part in the lives of the people" and when they left the meeting each "vowed to start a section of the club near their own special mountain."

<sup>2</sup>One indication that this is true is that by 1912 the Section members cleared the trail from Sterling Pond to Camel's Hump. This included what was to become the Burlington Section's responsibility (the Winooski River to Smuggler's Notch) and a little extra on each end.

On October 14, 1916, at the reorganization meeting, the question of whether to keep the Section alive as answered in the affirmative, the Mount Mansfield Section became the Burlington Section, the section was entirely reorganized with a new constitution and a woman, Miss Joanna Croft, was elected president. (Through the foresight of Clarence and Laura Cowles, the record books of the section which begin with this meeting and continue to the January 1927 meeting, along with newspaper clippings and other interesting historical material relating to the section and the main club were placed on microfilm and are in the Library of the University of Vermont where they make fascinating reading to anyone interested in the early days of the Club. The originals were deposited with the Vermont Historical Society.) The basic organization of the section has changed little since the reorganization of 1916 when, in addition to the customary officers, committees were set up for Entertainment, Membership, Outings, Publicity, and Trails and Shelters. Annual adult dues were set as \$1 at that time. Increases to \$3 in 1960 and \$6 in 1974 reflect both the financial condition of the country and the increasing responsibilities of the Green Mountain Club.

An interesting aspect of the organization of the section was the decision to admit women to membership at a time when woman's place was in the home and when the long skirts and other customary garb were hardly adapted to strenuous hiking and winter sports. As late as 1920, the Guide Book states that "women should not wear skirts, even divided skirts; riding breeches are advised" and that "even women" should take at least a belt-hatchet. And so it seems quite amazing that Miss Joanna Croft was elected president of the section in 1916 and again in 1917, to be followed in 1918 and 1919 by Mrs. Laura G. Cowles, and later by other women. Mrs. Cowles was characterized by her husband as "a pioneer in opening the Green Mountains for the recreation of women as well as men, in winter as well as summer" and as the first lady to snowshoe to the top of Mt. Mansfield. Miss Shirley Strong who was section president in 1965 and 1966 went on to set another first when she became the first woman president of the main Club. And another milestone in "women's lib" was reached when girls served as caretakers at Taft Lodge in 1972 and 1973.

Membership in the Burlington section has gone from the original ten to around 700 in 1974. The official figure of 628 in 1972 was stated to be a gain of 190% in ten years.

A listing of people who have been active in the section poses the danger of omission of others who have made equal contributions. There is a tendency to give special emphasis to the place of early leaders and to long years of service and to fail to recognize the importance of those who have given themselves to the tasks of the Club within recent years. And so, the following sketches are offered as a sampling and as a tribute to those mentioned with the understand that the limits of space and available information are responsible for non-mention of many others. It is hoped that the collection of the history of the section will be an ongoing project with additions made to the information collected. And it should be realized that the brief sketches which follow could be expanded many-fold to cover the full lives of those listed.

Clarence P. Cowles. Charter member of the GMC and founder of the Burlington section in 1910. Active in locating the Long Trail and in its building, especially in the section from Mansfield to Camel's Hump. Active hiker and mountaineer even before the founding of the Club. Promoter of the GMC well beyond the Burlington area with a sense of history so that he preserved records which are now priceless. Made a life member of the Burlington section in 1960. Died, as he would have had it be, at the age of 87, while on a Burlington section snowshoe hike to Wiley Lodge on March 17, 1963.

Laura Golden Cowles. As stated above, a pioneer in opening opportunities to women to participate in and enjoy the activities of the Green Mountain Club. Early president of the Burlington section. Mother and grandmother of men who participated actively in the Club and who laid out and improved the trail to the top of Mt. Mansfield which is named in her honor. Died in 1958.

Kent R. B. Flint. Resident of Northfield, he was the last survivor among the charter members of the GMC. He was made a life member of the Burlington Section in 1960.

Dr. Louis J. Paris. One of the wheel horses in the work of building up the GMC when it was young and feeble. One of the earliest to join, he served as trustee and treasurer and corresponding secretary for many years. He addressed audiences, and wrote innumerable letters and articles which contributed greatly to building a strong organization.

Professor Louis B. Puffer. A longtime trustee and a president of the GMC as well as president of the Burlington section. With Roy Buchanan, a leader of countless hikes in the Green Mountains and in the Adirondacks where they were early members of the ADK 46ers. Former editor of the Long Trail News. Honored by the naming of Puffer Lodge.

Theron S. Dean. Member of the Burlington section and chairman of the Publicity committee of the GMC. He collected an exceptionally fine lot of colored slides covering the most picturesque sections of the Green Mountains and by means of pictures and story, he brought the salient aims and purposes of the Club to several thousand people. During the year 1918, he gave 23 lectures to audiences in various parts of Vermont and Massachusetts. His work was generally conceded to be one of the best forms of propaganda that the Club had undertaken.

Professor Roy O. Buchanan. Our "Mr. Green Mountain Club". Head of the Long Trail Patrol for 36 years until his retirement in 1967. Builder of 37 Long Trail shelters. Inspiration to many young men who



ROY BUCHANAN

worked on the Patrol and went on to become leaders in the affairs of the Club. In 1930, with his brother Bruce and son Chester, he laid out the final section of the Long Trail from Jay Peak to marker 592 on the Canadian border because, as he says, they were tired of reading about a trail which went almost from Massachusetts to Canada. Humorist and storyteller without peer, President of the main Club and Honorary Trustee. Made a life member of the Burlington section in 1960. Honored by naming of Buchanan Mountain and Buchanan Lodge. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary guide Book dedicated to him and his wife Helen. In 1974 still an active participant in the activities of the section and main Club the age of 92<sup>3</sup>

The Burlington Section has over the years assumed the responsibility for the Long Trail from the Winooski River to Smugglers Notch (23.9 miles); for the six shelters: Duck Brook, Bolton, Puffer, Taylor, Butler and Taft; and for the following side trails (32.3 miles); Lake Mansfield, Nebraska Notch, Sunset Ridge, Hell Brook, Bear Pond, Butler Lodge, Maple Ridge, Haselton, Halfway House, Clara Bow, Forehead Bypass, Laura Cowles (for the maintenance of which the Cowles family has assumed a great deal of responsibility), Wallace Cut-off, Wampahoofus, Rock Garden, Cliff, Profanity, Story, Cantilever Rock, Adam's Apple and Hell Brook Cut-off. That such a task can be accomplished by volunteer labor attests to the devotion of the members of the section.

The earliest of the shelters maintained by the Burlington section is Taft Lodge, built in 1920. The Lodge was a gift of Elihu B. Taft, a lawyer of Burlington and a lifelong lover of the mountains who had climbed in the Alps, Sierras, and White Mountains as well as his own familiar Green Mountains. The Lodge is a log structure of 30 foot length and 14 foot width, built for a capacity of 32. It was built under the supervision of Judge Cowles who made 27 trips up to the site while construction was going on. In 1941, the cabin had begun to show age after the storms of 21 years; so a gang from Burlington went to work. Jacks, cable drills, hammers and steel pegs were packed up over the Sunset Ridge trail and the cabin pulled back to a standing position and anchored to the ledges of the mountain. Caretaker Daan Zwick packed rolls of roofing across the ridge of Mansfield from the Hotel and down Profanity, on some trips carrying 120 pounds to the load. Once again, Taft Lodge stood strong. In another 21 years, it once again showed signs of age and again was extensively repaired, this time by the Long Trail Patrol. As a most

<sup>3</sup> Roy died in August 1977 at the age of 95.

recent record of refurbishing, 24 industrial arts students from the Hinesburg Middle School constructed a new outhouse in 1972.



**THE ORIGINAL TAYLOR LODGE**

The original Taylor Lodge was built in 1926 and named in honor of James P. Taylor. During Christmas vacation in 1950, a group of boys who stayed there and became cold tried to burn mattresses for fuel and started a fire which burned the Lodge to the ground. Roy Buchanan, in his capacity as head of the Long Trail Patrol and chief cabin maker (he used a cake tin with some water in it as a level), his chief assistants Don Havens and Jake Bailey, and many others part-time, built the present<sup>4</sup> cabin during the summer of 1951. In the words of Harold Collins, then president of the section, "On a cold miserable, dark, cloudy, foggy and rainy day, on October 29, 74 hikers went in to participate in the dedication of the 'new'

Taylor Lodge with the youngest, Rod Rice Jr., at age 11 months riding on his father's back and the oldest, Frank Post, age 76. A significant part of the dedication was a gift shower. There were gifts of frying pans, other pots and pans, axes, saws, pails, brooms, dust pans and just about everything one needed to keep house. They were all new gifts and everyone brought something."

One of the earliest shelters on the section of trail maintained by the Burlington section was built in the Bolton area in 1919. The Burlington Free Press on July 11 of that year reported that "Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Dunsmoor of the Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club have recently built a new lodge on Bolton Mountain as their gift to the Club. It is on the Long Trail, 6-1/4 miles north of Bolton Village and commands a beautiful view of valley and mountains." The 1920 Guide Book describes it as "an open camp with stove, simple cooking utensils and bunks, permanent water being found in two brooks within 150 yards." It was 1.2 miles from the summit of Bolton Mountain. Dunsmoor Lodge is no longer in existence.



**BOLTON LODGE**

In 1928, the present Bolton Lodge was built by the Burlington section under the supervision of Dr. E. G. Twitchell and Ernest E. Smith. The site, 3-1/2 miles from the Bolton station, was on what was called the Old Coc Brass Company property. The building was under construction for five weeks and was considered one of the finest on the Trail. It is a closed lodge with stone and stucco exterior in an old clearing with a fine outlook toward Camel's Hump.

<sup>4</sup> It is no longer "present". It was rebuilt again in 1977. See part II of this document.



**BUTLER LODGE**

At its annual meeting in 1932, the Burlington section received a commission from Mr. Albert B. Butler of Burlington offering to give the club a sum of money sufficient to erect a lodge on the Long Trail, comparable to Bolton and Taylor. The new lodge would be known as the Mabel Taylor Butler Lodge in memory of his wife who had been a member of the section and an ardent hiker in the Green Mountains. Following acceptance of this generous gift, the Long Trail Patrol, in 1933, completed the erection of Butler Lodge, a fine closed log building in a location unsurpassed in sightliness.

Puffer Lodge was erected in 1954 by the Long Trail Patrol for the Burlington section and was at the time one of the best structures on the Long Trail. It was named for Professor Louis B. Puffer of the Civil Engineering Department of the University of Vermont who had served both the section and the main Club in many capacities. In the fall of 1974 a fire burned this newly renovated lodge to the ground. Winter snows prevented immediate rebuilding but plans are underway in 1975 to replace it with an open face shelter<sup>5</sup>

The newest shelter of the Burlington section is Duck Brook, an open front frame shelter built by the Long Trail Patrol in 1966. With the Long Trail relocation to cross the Winooski River at Jonesville, the distance between Wiley Camp and Bolton Lodge proved to be too great for a comfortable day's trip and the need for an additional shelter was seen. After considerable time was spent in determining who owned the land on which it was desired to build and in obtaining the necessary permission, the Patrol went to work with additional assistance from Roy Buchanan's son Chester and his grandson. The shelter was completed between a Tuesday morning and Saturday noon which, according to Roy, was the shortest time the Patrol had taken to build such a cabin. The original name of Cascade Shelter soon became Duck Brook in recognition of the beautiful stream beside which it sits. It is of interest to note the cost of Duck Brook was approximately \$575 as compared with less than \$150 for Barrows, a similar structure built in 1931.

In 1964, the Burlington section acquired the use of another building when Mr. Craig Burt of Stowe, an early member of the section, leased the club the Stem Cabin in Ranch Valley to the south of Mt. Mansfield. This was a snug building used for a number of years for many outings, especially in winter, until the problems of maintaining it along with other responsibilities of the section made it seem wise to abandon the lease.

The making of the Long Trail in that section supervised by the Burlington section could not be told better than in the words of Dr. Lewis Paris, written many years ago. He wrote:

"Mr. Clarence P. Cowles of Burlington and Mr. Craig O. Burt of Stowe, on October 1, 1910 started south from the Summit House on Mt. Mansfield to locate a trail from the summit to Nebraska Notch. A trail was already in existence to the Forehead but a series of cliffs south of the Forehead made it impossible to make use of this two miles of ready-made trail as the beginning of a through route. The finding of a new route which would avoid these cliffs was not such an easy matter on this wild and rugged mountain, and three exploratory trips were made before the route of the trail was finally located. Owing to the lateness of the season, nothing was actually accomplished but the locating of the trail, though subsequent experience has shown that a well-located route for a trail is a most important step in trail making. The season closed with this practical demonstration that interest in the mountains could be awakened.

"The Season of 1911. This was a year of accomplishment in trail making for at the close of the season there was a through trail from the summit of Camel's Hump to Smugglers Notch, a distance of twenty-nine miles."

<sup>5</sup> See Part II of this document.

After describing the locating of the trail from Bolton to Camel's Hump, Dr. Paris gives this account of the 1911 activities on the present Burlington section portion of the Long Trail:

"The next portion of the Long Trail to be opened was the trail up Mt. Mansfield from Nebraska Notch. To many this beautiful mountain pass is unknown even as a name. It divides the main ridge between Bolton Mountain and Mt. Mansfield. Years ago, a country road traversed the Notch and gave outlet from the Stowe Valley to Burlington. Ox teams hauled farm produce over the mountain to Burlington via Underhill and Jericho, returning with merchandise. The coming of the railroad ended this use of the road, and it has been practically abandoned as a road for many years. There is a persistency, however, about a road or even a trail when once well established which endures decades of neglect, and the road through Nebraska Notch remains a visible though sadly neglected road. It will always be a most interesting approach to the Long Trail and is reached from Underhill via Stevensville on the west, and from Moscow from the east. The trail follows this road west from the Lake Mansfield Trout Club at the east end of the Notch, in two miles crossing the crown of the pass. Here the trail proper turns north, following the west side of a spur of Mt. Mansfield for three miles, overlooking Underhill Valley. Just south of the Forehead, the trail crosses to the east side of the ridge, and begins its ascent of the terraces below the Forehead. One of the most picturesque features of the trail now is found, as the route lies along a branch on the face of a high cliff which towers above and drops off one hundred fifty feet or more below. The bench is amply wide and grows up with large trees, through whose foliage open up beautiful vistas down the Stowe Valley and across to the Worcester Mountains. From here the trail climbs the east side of the Forehead on a long, easy slant, arriving at the crest of the ridge just south of the Nose, not a quarter of a mile from the Summit House, the distance from the Trout Club being eight miles.

"The first trip across Bolton Mountain to locate a trail was also made in October 1910 by Mr. Cowles and Mr. Burt. Starting from the Nebraska Anotch road near the Trouty Club, the route lies along an old logging road nearly to the summit of Mt. Admiral Clarke, one of the outlying peaks of the mass of Bolton Mountain, the trail then winds up the slope of Bolton Mountain and arrives at the summit, four miles. Some judicious lumbering on the heavily wooded summit would improve the situation by opening up some fine views of Mt. Mansfield and Camel's Hump. The trail continues south from the summit soon finding Bolton brook which it follows to the Winooski River. Two miles down the trail and abandoned lumber camp known as Camp No. 4 offers shelter, and two miles below this are found the mill and buildings of a lumber company now closed. From this point a wood road leads to the village of Bolton, four miles

"Another particularly valuable bit of trail was added to the Long Trail this season. The distance from the Summit House on Mt. Mansfield to the Big Spring in Smugglers Notch, by road, is from eight to nine miles. From the Chin one could almost fall into Smugglers Notch. Below the Chin lies the Lake of the Clouds, and its eastern outlet finds its way into Smugglers Notch Brook, dropping two thousand feet in less than a mile. The facilities for descent are so exceptionally good that the route by this brook to Smugglers Notch has, in full accord with classical tradition, been named the Hell Brook Trail. The desirability of an easier trail to the wild and rugged pass had impressed Judge Seneca Haselton, a Vice-President of the Green Mountain Club so that, as his personal contribution to the Long Trail, he had a trail cut from the summit down into Smugglers Notch. The trail leaves the road to Stowe, a half mile below the summit, and clinging high under the cliff works its way down into Smugglers Notch at Barnes Camp, three miles, which is one and one-quarter miles east of the Big Spring.

"The season of 1911 ended with twenty-nine miles of continuous trail as a beginning of the Long Trail. Not a large mileage but a highly useful contribution. Mt. Mansfield and Camels Hump were connected. New approaches made to both of these peaks and new regions like Bolton Mountain and Nebraska Notch made accessible, and not the least, the trail to Smugglers Notch which was falling into neglect. The important fact, however, was that a beginning had been made, and that the first step in opening up the Green Mountains that had been made in years was successful."

This is only the beginning of the story of the trails in the Mansfield-Bolton section. One could continue with accounts of improvements and relocations, the building of new side trails, the fact that this section has the highest point on the whole Long Trail (the summit of Mt. Mansfield) and the lowest point (the Winooski River), that the Bear Pond trail includes the steepest half mile of trail to be found in Vermont, the discovery in 1960 by Clyde Smith of Cantilever Rock which is a rare geological formation on the west side of Mansfield, and the story of the Winooski River rowboat whose demise meant that the Long Trail had to be relocated for several miles in order to cross the river by the Jonesville bridge. The history of Mt. Mansfield Summit House which closed in 1964 after many years of hospitality to mountain lovers, the story of the ski development and its effect on the mountain and the Long Trail, the recurring proposals for a Green Mountain Parkway which Green Mountain Clubbers watched with alarm – all would make interesting studies. Most important, in thinking about the trails and shelters maintained by the Burlington section, is the realization that, from 1910 to the present, members of the section have given freely of their time, strength and resources to build and maintain this unique feature of Vermont and, in so doing, have greatly enriched their own lives.

Although “work parties” have been and will continue to be a big part of the program of the section, the hikes, camping trips and social occasions make up a major part of the activities. Although transportation, clothing, food, and equipment have changed greatly since 1910, the spirit remains the same and present-day members would feel “at home” on such an expedition as that described in the Burlington Free Press in 1920 in which 71 explorers armed with snowshoes and skis invaded Smuggler’s Notch, “breathed the mountain air on a typical winter day and Shouted with Joy”. The occasion was one of the annual Washington’s Birthday celebrations of the section. The party left Burlington by train at 6:45 a.m. and, on arriving at Jeffersonville, found six large teams of horses waiting to take everybody to Morse’s Mills. The snow had drifted so badly that it took two hours to get the entire group to the mills, where the real hiking began. At the foot of Dead Horse Hill, part of the group stopped while those who were determined to go through to the big spring in the heart of the Notch pressed on. About half the party, including half a dozen ladies, reached the spring where they found a good fire waiting for them, kindled by Clarence Cowles, Herbert Congdon of the New York section and L. L. Little of “Outing” magazine who had slept two nights on Mt. Mansfield. When the party had returned to Jeffersonville, “the best part of the trip for many was the appetizing beefsteak supper served at the Hotel Melendy.” Finally, at 9:45 p.m. the train arrived back in Burlington where the report was made that “It was a great day.”

Other annual events which have proved memorable over the years have been New Year’s Eve trips, winter expeditions to Camel’s Hump or Nebraska Notch, Halloween and Maple Sugar parties, corn roasts, Annual Meetings and, perhaps above all, the Oyster Stews. Harold Collins wrote the following description of the latter event in 1974 to be read as a tribute to Don and Bev Remick: “At about the time of the dedication (of ‘new’ Taylor Lodge), some of us began talking about how nice it would be to have a snowshoe hike in there, have supper and hike out after dark with lanterns and flashlights. The idea caught on and the first oyster supper at Taylor Lodge was held on Feb. 2, 1952 with 30 present and Don and Bev in charge. Don was then a senior at UVM and Bev a junior. They now have a son ready to enter college next fall. There has been an oyster supper held every year since with one exception. Bev has been in on every supper held and Don missed one while he was in the service. There have been, including this one, 22 oyster suppers, Bev has been in charge of every one and Don has been co-host in 21 of them. The second one was held on Feb. 1, 1953 with 23 present. This was a cold one. Larry Dean had his thermometer with him and it registered 8 degrees below zero when we left to come home around 7:30 p.m. Over a period of 22 years, there has been all kinds of weather; you name it – cold, warm, ice, rain, snow, no snow to speak of and so much that the lead person on snowshoes would change every few yards. After several years the crowds became tremendous, seemingly they came from all over the northern part of the +state. There was no place to sit down and you stood up supporting each other almost like sardines in a can. It is good that this phase has passed and only members of the Burlington section participate.”

The Burlington section has always been an active hiking group with its printed hike schedule often listing as many as two events for each weekend. As well as covering almost every section of the mountains of Vermont, many trips – some of as much as a week’s duration – have been taken to the Adirondacks, the

White Mountains, Mt. Katahdin and other sections of Maine, Algonquin Park in Canada, the Catskills, and even the Grand Canyon and the Cascade Mountains of the State of Washington. There is usually at least one canoe trip on each schedule and, in this activity, ample inspiration has come from Dr. Homer Dodge, section member and famous canoeist. He holds many records, having been the first man to run the wild water of the Long Sault Rapids in the St. Lawrence in an open canoe, having shot some of the wildest rapids of the Colorado and other western rivers, and at the age of 85 still competing in the Hudson River White Water Derby. Many Burlington section members are "End-to-Enders" on the Long Trail, others are ADK 46ers who have climbed the 46 4000-foot peaks in the Adirondacks, some New Hampshire and New England 4000-footers, and a few are members of the 111 Club who have climbed all 4000 foot peaks in New England and New York State. Among the young members, Alan and Barbara Briggs became End-to-Enders at the ages of five and eight respectively, and Amanda Smith Completed the New Hampshire 4000-foot peaks at the age of ten.

To the Burlington section, perhaps, can go credit for the now popular Intersectional camp weeks of the Green Mountain Club. After the Burlington group had enjoyed three 9-day "August Comps", one year in the Adirondacks, another in the White Mountains and the third at Mt. Katahdin, President George Saunders recommended in the Long Trail News that the main Club adopt the idea. And so the first GMC Intersectional was held in 1960, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, at the Mt. Norris Scout Reservation at Lake Eden under the sponsorship of the Burlington section and with 199 in attendance.

The section also took an active part in the erection of a typical Long Trail shelter as a part of the exhibits at the Roundup of the Girl Scouts of America which was held at Button Bay on Lake Champlain in 1962 and attracted visitors from all parts of this country and abroad. The shelter was moved later to the Long Trail and became the "new" Wiley Lodge on the relocated trail south of Robbins Mountain.

This account of the sixty-four year history of the Burlington section could be greatly expanded to give more information about people who have played an active part during the years and to give more details of the diverse activities and responsibilities of the group. It is hoped it will serve to give a general idea of the history and to encourage the continued recording of past events and people.



**Marion Holmes**

## ADDITIONAL NOTES ON EARLY SHELTERS AND TRAILS

Dorothy Myer, October, 1999

All of the earlier lodges had stoves, mattresses, dishes, and a saw or axe. Taft and Butler Lodge also had blankets and fuel oil. Section expenses as late as 1960 include a mattress for Taft Lodge. The advent of backpacker mattresses made mattresses in lodges unnecessary. The other equipment was also discontinued.

THREE CARETAKERS:  
ROD RICE, AL DONOVAN, DAAN ZWICK



Most of these early shelters also had caretakers. The first caretaker was at Taft; there was one there ever since it was erected. Butler, Taylor, and Bolton had caretakers starting about 1936. These caretakers were hired by the Burlington Section but received no salaries. Their only pay was the nominal fees charged to campers, usually about twenty-five cents. Their duties included: keeping the lodges and premises clean including keeping the toilets "presentable" and guarding against "defacing", providing firewood and water for campers, and to "try to make hikers enjoy their stay...by being friendly, courteous and helpful at all times." The following page is a copy of a caretakers agreement.

Three of the caretakers were local Burlington youths. Daan Zwick, caretaker at Taylor in 1938 and at Taft in 1939 and 1940, was a UVM student. Rod Rice and Dane Shortsleeve were Burlington High School students and explorer scouts. Rod was caretaker at Taylor in 1939 and Butler in 1940. Dane was caretaker at Bolton in 1940. All three of these are still members of the Burlington Section.

In the early years the Long Trail was mostly on private property. Generally there were no formal agreements; sometimes just a handshake. Usually this worked, but sometimes it led to problems. The Club made an effort to improve landowner relations. Shirley Strong of the Burlington Section worked on identifying landowners on the Long Trail System. When Shirley left the area Gardner Lane, who had been a member at large and had transferred to the Burlington Section, took over this work. Joe Frank prepared a cooperative agreement which was signed by several ski areas. Bolton Valley was the first. Gardner reports that "dealing with the landowners in the isolated areas was more difficult because the land had not been surveyed and they were not sure whether the trail was on or off their land. Town clerks were of little help in this project."

1940

CARETAKER AGREEMENT

I, Dane Shortsleeve, agree to serve as caretaker at the Burlington Section Bolton Lodge from about the first of July 1940 to and including Labor Day, 1940.

I understand that I am to charge nightly lodge fees of 25¢ each for non members and 15¢ each for Green Mt club members who can present membership cards for 1940.

I further understand the club does not pay a caretaker a salary at this lodge but that I am to retain the lodge fees for the following services to the Club:

1. Keeping lodge clean and guarding against defacing of such in any manner.
2. Supply wood and water to the hikers for their use while at the lodge.
3. Keep toilets presentable.
4. Try to make hikers enjoy their stay at the lodge by being friendly, courteous and helpful at all times.

Witnessed: L. Udson Prop Chairman  
Burl. Sect  
M.M.C

Signed by Dane Shortsleeve

## **ADDITIONAL NOTES ON OYSTER STEWS**

Part of Letter from Beverly Remick, 10/20/99

The idea evolved at a GMC hike planning meeting back in the fall of 1951. We were sitting around trying to think of something different to do, and Don said we should do something unusual—like oyster stew on the top of a mountain. And the idea was born.

We held our first one on February 3, 1952 at Taylor Lodge with 30 people there. At that time, I was President of the Burlington Section, Don was Property chairman and on the committee with us were Don Cook, Rod and Emily Rice and Larry Dean. Eight people came from Barre. The other stews were also held at Taylor because it was comparatively easy to reach. We aimed for the February weekend closest to the full moon each year. Weather ranged from rain to very cold and there was usually lots of snow on the trail.

The numbers ranged from 11 in 1955 and in 1977 to 62 in 1963. We had the oyster stew hike every year from 1952 through 1977, with no hike in 1968. Our 25<sup>th</sup> year was celebrated on February 12, 1977, with just 11 people there.

After that, we decided to end them. The problem was that so many people went and arrived just in time for the stew, that there were very few people to carry all the supplies. As an example, the year we had 62 people our supply list included 11 pies, 2 pounds of butter, 2 gallons of oyster, 17 quarts of milk, 3 lbs. Of cheese, 2 jars of pickles, 4 boxes of oyster crackers, 2 pints of coffee cream, celery, radishes and sugar. Lots of work for about 5 or 6 people. Also, the small stove was inadequate for cooking so much. And Don and I were wearing down, as well!

We certainly met some very nice people during those years and had some unique experiences too. One year Larry Dean broke his leg on the way down and insisted it was nothing more than a sprain. He walked the entire way and ended up in the hospital with blood clots in his leg. Another year it was 14 below zero. Don was in the Army, and I was responsible for the hike. BRRR. Another time we invited our Shelburne Scoutmaster and his wife to join us and by the time we started to hike down, his wife was so lame we had to lift her over the humps and dips.

For many years, the Montpelier section joined us, until we had to ask them to start their own oyster stew hike.

All in all, it was a great time in our lives. Lots of work, but lots of great friends and some wonderful memories.

From letter from Beverly Remick, August 1978

We did have write-ups on our Stew in the New York Times and Ford Times and Vermont Life in different years. I remember the New York Times writer and photographer had never been on snowshoes and had quite a struggle. Fortunately the weather was good. The picture the Times featured was the woman writer sampling the stew!

## **PART II**

**1960 to 1999**

November, 1999

Dorothy Myer

## **INTRODUCTION TO PART II**

In her "History of the Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club" (Part I of the present history) Marian Holmes states that "It is hoped that the collection of the history of the section will be an ongoing project with additions made to the information collected." This "Part II" is such an update.

Like the original history, Part II relies on newsletters, the press, and records and correspondence for historical information. However this section is more informal and, in addition to historical facts, includes stories, anecdotes, and interesting incidents that rarely find their way into official records. For the latter it was necessary to rely on my own memory and the memories of other current members of the section.

There is an overlap of about fifteen years between Part I and Part II. For these years Part II adds details and interesting or unusual happenings.

Instead of being general or chronological, Part II is divided into parts relating to major activities of the Section: Trails, Shelters, Outings, etc.

## TRAILS

The major purpose of the GMC is to "protect and maintain the Long Trail" so trails is one of our most important committees. This committee is responsible for maintaining the Long Trail and side trails between the Winooski River and Smugglers Notch. The committee chairmen lead regular section hikes so volunteers can help on trail work. However this is only a small portion of the work done. The chairmen



Pam Gillis  
Working with  
Hazel Hoe

and small impromptu groups spend many, many weekends working on trails and do a lot of the work themselves. Some of the long-term trails chairmen were: Jack Harrington (with co-chairmen Joe Frank, Bill Tennett, Rick Rice) 1973-77, Carlene Squires (with Rick Rice and Andy Squires) 1982-87, Pam Gillis (with Don Dewees, Clem Holden, and John Sharp) 1990-99 and John Sharp (with Pam Gillis) 1994-1999. Others were: (between 1960 and 1972) Fred Smith, Dane Shortsleeves, Al Wurthman, George Pearlstein, Andy Buchanan, Harris Abbott, and Bill DeGroot; (1988) Roland Boucher and Mark Turner.

Once the trails were established the major work for many years was clearing and blazing. We tried to do each trail every two years. The Section purchased clippers, saws, axes, and other tools for this work. One tool which we called a "swizzle stick" consisted on a wooden frame shaped like an upside down Y with a double-edged blade between the two parts of the Y. These were often home made. In the right hands, they did an excellent job of clearing blackberries and other small brush. In 1975 we purchased a chain saw which cleared big blowdowns in a fraction of the time it took with hand saws. The chain saw was stolen from Dot Myer's house in 1977 (she was "quartermaster" at that time.) The Section bought a new one then, and a couple more a few years later when Pam Gillis was trails chairman. Under Pam's chairmanship we also bought more clippers, hazel hoes (which we hadn't used before), and other tools.

Painting blazes was an important part of early trail work since blazes fade with weather, are lost when trees fall down, etc. We tried a couple of new things over the years. Once we cut out a large number of metal blazes (like those used in the Adirondacks), but never used them. We tried using stencils, but this didn't work very well either. Sometimes the paint dripped down behind the stencil. Often it got on the back of the stencil and then onto the area around the next blaze. Carlene Squires introduced a "painters apron" which had pockets for paint bucket, paint brushes, and clean-up rags. This made it possible for the painter to have free hands when needed.

Dot Myer liked to paint blazes though she was not very good at it. She once got carried away and painted them much too close together going up the rocks to Duck Brook. Jack Harrington gave her some supposedly rock-colored paint to cover up the extra ones. Unfortunately it did not match the rock color closely enough and just looked like different color blazes. So it was not used and the blazes were left to fade away naturally. Many of them are still visible. Another time she was painting red borders on the white blazes coming down the forehead. She came to a place where she thought it would be impossible to get down without holding on tightly with both hands (this was before Carlene's paint aprons). She did the only thing she thought possible. She dropped the paint can. There were splashes of red paint on the cliffs for several years. Dot also recalls a couple of lighter incidents. Once she was holding the paintbrush in her hand between blazes. Musta, the Perkanens' dog ran by and got a "racing stripe" along his side. Another time the paint brush got lost. Nobody, not even Dot, knows why the project wasn't dropped until a new one was obtained. Instead she found an old sock and painted with that. Needless to say, the blazes were even less neat than her usual ones.

In open areas where there are no trees (only on the top of Mt. Mansfield in our section) we build rock cairns to mark the trail. One year we were going to have a cairn-building contest to encourage people to work on this. However the rangers on Mt. Mansfield felt that it might encourage them too much and we would have monstrous unnatural cairns. So we just built them on an ordinary work hike.

We have also made signs for trails junctions and other places. The older ones were just painted, usually black or dark green on white. Then we used a router to make longer lasting-signs. Now we use standard signs to match the rest of the trail.

Bridges and ladders were also needed in early days. There are several ladders on the Forehead and they occasionally need work to keep them safe. In 1986 Rick Wheatley worked on rebuilding ladders and did an excellent inventory of ladders for us as an Eagle Scout Project. At that time there were 10 ladders on Mt. Mansfield, including ladder-bridges on the Forehead. There were also ladders on the Clara Bow Trail. Some of them have been replaced since then, and a short one was added on the Butler Lodge Trail. We have built bridges over a few streams.

As more and more people began to use the trails, erosion became a problem. This caused a change in trail work. We began to make water bars and bridging (we called it puncheon) steps and other "trail hardening". In the early days "corduroy" was used. Corduroy is very slippery and this type of work was discontinued and bridging used instead. Some waterbars and bridging were done before, but this trail hardening became a major part of trails work. Once these things were built, we had to maintain them. Waterbars in particular had to be cleaned out regularly so they wouldn't fill up and act like a dam keeping the water in the trail instead of leading it off. We found hazel hoes very useful for this job. Of course we continued to do clipping and blazing, particularly on the Long Trail.

Much clipping and blazing on side trails is now done by trail adopters. The Burlington Section has had trail adopters for many years. Jack Harrington and Bill Tennett were active in developing this program in the mid 1970s after seeing success in the shelter adopter program. Some of the early adopters were: Madeline Miles, Newell and Ruth Briggs, Corky Magoon, Marion Holmes, Vic Mertrud, Ron Whipkey, Al Perkins, Shirley Sargeant and the Women of UVM, Cathy and Joe Frank, Carlene Whitcomb, and Dot Myer.

One spring in the seventies we made a concerted effort to phone members to help on work hikes and got an excellent response. More than twenty people were divided into teams of two or three and covered all the trails in the Mansfield area, getting everything cleared and blazed. This great turnout was the exception rather than the rule.

An important part of trails work is our walk-thrus each May. It was always necessary to do a lot of work in the spring to take care of winter blow downs etc., but the term walk-thru and the idea of going through the whole trail originated in the early 1980s by the Main Club. On these walk-thrus we clear the Long Trail and most of the side trails of winter blow-downs and do other work as needed. Most weekends in May have trails work hikes. Participation varies from a couple to over twenty.

#### RELOCATIONS

Occasionally a part of the trail has to be relocated. Sometimes this is just a short section around a very wet place or some other problem and can be done on one work hike. At other times it is a larger project.

Relocations were made on both side trails to Taylor Lodge. The Nebraska Notch Trail ran along the side of a beaver pond. As the beavers worked and enlarged their pond, the trail was flooded out. The first couple of times we just moved it back a little further. Finally, we moved it so that it went from the head of the pond directly uphill to the Long Trail. There was already a trail here, cut by Jack Harrington and informally called the "Harrington Cut-off". It became part of the Nebraska Notch Trail instead.

There were also several changes in the Lake Mansfield Trail approach to Taylor from the east side. The trail was moved a couple of times to get it away from the lake and the Lake Mansfield buildings. The Lake Mansfield Club let us continue to have the trail on their property and come out at the parking lot. Higher up on this trail there is a steep sidehill section which can be icy and dangerous in winter. Someone got badly hurt on this and an alternate trail avoiding this section was quickly cut. Most people still use the

original trail. The alternate is used only in very bad conditions or if someone wants to go up one way and come down another.

### Bolton Relocation

When the ferry across the Winooski River was abandoned in 1964 a new trail was needed. This was done by the Long Trail Patrol and went from Jonesville to Bolton Lodge. This reroute itself was rerouted several times.

Between Duck Brook and Bolton Notch Road part of the trail was along the edge of a gravel bank. As the gravel bank began to erode further and further back, the trail was washed out and had to be moved back. At first it was just moved back a little. Then in 1973 it was moved farther north where there was a much easier brook crossing. Later the owner closed the entrance at Bolton Notch Road, probably because of dangers at the gravel bank. So the trail was moved still further north, reaching the road near the Oxbow Ski Area in 1976. This was used until an archery practice area was built right on the trail. Then the trail was moved to an intermediate position between Oxbow and the original place near the gravel bank.

The biggest project was the change between Bolton Notch Road and Bolton Mountain. This was needed because of very wet trail conditions and increased lumbering in the area, and also a landowner problem on one part of it. It took four years of planning. The first step was to study topo maps and find landowners. Some landowners involved were Bolton Valley Ski area, Oxbow ski area, Andrew Johnson, Bristol Lumber Company, and the Aiken family.

The Burlington Section hired Ned Campton and Randy Mead for the summer of 1976 to scout out a reroute. Although the route they found was eventually not used, trails chairman Joe Frank felt it was a valuable experience.

The reroute was flagged largely by Joe Frank and Jack Harrington, with help from others. Actual work of clearing and blazing this reroute began in 1979 and continued in 1980. Many trails chairman including Jack Harrington, Joe Frank, Rick Rice, and Gordon Moore, and also many volunteers, worked on it. There were eight scheduled trails work hikes in 1979 and three in 1980. These were primarily to work on the reroute. There was also impromptu unscheduled work. Much of the heavy work was done by the Long Trail Patrol.

During these changes various routes through the Bolton Valley Ski area, including ski trails, were used. The original trail through Bolton Valley was sometimes used for work groups to get to the upper sections of the trail.

### NEW TRAILS AND CLOSED TRAILS

Cantilever Rock was discovered by Clyde Smith about 1960. This amazing rock juts out 35 feet from the cliff wall and is estimated to weigh seventy-five tons. A trail was blazed to it from the Sunset Ridge Trail in 1963. There was a rough ladder at Cantilever Rock for a short time. The ladder made it possible to climb up and out on the rock. It was felt that this could be dangerous to people and in the long run harmful to the rock, so the ladder was removed. Joe Frank made the Frost Trail up to Maple Ridge. Both of these new trails add interest to Mt. Mansfield hikes.

Once we had a work hike scheduled on the Bear Pond Trail. Neither trails chairman was able to come on that day, so Dot Myer led the hike. We got to Smugglers Notch and found out that the Bear Pond Trail had just been wiped out by a landslide. We worked on the Hazelton Trail instead. The Bear Pond Trail was never re-opened.

The Story Trail has been closed. There was also talk of closing the Laura Cowles Trail, but this was not done.

### ICE STORM OF 1998

The ice storm of 1998 did major damage to the Long Trail. In some places the trail was almost indiscernible. The heaviest damage in our section was on the side of Mt. Clark. Clearing trails after this storm required an immense amount of work. Fortunately there was a silver lining. There was overwhelming volunteer response. Trails chairmen Pam Gillis and John Sharp reported that they had almost more volunteers than they could use. Turnouts on work hikes that spring ranged from 20 to 27. They were divided into three groups and covered several trails on each outing.

Trail adopters and others also went out and cleared trails. Greg Western from the GMC field staff helped lead one of our groups, and six members of the Long Trail Patrol worked with us. Seth Coffey, the GMC "Ice Storm Coordinator" helped with reports on trail conditions, crews, extra tools, and new safety and trail-clearing equipment. We now have a new chain saw and safety equipment through the efforts of the GMC staff.

All of our trails were cleared by June. So on National Trails Day, June 6, we helped clear the Jerusalem Trail and Long Trail on Mt. Ellen.

### FOOD ON WORK HIKES

During the 1970s there was difficulty getting enough volunteers to work on trails and shelters. In an attempt to attract more workers, a meal was provided at the end of many of the work hikes. It seemed to work. Some of the people who provided meals were: Betsy Schneider, Evelyn Hickey, Elizabeth Thompson, Agnes Richardson, and Bobbie Conquest.

### MISCELLANEOUS

The trails committee helped the Main Club in setting trail standards in 1977. We cooperate with the rangers on Mt. Mansfield. We also helped with the Guidebook description of the Bolton reroute.

Some trails on the top of Mt. Mansfield have been maintained by the UVM Outing Club.

## SHELTERS

The shelters committee was at times a part of the trails committee. It has been a separate committee for many years now because there was really too much work for one committee. It was first called “Properties” and was later changed to “Shelters”. Some of our shelters chairmen have been: Harris Abbott, Jack Harrington, Joe Frank, David Cass, Kenn Boyd, Rod Halstead, Howard Van Benthuysen, Ralph Gibbs, Jack Lance, Dick Sirola, John Sharp, Keith Edson, Basil Goodridge, Chris Ward, Paul Schekel, Dana Baron, Newt Garland, Herm Hoffman, and Leo Leach. The Section was at first responsible for four shelters: Taft, Butler, Taylor, and Bolton. Puffer was soon added. Later, after the trail reroute near Bolton, two new shelters, Duck Brook and Buchanan, were added and Bolton was dropped since it is no longer on the Long Trail.

Shelters work hikes are scheduled regularly. However, as for trails, much of the work is done by the chairmen and by small ad hoc groups as the need occurs. This is probably even more true for shelters than for trails since it involves more skilled work.

Once the shelters were built, work usually consisted of repairing windows, creosoting, re-roofing, and minor repairs—often to fix damage done by porcupines or by thoughtless campers. Chicken wire was sometimes put around the base of the lodges and in other places to minimize porcupine damage. Occasionally more major repairs were also needed. Another early job was pressing oakum into cracks between logs to make the buildings less breezy. This was virtually discontinued since some shelters are now made of boards instead of logs and others are open-faced so that breeze gets in anyway.

### Porcupines:

Porcupines were a scourge on the Long Trail from the earliest days up into the seventies. Early Vermonters called them hedgehogs. James Taylor mentions them gnawing the boards of the old building on Killington Mountain, among other places. The 1960 Long Trail Handbook has a section on porcupines. It says in part:

“Porcupines are most destructive to trail structures...be sure that all doors, windows and shutters are closed and latched...Porcupines can be killed by a blow (on) the nose. When dispatched at a camp, they should not be thrown in the refuse dump but buried, or removed to a distant point...they may be carried safely by a front paw for there are no quills there.”

Porcupines were often seen on hikes in those days. They did much damage to shelters and outhouses and to anything that had food or salt from human hands. Everyone who camped then remembers boots, axe handles, pots and pans, and other items that were chewed by porcupines, as well as cabins and outhouses. Some recall trying to get down a mountain road after porcupines had chewed the brake shoes. Ed Salvas even had holes chewed in his sleeping bag while he was in it! (This was not a Green Mountain Club hike.) It was said that when people gathered around a campfire anywhere else they told bear stories; in Vermont they told porcupine stories.

The neighboring Adirondacks had few porcupines. It was believed that this was due to the presence of fishers, one of the few predators of porcupines. Fishers were introduced to Vermont by the State in 1959. This and the fact that people who wouldn't kill anything else often killed porcupines helped to reduce their numbers. They gradually became less and less common until now we rarely see one.

Creosoting was important to preserve the wood of lodges and to protect them from porcupines. The creosote had a strong odor and made the area creosoted unusable until it dried. It also caused burns. Once Susan Longenecker, Dot Myer, and the caretaker were creosoting Taft Lodge when their faces and hands began to burn. They washed them in the brook, but the burn only got worse. At first they thought they were getting sunburns even though there wasn't a bright sun that day. Later they realized it was from

the creosote fumes. Some time after that creosote was banned as a health hazard and we began to use other preservatives. Fortunately, at that time porcupines were becoming less and less common.

### DUCK BROOK

The original Bolton reroute necessitated a new shelter. Rod Rice found a suitable site. There was difficulty in finding out who the land actually belonged to; it was between the Boys Club and land owned



**DUCK BROOK DEDICATION**  
ROY BUCHANAN

by a Mrs. Varin. Roy Buchanan investigated and finally found out it belonged to Mrs. Varin who lived out of state. In 1966, a few days before the shelter was to be built, she was contacted by phone and agreed to have the shelter on her land. The Long Trail Patrol built the shelter for the Burlington Section. Roy Buchanan's son Chester and grandson David, a UVM student, also helped. The shelter was built in 4 days and cost \$375.05. The shelter was first called Cascade Shelter. Jerry grow made a sign. Later the name was changed to Duck Brook since everyone called it that anyway.

The dedication on October 15, 1966 was attended by over 80 people. Don Havens organized it and Dane Shortsleeve, section president, was master of ceremonies. This dedication was attended by many people including members of other sections and past presidents John Vondell and Ben Rolston. Roy Buchanan, then in his nineties, attended. He had a problem crossing the brook (not an easy crossing for anyone) but otherwise did fine. The youngest person to attend was one-year old Debbie Abbott who rode on her father Harris's back. Joel Page didn't let a broken leg stop him. He hiked to the shelter on crutches! The Pirkanens were adopters of this shelter for many years.

### PUFFER REBUILD

The original Puffer Lodge burned down in 1974. It was rebuilt as a shelter in 1975 by Ralph Gibbs, shelters chairman at the time, and his "Rat Patrol".

#### Rat Patrol

When Ralph Gibbs was shelters chairman he organized a group of people to regularly do some of the heavier shelters work. He called them the Rat Patrol. Members included: Harris Abbott, Ray Bard, Jack Harrington, Jack Lance, Gordon Moore, John Sharp and Ralph. Their first job was to build a new outhouse at Puffer. Later they did major work on Butler and Taylor, including re-roofing Taylor. Their biggest accomplishment was rebuilding Puffer. The group was not continued long after Ralph's term as shelters chairman ended.

The shelter was prefabricated at the Burlington Generating Plant in May by Jack Lance, Ralph Gibbs, and other members of the Rat Patrol. Several work parties in May cleaned up the site and prepared the foundation. They also worked on the trail which needed extra work for the extra use it got during the building of this shelter.

On June 14 over one hundred volunteers helped carry materials three miles up over Bolton Mountain to the site. David Broder of Troop 1 organized area scouts to carry in lumber and other materials. Other scout troops participating were Troop 71, Essex Center, Troop 2, Burlington, Troop 7, Jericho-Underhill, Troop 17, Malletts Bay, Troops 25 and 30, Essex Junction, and Troop 90, Hinesburg. Members of other GMC sections, as well as the Burlington Section, helped. Altogether 125 people participated.

Things carried in included 407 boards (up to 16 feet long), 72 feet of chicken wire, 4 one-gallon cans of creosote, six rolls of roofing material each weighing 45 pounds, 2 rolls of tar paper each weighing 30 pounds, 2 quarts of roofing tar, 31 pounds of nails, and tools. We discovered that the easiest way to carry sheets of roofing was over our heads. Unfortunately it was a hot day and heat and bugs collected under the roofing around our heads. Corky Magoon's lemonade stand part way up was a very welcome break.

The Essex Rescue Squad stationed two people on the mountain and had two more on call. Fortunately they were not needed. The Section donated \$25 to them from the Puffer Lodge Fund.

The carry in started at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. By 2:00 p.m. Sunday the shelter was completed, even including staining, landscaping, and a stone fireplace.

### TAYLOR REBUILD

Taylor Lodge burned down a second time in 1977 and was rebuilt by the Burlington Section in 1978. This lodge had a new "hybrid" design first conceived by Shirley Strong and Madeline Miles who got the idea from Birch Glen. It was basically a lean-to form with the back closed in and the front open like a regular lean-to. There are bunks in the back portion and tables and benches in the front, open portion.

Jack Lance, shelters chairman, was the chief builder. In addition to building, he obtained materials and had them delivered to the trail head. His committee and other volunteers helped.

Dot Myer coordinated volunteers to carry these materials up to the shelter and to help in other ways. Many others helped. Fred Smith organized Boy Scouts. Bill Ward and his Boy Scouts also helped.

Ralph Gibbs called radio stations. Dot and her committee (Ginny Yandow, Lyle Sutherland and others) had fun working on this project. They phoned members asking for help, put notices in the newspaper, contacted other organizations such as senior Girl Scouts to help, and put up posters in outdoor stores, at UVM, and other places. The posters were old-fashioned hand drawn ones, not computer made or printed. Once a meeting was held at Dot's house, which is a half-block from the airport. Lyle, the best artist in the group, was sent to the airport to draw a picture of Mt. Mansfield.

This group's biggest project was painting a billboard. At that time there was a vacant lot at the corner of Church Street and Main Street where the Strong Theater had burned down. There was a board fence around this and the city allowed people to put public service notices there. We got permission to advertise the Taylor rebuild. We went down town with paints, ladders, etc., and spent an afternoon painting a billboard.

Volunteers were obtained and everything was carried up to the site in early June, a project involving many people. Jan Abbott talked with the Lake Mansfield Club about parking for so many people. Evelyn Hickey prepared a meal for the workers. Jean Lance and her three daughters (Judy, Jackie, and Christa) all helped in various ways. The carrying in was done in two weekends. On June 3 there were 103 volunteers, on the fourth 20 to 25, and on the seventeenth and eighteenth 31.

Most of the actual construction of the shelter was essentially done in a weekend. Ginny Yandow and Dot Myer stayed overnight and helped the caretaker, Annie, nail the last boards. Annie was thrilled not only to spend the summer in a cabin in the woods, but to actually help build her cabin first.

A dedication was held on September 2, 1978. Eighty-eight people attended. Jan Abbott, section president was master of ceremonies. A skit was presented by Peg Whitson and a number of others. The skit included "Fashions for the Long Trail" (one early hiker played by Al Perkins) and a porcupine (played by Dot Myer who stayed up past midnight painting toothpicks for her costume).

Fires are no longer allowed at this shelter.

#### BUCHANAN SHELTER



The Start of Buchanan Lodge

When the Long Trail was rerouted so that it by-passed Bolton Lodge, a new shelter became necessary. After some exploring, a site was chosen .3 mile below the Trail. This site was flat enough to build a shelter and was not too far from water. In addition it could be reached fairly easily from the Bolton Ski Area but not so easily as to attract vandals. This made carrying in materials easier.

The shelter plan was an improved version of the new Taylor Lodge. The back portion was raised and windows put in to let more light into the bunkroom. Basil Goodridge obtained the windows. Like Taylor, the lean-to portion or "porch" contained tables and benches for eating.

The shelter was built in 1984 by the Burlington Section under the leadership of Basil Goodridge and Chris Ward, shelters chairmen. As with other building projects, volunteers carried in the materials and helped with building. The result was an excellent shelter.

Several names were suggested for the new shelter. Finally the name "Buchanan Shelter" after Roy Buchanan was chosen. This was especially appropriate since the Buchanan Lodge on the south side of the Winooski had recently burned down.

A dedication, held in October 1984, was organized by Chris Ward and Dot Myer. Forty-three people attended, including Roy's sons Andy and Chester (who came all the way from Schenectady) and his grandson David. Chris, Dot, and Judy Lance (section president) each spoke briefly. Then Chester and Andy spoke. Chester mentioned how appropriate it was to have Buchanan Shelter next to Puffer Shelter since Roy and Lou Puffer were such good friends. Andy said that Roy would have approved of this shelter and might have said in his humorous way that this shelter "wasn't leveled with a pie pan". This was followed by refreshments.

#### TAFT LODGE REBUILD

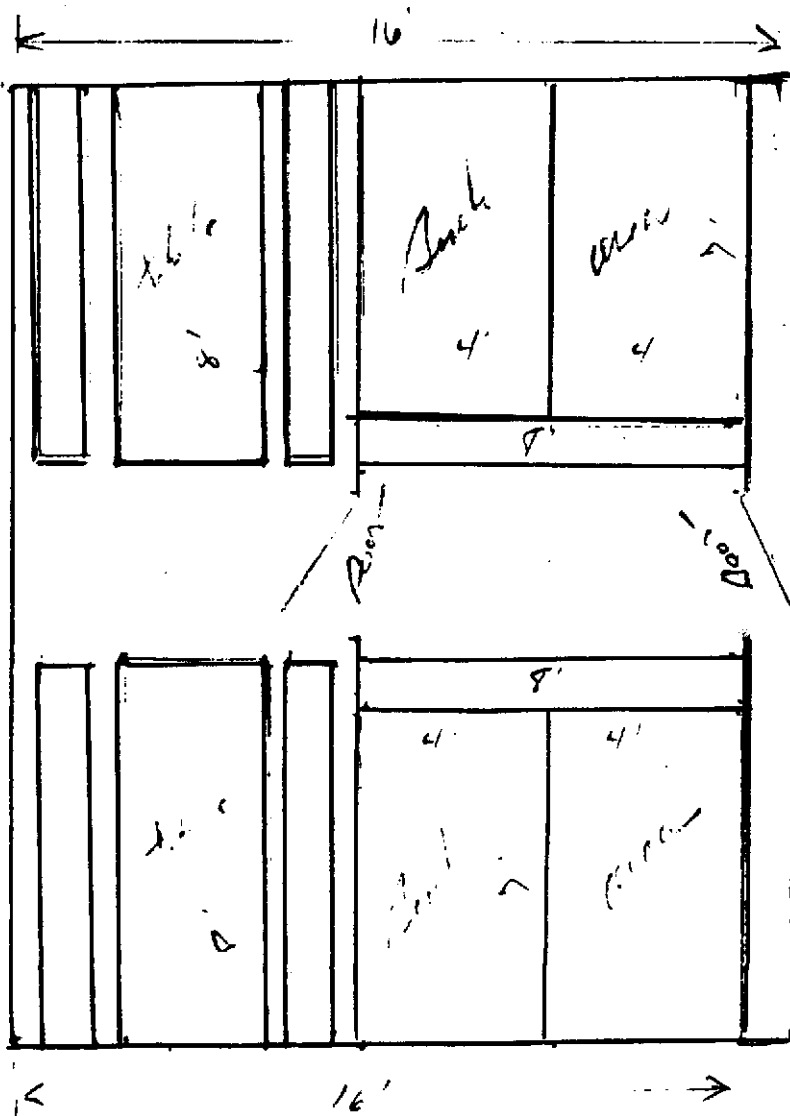
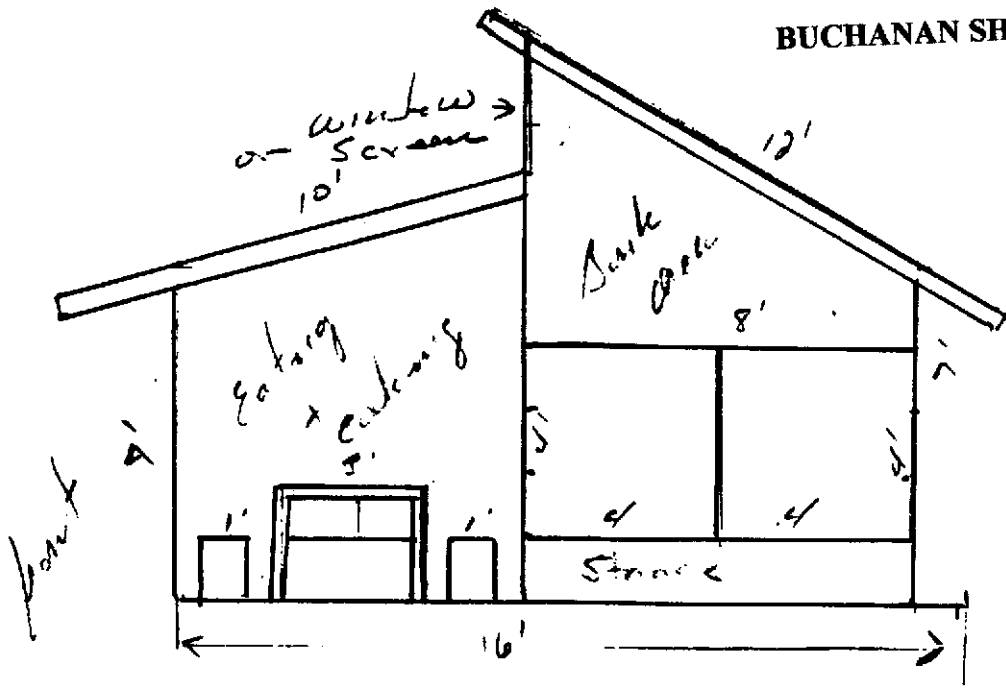
Taft Lodge is the oldest shelter on the Long Trail. In 1995 it was 75 years old and we had a birthday party there on July 29. Dana Baron, coordinator of the project, Rod Rice, and others carried a magnificent cake via the Gondola for the celebration. The cake was decorated in blues and greens and said "Happy Birthday Taft Lodge". We sang "Happy Birthday" and many people from the Burlington Section and other Sections, and some hikers passing through, enjoyed eating the cake.

Rod Rice and Daan Zwick, early caretakers at the lodge told of their experiences there. Arlene Weitzel also told tales of experiences at Taft and in the area. Arlene spent a week there in early times and her brother, Arthur Unsworth, was a caretaker.

BUCHANAN SHELTER



BUCHANAN SHELTER



Table

7'

16'

There had been talk of rebuilding or relocating Taft as early as 1966. Major repairs were done in August 1968. New floors and new roofing were installed, as well as lesser work. The work party consisted of Jack Harrington, Mauri Wintturi, and three Long Trail Patrol Members: Dave Gavatski, Dave Griggs, and Doug Montgomery. They left a time capsule containing various small items. It was opened in 1996 by Fred Gilbert.

Plans in the nineties were held up for a time by the State Division for Historic Preservation. Finally, at the time of the birthday party, we were definitely planning a rebuild of Taft. Dana outlined the restoration plan of this, our most recent, shelter rebuild. The building occurred in 1996. Daan Zwick provided financing of \$30,000. Builders, Fred Gilbert and John Bennett, were hired and spent the summer at the site. They did an excellent job.

This was a most interesting rebuild in several ways. First it is indicative of the new cooperation between the sections and the Main Club. The Stowe Mountain Resort and the National Guard were also involved. Previous shelters had been built by the Section with some support from the Main Club or by the Long Trail Patrol. Taft was much more of a cooperative project. The method of rebuilding was also interesting. Basically the roof was jacked up and a new building built under it. The base of the roof was solid, but new green metal roofing was put on.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about it was the method of getting logs to the site. To begin with they were brought by National Guard helicopter, which is not unusual. There is no flat area near the lodge where they could have been dropped, so they were dropped above the site. An ingenious cable system, called a grip hoist technique, using equipment owned by the Main Club, was set up to bring them down. A log was attached to the cable, a pulley tightened the cable, and the log went down by gravity. Belays were used to keep them from going too fast. It was really amazing to see these large logs come flying down the mountain.

The final result was a great shelter, preserving its original character, but with a porch added. A maintenance fund has been started to keep it that way.

Sally Spear made a video of this project.

An all-day open house with a shelter dedication at 1:00 p.m. was held on October 6, 1996. Many people from several sections attended.

#### TWIN BROOKS TENTING AREA – ORIGINAL AND REBUILD

In addition to shelters and lodges, there is one tenting area in our section, Twin Brooks between Taylor and Butler Lodges. This was first recommended by State Foresters in 1974 and built by the Green Mountain Club in 1975 to reduce pressure on Taylor and Butler Lodges. In 1980 it was moved slightly from its original site. Bears were sometimes a nuisance at this site.

Twin Brooks Tenting Area was dedicated to Roland Boucher in 1995. Clem Holden led the ceremony. A plaque was installed and memories of hiking with Roland were recalled. Attendants included Roland Jr. and his wife Dolores, and Sister Jane of St. Thomas Church in Underhill, a hiking friend of Roland's who gave a benediction.

This area gradually fell into disrepair. By 1996 the tent platforms were decaying, vegetation was damaged, and the area was laced with shortcut paths. So the area was then refurbished by the Section, the GMC, and the State, under the leadership of Leo Leach, shelters chairman and project coordinator, and Herman Hoffman, co-chairman. Others actively involved in this project included: Dana Baron, Lars Botzjorns, Len Carpenter, Gary Sawyer, Tim Tierney, Peter Alden, Newt Garland, and Ernie Norris. Many people helped carry in equipment and supplies and do other work.

Since the approach to the site via the Long Trail is quite long, another, temporary approach was found to do the work. This was from Stevensville and used logging roads, ski trails, and a section marked by the workers for this explicit purpose. Many volunteers carried in materials.

A major part of the job was tearing down the five old tent platforms and building ten new ones. The materials for the new ones were pre-drilled before taking them to the site. Ernie Norris built a new composting outhouse. A separate area was provided for group camping. There were fireplaces for wood fires and wood from the old tent platforms was cut up for firewood. Some trees were cut to prevent hazards or to open up vistas. These also were cut up for firewood. The trail approach from the main trail had become a maze of paths; these were blocked and one clear path made. A bulletin board and new signs were erected. Seven hundred seventy-nine volunteer hours by forty-nine volunteers went into this project.

One amusing incident while working on this area: we heard the loudest woodpecker we had ever heard. After investigating we found out that the reason he was so loud was that he was pecking on the outhouse door which was loose and vibrated with each peck!

On October 18, 1997, a dedication was held at the site. Len Carpenter, section president, presented a certificate of appreciation to Leo. Leo, Herm Hoffman and Bill April stayed for the night, testing the new platforms and finding them very satisfactory.

#### BUTLER LODGE

In 1983 we had a fiftieth birthday party for Butler Lodge, at the Lodge. Ruth Goodridge made a delicious birthday cake which everyone enjoyed.

In 1998 we began plans to replace Butler Lodge. As with Taft and other projects, planning is very important and takes time. We plan to rebuild Butler in 2000. Dana Baron is coordinator for this job. The logs have already been cut and peeled and hopefully will be transported to the construction site in the spring of 2000. Fred Gilbert is working on the design and lists of material and equipment.

#### HELPING ON ROUNDTOP AND SPUCE LEDGE

In 1998 the Laraway Section built Spruce Ledge Shelter. The Burlington Section scheduled two outings to help on this. In addition many individuals helped at other times on both Roundtop and Spruce Ledge. Burlington people who spent a lot of time on this included Len Carpenter, Sally Spear, Herm Hoffman, and Llyn Ellison (who is a member of both sections) and a number of others.

#### OUTHOUSES

In addition to shelters, the shelters committee, works hard at building, maintaining, and moving outhouses. This involves so much work that Leo Leach, shelters chairman, called 1999 "the year of the outhouse".



Originally these were all pit privies which had to be moved when they got too full. The one at Duck Brook is a good example. Originally it hung precariously over the edge of a cliff. In 1975 a new, better outhouse was built in a more suitable location. Boy Scouts dug the hole for this. They made it so big we thought it would last for thirty years! Of course it didn't; the outhouse has been moved twice since then. Dot and Pirk Pirkanen, adopters of this shelter, had a contest for the best outhouse design. It was won by Al Perkins, so this outhouse was named "Al's Outlet".

Ralph Gibbs organized a “Privy Raising” for this outhouse on May 19, 1974. The “ceremony” included Peg Whitson’s reading of “An Ode to An Outhouse”. Forty people attended. One new person didn’t quite know what she was getting into. She misunderstood the word “raising” and said, “I know what a privy is, but what is privy raising?”

Chris Ward introduced a new (to us) and simple way of moving an outhouse. She nailed a two-by-four to each side of the outhouse with the ends protruding front and back. When the new hole was ready, one or two people got on each end of each two-by-four and very easily carried the outhouse to its new location. The two-by-fours were then removed.

In the 1970s we began to use composting outhouses which made moving them unnecessary but made more work for caretakers. The one at Puffer presented a problem in getting an Act 250 permit in 1977. Eventually we got the permit and built the outhouse. It remained a problem since Puffer has no caretaker.

In 1999 we began to introduce “moldering privies”. Under leadership of shelters chairman Leo Leach, we installed one at Taylor Lodge. We had previously tried to install one at Twin Brooks before we thoroughly understood the technique. Taylor is the first site in the north to have this new type of privy. A “moldering privy” is shallow and breaks down the waste in the first six inches of soil (which is more biologically active). Red worms are added to increase decomposition. The Burlington Section shelters committee has helped the Laraway Section and the Randonnee Adventure volunteers to install moldering privies in other places, and they are planning a moldering privy at Puffer in the future.

Taft Lodge’s privy is being converted to a “Beyond the Bin” system. This is another new type of privy; it separates liquids from solids which makes a hotter environment for composting. Half the cost of this comes from the Taft Lodge Maintenance fund.

## STOVES

Originally all the lodges had stoves. They were necessary in the early days for both heat and cooking. When backpacking stoves came into use, stoves for cooking were no longer needed in lodges. In the early 1970s we began to discuss whether or not to continue having them. Some people felt the stoves were important and added much enjoyment to winter hiking. Others thought that cutting firewood depleted the area around the shelter and that careless use of stoves could sometimes lead to fires.

In 1976 the stove at Taft was removed by the State, apparently without the knowledge of the Section. This re-opened the controversy, which lasted for several years. Also in 1976, the old stove at Butler was removed and “thrown in the dump”. This was retrieved and pieced together with another old stove. This contraption resulted in a burned floor in January 1977. Jack and Jean Lance then removed the stove, and in February a new stove and stove pipes were put in Butler. A work party of eight on snowshoes carried in this 45-pound stove on a plastic sled. The stove and pipes were installed, and the stove was bolted to the floor. .

Eventually all the stoves were removed.

## TRASH

Originally all lodges had dumps (as did most country homes in those days). The Butler Lodge Register in 1963 has this note:

“Please dump all cans and rubbish over cliff west of Cabin. Thank You. GMC”

This changed in the 1970’s. A very big job in the early seventies was picking up litter on trails and at shelters, and removing all dumps. Hundreds of bags of trash were carried out on our work hikes.

The dumps at Bolton and Duck Brook were cleaned out in 1970. On one work hike there, twenty people carried out sixty-seven twenty-gallon bags of trash. Butler, Taylor and Taft dumps were removed in the next few years. The 1972 Butler caretaker spent a large part of his time carrying out trash. One new person worked on one of the work hikes and later wrote "I would like to be involved in some more meaningful way than picking up trash". Probably most of us felt that way at times, but we realized it was a job that had to be done. Since people were already used to dumps, signs had to be put up saying "This shelter has no dump".

The "Carry in, Carry out" and "Leave nothing but footprints" campaigns apparently worked. We rarely find litter on the trails now and not very often at shelters either. The area looks 100% better for this change.

### CARETAKERS AND ADOPTERS

All lodges originally had caretakers. Taft and Butler still had them in the 1950s. Then there were no caretakers for several years. The program was re-established the late 1960s. The original caretakers were paid no salary; they just kept the fees they collected from hikers. A few of them supplemented this by selling food. The later ones received a small salary, which was paid partly by the Burlington Section, and partly by the Main Club. Kenn Boyd, shelters chairman in 1970, worked closely with the caretakers and found it a very successful program. It is now a strong program.

Peg Whitson, an active member of our section, was caretaker of Bolton Lodge in 1974. Bolton Lodge is a unique stucco structure, which is no longer on the Long Trail. Peg kept a day-to-day journal of her summer there. Following are brief excerpts from her memories:

"...It was a summer of peace and people and sharing....I met over 800 people, only 9 of whom I wouldn't welcome back. Are people different on the trail or does a different sort of person use the trail? It was a summer of hard physical labor (and) complete relaxation beside a campfire or a secluded swimming hole. I have a renewed faith in the human race, especially young people. My sense of awe was unceasing at the natural wonders....I've learned to be generous with what I have....I have received in return ... best of all, much good will."

Shelter adopters, quite different from caretakers, were started about 1970. They are volunteers who look after a shelter. They do minor repairs, keep the area picked up, and inform the shelters chairmen when more major work is needed.

Together the caretakers, adopters, shelters chairmen, and all volunteers maintain our shelters in good condition and provide a comfortable night for Long Trail hikers.

## OUTINGS

Of course, the Section has not been all work and no play. In addition to trails and shelters work we have had a regular schedule of outings. At first we had only one a week, and none on some weeks. We now have something on most Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year. We have had a wide variety of hikes from short hikes followed by a supper to climbs of 4000' peaks and everything in between.

During the 1960s and early 1970s many members were interested in climbing the high peaks of the Adirondacks and also of New England, so many of these hikes were on the schedule. We even had week long hikes in Maine and New Hampshire, climbing several high peaks each time. Leaders for high peak hikes included Larry Dean, Ken Fisher, Fred Smith, Harris Abbott, Shirley Strong, and many others.

In 1973, 74, and 75 Dot and Pirk Pirkanen were outing chairmen for a few years. The Pirkanens were active in the Section in many ways, and later in the Breadloaf Section and in the Main Club. Their contributions extend far beyond these few years as outing chairmen. Their enthusiasm added sparkle to our hikes. They led many hikes themselves and encouraged others to lead. During the oil shortage they sought out places close to Burlington to hike, and thus save gas. They instituted interesting names for hikes. For example, work hikes were called

Dot and  
Pirk



"Labor Day in May", "No Work, No Eat", "Saw and Chaw" "Axe and Packs" and similar names. Pirk made unique hiking trophies from old hiking boots which he usually got from shoemakers and fixed up to look like new. He made a wall plaque for 1973, a lamp for 1974, and a planter for 1975. These were awarded to the person who had gone on the most scheduled hikes each year., Dot Myer for three years tied with Corky Magoon for one. Actually Pirk had gone on more hikes, but he disqualified himself. In 1973 the Pirkanens had a lasagna dinner for hike leaders. Dot Pirkanen worked for days preparing for this. Pirk died October 15, 1999.

### First Aid and Accidents

During the seventies we tried having first aid sessions. We have had a few serious accidents on scheduled trips. Judge Cowles died on the trail going up to Wiley Lodge in March, 1963. This was not a hiking accident but a heart attack. Coming home from the oyster stew in 1973 Larry Dean broke his leg. Larry was so tough he didn't even go to the doctor until the next morning. Sylvia Ewerts broke her hip cross-country skiing at Little River State Park. Andy and Carlene Squires, both rescue squad members, handled the situation well, and Pieter Crow and Erma Cameron skied out for help. A state police snowmobile took Sylvia to Little River Dam where an ambulance was waiting. Elise Palmer broke her leg on the Elephant's Head trail. Elise blames this on hiking with sneakers. The Stowe rescue squad was very helpful. Dave Dudy dislocated his shoulder on the way to Puffer. More recently, Rhoda Bedell broke her knee on a hike from Wind Gap to Appalachian Gap in October 1993 and Arlene Weizel broke her arm at a Taft Lodge party. Rhoda was able to walk out with her knee taped up with duct tape. She says she has never since then been without duct tape in her pack!

This is not a large number considering the number of hikes we have had, but we felt that it would be good for leaders and others to be prepared. While we hope there will be no accidents in the future, realistically, with more and more people—some of them inexperienced—coming on hikes, there will be other accidents. We hoped to be prepared for them. Unfortunately there was not enough interest in these sessions; two of them had to be cancelled. Others, however, were more successful.

Al Perkins was instructor for most of these first aid sessions; Andy Squires for others. Other outing chairmen in the 1960s and 1970s included: Andy Buchanan, Pete Keelty, Mary Forester, Helen Farrington, Madeline Miles, Jim Vlamis, Fred Smith, Peg Whitson, Betsy Schneider, Elise Palmer.

Dot Myer was outing chairman during most of the 1980s and 1990s, sometimes with a co-chairman (Cathy Frank, Ginny Yandow, Mark Mancuso, Pieter Crow). Things went on as usual with a few changes.

Cross country skiing became more and more popular. We skied in ski centers, on hiking trails, and wherever else there was good skiing (and sometimes not so good). The Bolton to Trapp route was very popular even though it is quite long and difficult. There have been various leaders for this trip, but most recently Pam and Robert Gillis led it for several years. There were varying snow conditions, and one year it was so cold Pam got frostbite.

While many members continued to be interested in high peaks, they did more of them on independent hikes and fewer on the schedule. We continued to have many Adirondacks hikes, but with a new twist. In the past they were usually concentrated on the high peaks with only an occasional climb of Noonmark, Pitchoff, or some other lesser mountain. In 1988 Pat Collier joined us. She comes from the Adirondacks and is an expert on them. She even helped write some of Barbara McMartin's Adirondack guide books. She led us on many hikes to smaller, less often hiked peaks, including the Jays, Baxter, Hopkins, Blueberry Cobble, Snowy, Macomus, Big Crow and Nun-ga-da-o Ridge, and many others. These are lesser peaks only in height. Many of them have open rocky areas with great views. They are as much fun and as beautiful and sometimes as challenging as the high peaks. Of course we continued to have some hikes on high peaks.

We tried putting different sections of the Long Trail on the schedule, but it was a time of low participation and few people seemed interested so we didn't continue this at that time. Several years later the Montpelier Section had great success with this. Some of our members joined them. So in 1999 when Mary Lou Recor and Phil Hazen were outing chairmen we began to have more Long Trail hikes on our own schedule.

In general participation on hikes was very low during much of this period, but it is improving now.

## FOOD HIKES

Food events have always been very popular. One of the most popular and long-running was the oyster stew held by Don and Bev Rimick from 1952 to 1977. This is well described in Part I.

Other food hikes were also popular, particularly corn roasts which were held in various years with various leaders. Andy and Joan Buchanan led several in the early 1960s. Sixty people attended the 1962 corn roast—almost as many as the Oyster Stew, which had 65 in 1963. Jim Forester and Helen Farrington had corn roasts in 1968 and 69. The Pirkanens also led several. In 1980 they held one in their garage because it was too rainy to go anywhere else. Twenty-nine people came. More recently, Pam and Robert Gillis held a corn roast in 1986, and David and Gale Cass in 1988.

Fred Smith had bean suppers most years from 1961 through 1967.

Jenny Stein had a corn chowder supper at French Camp in and Kenn and Alice Boyd gave a spaghetti supper at Bolton Lodge. We also had chili suppers. While these were well attended, they did not quite become regular annual affairs. There have also been breakfasts. Our food hikes became so popular that one outing chairman suggested in his report that in order to avoid a reputation as eaters instead of hikers we should "make people walk for their food". This was usually, but not always followed.

### Old Time Picnics:

Rose Bloomhardt organized "Old Time Picnics", usually at Red Rocks Park, on the Saturday nearest to the summer solstice from about 1983 to 1991. She and her committee (usually Agnes Richardson, Al Perkins, and Peg Whitson) worked very hard on these picnics. In addition to making all the necessary arrangements and plans, they sent cards to all older members inviting them to attend. Eating was a major feature of these



**Old Time Picnic: Ages Richardson, Dot Myer, Jim Henry, Brad Perkins (red Hat in back), and Peg Whitson**

picnics, but people also hiked on the trails or swam in the lake. One year Peg set up a treasure hunt which we all enjoyed. Flossie Eaton mentioned how much she enjoyed these picnics when she was no longer able to participate in regular hikes.

The picnics were continued until 1995 led by Al Perking, Agnes Richardson, Peg Whitson, and Dot Myer. There were also "Newcomers Picnics" led by Connie Plunkett.

After 1995 the Old Timers Picnics were discontinued but the solstice idea was taken up by Len Carpenter who had winter solstice hikes to Butler Lodge in 1997, 1998, and 1999. These were well attended and everyone enjoyed the sunset and the hike down. Those who stayed to the end took part in a solstice circle. (Some went down earlier to avoid walking in the dark.)

### WINTER CABIN HIKES

Winter cabin weekends, including food and hiking, were a different popular type of outing. Ralph Gibbs started these in 1973 with a weekend outing at Winter Cabin near Johns Brook Lodge in the



**Winter Camp**

Adirondacks. We rented Winter Cabin and Grace Cabin next to it from the Adirondack Mountain Club. These were back country camps and it was necessary to snowshoe or ski in to them. Ralph and Dot Myer scouted out this first outing on a rainy day. They explored too much and it was extremely dark as well as rainy when they started back. Dot's glasses were so rain-streaked she could hardly see and Ralph had trouble seeing in the dark anyway. Still it was all right until both their flashlights gave out! They thought they would have to stay there all night. Fortunately they met another group going down who let them follow their flashlights. Even so they nearly ran into trees and once almost jumped into a brook when there was a bridge two feet away!

The outing itself was a great success. Twenty-three people came. We climbed Phelps Mountain and had to count off occasionally so we wouldn't lose such a crowd. At night we had a Christmas party. After a turkey dinner we exchanged small gifts and sang songs. Ralph had even found a song leader/guitar player to join the group and we all sang. Peter Fish, the ranger in the area, was invited and looked the other way when we had a live Christmas tree.

This outing was repeated each year until 1981. However the snow was often not very good in December, so the outing was changed to January. The event became very popular. We usually went on a Friday and stayed through Sunday. Since many people had to work on Friday they arrived at different times, sometimes near midnight. We sometimes used a sled to bring in the food and other things. This worked well although occasionally it tipped over and had to be righted. We climbed different mountains each year: in 1981 we climbed Marcy, Upper Wolf Jaw, and Big Slide; another years we climbed Armstrong, etc.. Everyone really enjoyed our trips there.

While Winter Cabin was still popular, it was decided to try different places. We held a similar outing at Harvard Cabin in Pinkham Notch.

We had a couple of weekends at Wanalancet Cabin, an AMC cabin in the White Mountains. The cabin is quite modern with electricity, but has about five outhouses right out in front of it! The outhouses have electricity! The area around Wanalancet is a very good place for beginning skiers; there are flat roads and a flat pond to ski on. One of the roads leads to a beautiful view of Chocorhua. We also watched dog sled races on the pond. One year we made pies and left them outside to cool. A dog came and ate them! Another year only five people came. It was a very cold night and the oil heater just wouldn't start. We finally had to call a repairman. He came at night and found five women in sleeping bags around a cold stove. He managed to fix it and eventually the cabin became warm. AMC reimbursed us for this.

We also had outings at the AMC Wheeler Pond cabin in Vermont. There was only one problem with this place: the first time we went we didn't know ahead of time that the road was closed in winter and didn't come really prepared to ski in. However we got there all right. While there we climbed Wheeler Mountain and did other hiking and skiing. One young man got very cold feet when he insisted he could hike in sneakers in the winter. He learned from his experience. Once we skied out by a different road and Jan Edwards met us with a car.

In March, 1991, a weekend at Cardigan Little House was led by Ralph Gibbs and Ginny Yandow. Cardigan Little House is an AMC cabin with four bedrooms which accommodate 22 people, a large kitchen, and a large fireplaced living room. Sixteen people attended and enjoyed cross country skiing on many trails. Some people also snowshoed. Ginny prepared "scrumptious" meals, and evenings included games, slides, and pleasant conversation. Although it rained on Saturday, everyone had a good time.

After trying several cabins, the Weizel Cabin became a regular winter event. This modern cabin near to Adirondack Lodge is used for their crew in the summer and is rented to groups like ours in the winter. We can drive right to it—no hiking in like Winter Cabin. It has a good kitchen, a large living/dining room, four bedrooms each with four bunks, and bathrooms with hot showers. There is excellent skiing and snowshoeing and hiking nearby. We went there from 1992 through 1999. Olga Vrana did an excellent job of organizing these trips. She reserved the cabin, collected money, planned meals, sent reminders of the trip to everyone, and did everything necessary (and more) for a great trip.

We usually go out for dinner on Friday night, and have a big dinner in the cabin with everyone contributing on Saturday night. We also have delicious breakfasts, often including Olga's monkey bread. During the day we divide into two or more groups for skiing or hiking. In different years we climbed Marcy, Phelps, Algonquin and others. Avalanche Pass is popular with the expert skiers, and there are easier trails near the cabin for the less expert. Once Len Carpenter led a ski trip from Weizel to the Mt. Van Hovenberg Ski area. This was a very good trip but we did have one problem. Gary Myers had a problem with his diabetes. We thought he went back to the cabin. Instead he came on. Eventually it turned out all right but he was in danger for a while. Sometimes we went to places away from the immediate area: the Jack Rabbit Trail, Paul Smith's and others.

Like the Winter Cabin weekends, the Weizel Cabin weekend remained popular and sometimes had waiting lists. However, popularity waned a little. This time we tried a different tactic. Instead of going to a new cabin, we shared the event with another group—the Burlington Ski Club. Skiing became more popular than hiking though we continued to do both. Donna Leban, a member of the Ski Club and later of the Section, shared the planning with Olga and took it over in 1999. Corky Magoon also helped organizing these trips.

One year we went to Adirondack Loj itself where everything was provided for us.

Olga Vrana has held several outings at her cabin in Newark, Vermont. Some years we have had to ski about a mile in to the cabin. In some recent years the road is plowed. We ski on the road and in the woods and once went to Burke Mountain. If the snow is sticky, Dot Myer usually makes a snowman. Olga also holds summer outings at her cabin. Then we canoe on various ponds in the Northeast Kingdom and once in Victory Bog, or we hike on Mt. Pisgah, Wheeler Mountain, Mt. Hor, Haystack and other mountains in the area. We also swim in her pond. Olga organizes great meals with everyone contributing something.

## DEER SEASON HIKES

Deer season presents a problem. We have tried not to hike in hunting areas and this limits where we can go. For many years we have had a "Turkey Walk-off" the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This was usually held at the Audubon Society and has had various leaders and varying attendance (one year nobody came!). One year Dot Myer led it at the Fanny Allen Fitness Trail which was new at the time and some members wanted to try it. Another year Al Perkins led a "Thanksgiving Walk-Off" since she is a vegetarian.

We also hike in the Adirondacks during deer season. Their deer season is much longer and the area bigger so there seems to be less danger. Nevertheless we most often went to the Ausable Club area where there is no hunting. Dot Myer led these hikes for many years. Pam Gillis did it one year. More recently Deb Brown, Dieter Cohrs and others have led Adirondack (not always Ausable Club) hikes during deer season. We have climbed Sawteeth several times, Colden a couple of times, Wolf Jaws at least once. We climbed Dial and Nippletop one year, and another year couldn't even make it to the top of Dial because of deep snow. One year we planned to climb Gothics from that side. The night before there was an unexpected heavy snowfall. Dot Myer, the leader, woke up expecting to ride her bicycle to the meeting place. Since that was impossible, she walked which took much longer. By the time she got there, the two people who came (Greg and Penny Bostock) had gone on their own. The went in the Ausable Lake road but were unable to climb Gothics in the new heavy snow. It was usually getting dark by the time we got back to the cars from these hikes. Some years we heard owls on the way out.

For several years slide shows were popular during deer season. We saw slides mostly on members trips including Alaska, Colorado, Utah, Central America, Norway, New Zealand, and other places. These slide shows are no longer held for several reasons: we now have members meetings several times a year which usually include slides so we don't need another one, we are less careful about avoiding hiking in deer country probably because there are now so many different deer seasons that we can't avoid them all, and some of our best slide presenters (Tom Brooks for example) have left the area or are no longer very active in presenting slides.

## SPRING HIKING

As the number of hikers on the trails increased, it became necessary to restrict hiking in the spring. This was first done on Mt. Mansfield and Camels Hump in the 1970s.. Burlington Section members were stationed at the base of Camel's Hump to ask people not to hike there. Later the restrictions were extended to other areas. This presented another challenge in finding places to hike. Since we do a large amount of trail work in May, this helped but we also needed other hikes. We had road hikes (Hollie Johnson led us on abandoned roads in the Moretown area, Tony Smith took us to the abandoned town of East Elmore, and several others), bike hikes, and climbed smaller mountains (Moosalamoo and Snake Mountain for example).

Again the Adirondacks came to the rescue; again because they are a larger area and didn't begin to have restrictions until the summer of 1999. We did generally avoid the high peaks. A regular hike was held in the Ausable Club area from 1992-1994, led by Dot Myer. Later similar hikes were led by John Somers and Nancy Heisman-Somers (1995), Mickey Weitzel (1996) and Mary Lou Recor (1997). The first year this was called "Waterfalls and Wildflowers". Since we found very few wildflowers, the name was changed to just Waterfalls hike. Our usual route was up Gill Brook with its many cascades and small falls, out to Fish Hawk Cliffs for a great view, down the steep trail to the Ausable Club road, across the road to 75' high Rainbow Falls, the West River Trail to Buttermilk and Beaver Meadow Falls, and then out



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by West River, East River, the road or some combination.. This became a very popular hike. In 1993 27 people showed up, our largest hike attendance that year. The group was divided in half. John Somers and Travis Moulton were appointed to lead the fast group and Dot continued with the slower group. The two groups went in opposite directions and met in the middle.

### SOME INTERESTING ONE-TIME HIKES

Of course we have had many, many (maybe 2000!) hikes that happened only once or a few times. It would be impossible and boring to mention all of them. The following are a few of the more interesting or unusual.

One interesting hike was Kenn Boyd's igloo building in Smugglers Notch in 1981. We cut blocks of hard snow and learned to spiral them so that as the walls went up they also went inward toward the center. Unfortunately we made our igloo a little too big and didn't get the very top on until the next day. So five of us slept in it with all our warm air going out the top. During the night some snowmobiles came and we had to make noise to make sure they didn't run into us.

On a hike on Camel's Hump led by Dane Shortsleeve in 1965 the weather completely surprised us. We hadn't seen snow in the valleys for some time and nobody thought to bring snowshoes. The group got separated when it became too cold to wait for each other. Eventually everyone reached Gorham Lodge, wading through waist deep snow. This was on May 1!

One hike that happened twice, each time totally different because of the weather, was our Fourth of July hike to the top of Mt. Mansfield to watch fireworks. In 1983 Dot Myer led this hike and 21 people came. We saw fireworks in all directions, though most were distant. We really enjoyed hiking down in the moonlight. The next time she tried to lead a similar hike, it was a rainy night. Only Eric Sklar, Gretchen Grimm and a friend of Gretchen's came. Gretchen and her friend were 14 years old at the time. We got to the top of the mountain and couldn't see anything. We decided to go down to Taft Lodge and at least see something from Stowe. We did see fireworks there, but the lines of car headlights winding up the mountain road were almost as interesting as the fireworks. Then we started back. It was so dark that Eric went ahead and found a blaze. When the others caught up with him, he went ahead to look for the next blaze, etc. Going this way all the way down the mountain, we finally got out just at dawn. Needless to say, the parents of the two young girls were very worried. They had already called the authorities at Mt. Mansfield. We felt this outing would really be better as a spur of the moment thing when the weather was right for it. We did not repeat it. However, we have had successful moonlight hikes up Camel's Hump, led by Tom Brooks, and up Mt. Mansfield led by Andy and Carlene Squires and one by Keith Edson.

Another different hike on Mt. Mansfield was our chair lift hike. People laughed at the Green Mountain Club for taking the chair lift but this way we had a chance to explore all the trails on top of the mountain, such as the Cliff, the Fern, the Subway, and the Canyon. Few of us ever take time to hike these trails after climbing up the mountain.

For several years we had a very popular trip to Tuckerman's Ravine on Mothers Day just to watch the skiers. Al Perkins led this; she said it started as a family outing because it was the only way she could see her children, avid skiers, on Mothers Day.

Peg Whitson was fond of leading creek hikes. On a 1993 hike up Brewster Creek near Jeffersonville. we found a very unusual rock. It was a perfect oval shape, about fourteen inches long. It was hunter's green covered with raised white star-like lines. Although it was quite heavy, Mickey Wetzel carried it back in her pack. Peg took it to the Perkins Geology Museum at UVM. There Curator Jeff Howe and Dr. Barry Doolan identified it as a "chicken rock". They explained its half billion year history when it went through volcanic processes, metamorphism, and rounding by glaciers and by tumbling down the creek. These rocks are known only in the Fletcher area and frequently come down the Brewster River. Our rock is now on display at the Museum.

Herm Hoffman was interested in bushwhacking, especially Dewey Mountain, a steep little mountain near Taylor Lodge. He led hikes up it for several winters starting in 1996. Most people skied as far as Devil's Dishpan and snowshoed the rest of the way. Herm could spot Dewey from the tops of many mountains. He got

such a reputation for climbing Dewey that when he led different hike, the hike description stated "at no time in this hike will we climb Dewey Mountain".

Another unusual hike was our March 1974 "One-plus-one Exceptional Kids Hike" where we invited students from Edmunds Middle school who were recommended by the school nurse and guidance department as children who would not be likely to have this sort of experience. Each child was paired up with one or more GMC adults (we had more adults than children). We hiked to Bolton Lodge and had a hotdog roast. All had a good time, and a couple of children asked about joining the GMC and "When is the next hike?" However, we felt that if we did this again we would like to invite younger children. The experience would be more exciting for them and more fun for most adults also.

On a recent ski in Bolton Valley we saw a moose lying down near the trail. We watched it for quite a while and then realized there was something wrong with it. We reported it to the ski patrol who reported it to the game warden. Unfortunately our moose had brain worm and had to be destroyed. At least one other moose was seen on a scheduled hike, this time on the Nebraska Notch trail. We also saw them in Maine. Of course moose didn't even exist in Vermont in the early years of the Green Mountain Club.

#### Other Animals on the Trail:

Little animals (chipmunks, squirrels, toads, mice, shrews, and other small animals) are often seen on our hikes. Porcupines were extremely common and seen on many hikes until about the mid 1970s. Occasionally we see a deer or rabbit. Once we saw some rabbits in the Camel's Hump clearing that were so large that for a moment Julia Hatch thought they were deer. Once Dot Myer sat eating her lunch while others climbed to a summit. A white snowshoe hare came hopping up the trail and nearly stepped on her snowshoe before it noticed her and turned and hopped away at full speed. Once we saw a snake eating a toad. We watched the fat bump go down his body, while a hawk watched from above presumably waiting its chance to eat the snake.

However, it is unusual to see large animals in a scheduled group. Besides the moose and an occasional deer, at least two bears were seen on scheduled hikes. On a long ago overnight hike in North Troy we were going down to Journey's End when we saw a yearling bear standing up just like in a postcard. A little more recently a large group of us were coming down from Butler Lodge. Dot Myer, who was first, thought for a minute that it was Cubby, Smith Edwards' dog. Jack Harrington, directly behind her, said "That's a bear!" The bear disappeared into the bushes before anyone could get out a camera. We have seen bears at campgrounds at other times but have no record of them on the trail on scheduled hikes. Individuals and small unscheduled groups have seen them occasionally.

Once during an oyster stew Dot hiked up to the ridge between Taylor and Ranch Camp and saw a lynx; at least she is almost sure it was a lynx. Then there are the mystery animals we saw in the Adirondacks. Again Dot was first (No, she didn't imagine all these animals!). For a split second she got a clear view of the animal. It was somewhat like a German shepherd but a little taller and thinner, and coal black. In an instant it was gone. Then we heard a splash in a nearby brook. Then another splash. There were two of these animals! They followed us at some distance to one side of the trail. Finally we heard them snarl and leave. The only logical explanation we have for them so far is that they may have been feral dogs.

Once we had a mystery hike that turned out to be a bigger mystery than we planned. Barbara Himeon, a new member, got a flat tire on the way to the meeting place. Although her sons, about ten years old, changed the tire quickly and efficiently, the rest of the group was gone by the time she reached the meeting place. She and her passengers had a hike of their own.

In 1996 Susan Alden led a deer season hike to Shelburne Farms. There was nothing unusual about this until 67 people showed up! We could hardly believe they all came for our hike (average hikes were about 7) Fortunately it was at Shelburne Farms rather than in a wilderness and people scattered and had a good time. Also fortunately this never happened again, before or since.

Other unusual events included spelunking led by Ed Salvas, kite flying, introduction to rock climbing by Pieter Crow, map and compass and orienteering, star-gazing at St. Michael's observatory, an Amtrak trip to Montreal, a lake cruise organized by Tom Joslin, a butternut hunt (we didn't find any butternuts), and waffles and ice cream parties hosted by Ginny Yandow.

### CANOE TRIPS

Not all our outings are hikes. Peter Alden led many fall canoe outings in the Adirondacks.. Some years it was too late in the fall; it snowed! One year we went through the locks on the Saranac Lakes. One young girl forgot to untie her canoe. As the water went down the front of the canoe began to go up. "Daddy" she cried to

her father, who was her canoe partner, "What shall I do?" Fortunately the attendant on shore saw what was happening and untied it for us.

Olga Vrana has also led many canoe outings. She has led trips on various lakes in the Northeast Kingdom, using her cabin as a base. One year she led a trip on Richardson Lake in Maine. It rained so hard that the first day they gave up and went to Olga's cabin for the rest of the weekend. Olga has led canoe trips on Lewey Lake in the Adirondacks and on the Magalloway on the Maine New Hampshire border. In 1996 we went from the Magalloway to nearby Sturtevant Pond. It got windy and huge waves nearly swamped our two canoes. Adrian, a visitor from Scotland, found a way to save us. We took the spare paddles and lashed the two canoes together like a catamaran. This made them more stable. Everyone either bailed or paddled with all their might. We rested at two private docks and eventually got back where we started. (A similar incident occurred in 1961 when six people were stranded on an island in Lake George by high winds. They couldn't leave until 9:30 p.m. This was not one of Olga's trips.) In 1998 on the Magalloway, Carol Hignite and Dot Myer capsized a canoe. Carol knew what to do and floated to shore. Dot did all the wrong things. She chased her canoe until it wedged her between itself and a log. There was a really frightening moment before she was able to push the canoe away. Then both got safely ashore and there were only a few minor losses. Even Dot's watch and camera were fine! All of Olga's trips are fun, in spite of these mishaps.

We have also had many great canoe outings on Green River Reservoir . Jack and Jean Lance us on a canoe trip in Greenwood Lake. We have had a canoe trips on the Lamoille River and on the Winooski. Other people who have led canoe trips include: Corky Magoon, Sally Spear, Betsy Schneider, Rose Bloomhardt, Tom Brooks and Rosemarie Bagioni, and others.

On canoe trips we often enjoy watching loons and other birds.

### BIKE TRIPS

We have also had bike trips. For two years Tony Smith led one on Isle La Motte. The first time more than thirty people came. We rode all around the island and had a great time. The next year it was rainy. Only Tony and Dot Myer came. Andy and Carlene Squires also led an Isle La Motte bike hike. Joe Frank and Tom Brooks both led successful bike and ferry trips crossing Lake Champlain by ferry and biking on the New York side. Dot Myer led a similar trip but only Dot and Pat Collier showed up. Harris and Jan Abbott led a bike hike from Essex Center to Fairfax, arriving in time for breakfast, and also one up into Canada. There have been a number of other bike hikes. Leaders have included: Pam and Robert Gillis, Carlene and Andy Squires, Ralph Gibbs, Sylvia Ewerts, Elise Palmer, and others.

### MAINE TRIPS

While most of our trips have been in Vermont or the Adirondacks or occasionally in New Hampshire, we have had a few trips further afield. We went to Maine several times. Usually we climbed Mt. Katahdin there, but sometimes we climbed other peaks and a couple of times went through Mahoosuc Notch.

Perhaps the most ambitious Maine trip was August 5-15, 1971. This was led by Fred Smith. We climbed Katahdin, and North and South Brother in Baxter State Park. Then we went to the summer home of

Francis and Franny Bliss in New Vineyard. Francis graciously allowed us to camp in his field. From this base we climbed eight other 4000' peaks in Maine. Four people (Newell and Ruth Briggs, Marian Holmes, and Fred Smith) completed the New England 4000' peaks on this trip. A month later Amanda Smith, age 10, completed the 4000' peaks in New Hampshire.

Another very interesting Katahdin trip was led by Shirley Strong. We spent a week there and made so many changes in our plans and reservations that we became well known to the park office. They called us "The Strong Party".

We wanted to see moose; this was before there were any in Vermont and there weren't as many in Maine as they are now. We were told the place to see them was at Sandy Stream. We got up early one morning and were at Sandy Stream before 6:00 a.m. We waited for an hour. And another hour. Finally we gave up and went back to camp. Then someone told us the moose were at the stream. We went back and saw them at 10:00.

One day Peggy Pons didn't feel like hiking. Instead she stayed in camp and painted the flagpole for the ranger. One morning there was a bear between camp and the outhouses. Dot Myer clapped her hands and said "Go, Bear, Go!" The bear went a little ways. Foolishly, Dot went a little closer, clapped her hands and said "Go, Bear, Go!" again. She repeated this several times until the bear was gone. Then we found out the people in the next campsite had come all the way from Oregon and this was the first bear they had seen. Dot had to apologize to them for scaring their bear away. Ironically, a little later a bee flew by. Dot screamed and ran away!

More recently Dot Myer led a trip to Baxter State Park with the idea of seeing much of the rest of the park instead of just climbing Katahdin. We first climbed the Traveler, a smaller mountain at the north end of the park. We hiked a trail along a stream with many rapids and falls. Andy Squires tried fishing. Another Maine trip that Dot led involved a canoe ferry across the Kennebec. This was part of the Apopalachian Trail and she put this section of the trail on the regular outing schedule.

Mark Mancuso led a trip to Katahdin and also one through Mahoosuc Notch Pam Moritz (later Gillis) and Tim O'Gorman also led a hike in the Mahoosucs, and also Keith Edson and Andy Squires.

## THE SMOKIES

In the 1970s Kenn and Alice Boyd led a trip to the Smoky Mountains. Participants were Ken and Alice and their son John (age 4), Alan Boyd (Ken's young brother), Newell and Ruth Briggs, Irena Case, and Dot Myer. We hiked from near Newfound Gap to near Clingman's Dome.

We were there in June; the rhododendrons and azaleas were gorgeous, and school had just gotten out. It was the most crowded trail we had seen up to that time. The first night we got to the shelter and found it full. We went back down and got tents (which we had with us for the trip down but hadn't expected to need on the trail.) We did need them that night and every night except one for the rest of the trip. That one night we got up early in the morning and got to our shelter by 9:00 a.m. Then we went for a day hike to a mountain off the trail, which seemed to be almost more downhill than up.

There were many bears around the shelters and they were incredibly bold. That's why Smoky Mountain shelters have iron bars across the front. However, if anything was left too close to the bars the bears would reach in and grab it. Someone (not in our group) left a pack outside and a bear picked it up and started to carry it away. The bears would come to one side of the leanto. We saw one scratching himself against a tree. We would scare them away by waving ponchos. However "away" only meant going around the leanto and coming back from the other side. These were bears that had become nuisances at roadside campgrounds and had been captured and let go in the back country. We knew this because we saw the markings on them.

It was a beautiful hike in spite of bears and crowds. We loved the flowers and the open balds which were new to most of us. The trail was smooth and easier hiking than trails at home. There were few rocks and roots in the trail.

On the last day it rained hard, so we bailed out just before reaching Clingman's Dome. We went to Gatlinburg, Tennessee for lunch. We were wet and cold and not happy to see the air conditioning on high. We found out there was no air conditioning in the rest rooms and spent more time in there than necessary. We found a laundromat in Gatlinburg that also had showers—a very convenient arrangement. On the way home we stopped at Cady's Cove, a very interesting pioneer settlement

We did not repeat this trip as a section, but we enjoyed it so much that four of us (Irena Case and Dot Myer from the original group and two others, Maureen Cross and Alan Cook) went back about ten years later (1986) and hiked the rest of the Smokies as an independent trip.

### THE CASCADES

The Burlington Section had one major expedition in the west. This was to the North Cascades in 1969. Helen Farrington was leader; other participants included Janice Lange, Marion Holmes, Betty Myers, and Dot Myer. We had an outfitter with horses to transport our tents and other heavy things; we carried only day packs. We had beautiful sunny weather and hiked mostly on open ridges where we could sometimes see our whole day's hike spread out before us.

It was a great trip, but too big an undertaking for a section. We did not do another western expedition. However, later the Main Club began to run expeditions. Andy and Carlene Squires, from our Section, were chairpersons of the Expedition Committee for a while. Tom Brooks was very active for a couple of years, and others in the Section also worked on it.

### ALGONQUIN PARK

Nineteen sixty-nine was a year for big trips. That same summer, on July 4 to 12, we had a canoe trip in Algonquin Park, led by Chuck Hadden and Dave Fonseca. Participants included members of the Montpelier Section and guests from New York and Colorado, as well as our own members. There were seventeen in all, including six children. All had outdoor experience of many types. Artro Swingle had prospected for gold. Others were rock climbers, hikers, etc. as well as canoeists.

It started with a sign-up sheet at Annual Meeting. Then the group had a "shake-down" on the Winooski River from Bolton to Richmond. Then and on the trip they learned about different canoes, different types of tents, canoeing strokes, and many other things.

They paddled about 100 miles, mostly in fair weather. Some of the lakes they paddled on included. Canoe Lake, Joe, Te[pee, Littledoe., Tom Thomson, McIntosh, Timberwolf, Misty, Ink, Petawa, Trout, Otterslide, Burnt Island, and Tea Lakes—all in eight days. They also explored some rivers.

Ann Hadden planned and purchased the food which was extremely appetizing. All helped with cooking. Artro Swingle made flapjacks. They fished for some of their meals. Sean Conlon, a young boy from Montpelier, caught more fish than they could eat. He used a bent pin for a hook! Artro Swingle had much more experience, better equipment, and much less luck; he didn't catch anything.

There were difficult portages and lots of bugs, but everyone enjoyed the trip.

### LAURENTIANS

For several winters recently we have had skiing in the Laurentians, hosted by Section members Tony and Nanette Wignall who live near Montreal and organized by Pam and Robert Gillis. Tony and Nanette graciously let us stay at their place in St. Adele. There is usually great skiing, right from the door. The trails are beautifully laid out and are uncrowded.

On all of our trips (hiking, canoeing, biking, etc.) we enjoy good companionship, the beauty of the areas, and often good food.

### CHANGES IN THE NINETIES

Our outings underwent several changes in the nineties. First of all cross country skiing continued to become more and more popular and surpassed snowshoeing as the method of travel on winter hikes. One year we had only three serious snowshoe hikes. In 1997-98 snowshoeing began to make a comeback.

Our hikes gradually became more structured. Perhaps thinking of the Shelburne Farms incident, some leaders began to put a limit on the number of participants. While this is rarely needed at present (our average attendance is about 8), it may be good planning for the future since participation is increasing. Most leaders also now require people to call ahead of time if they want to come on a trip. We also developed a less subjective method of rating hikes.

We added an educational component to our trips. In the past we have had nothing more educational than an occasional wildflower trip, a program on mountaineering and one on winter hiking in 1968, and a few first aid sessions. The wildflower hikes continued. Pat Collier led one near Lake George. This hike was thirteen miles long, a little long for a wildflower hike, but we found over forty species of flowers. Caryl Chapman led very popular wildflower walks in recent years to Ethan Allen Homestead, Red Rocks Park, or both. Susan Alden, Connie Plunkett, Tony Smith, and others also led wild flower hikes.

Real educational trips began with Bill Nash's "outdoor clinics" in 1994. These led to a winter hiking series and then to a "Special Events" Committee and are discussed under "Meetings and Special Events".

Mary Lou Recor got geologist Jon Kim to lead three hikes for us: to Belvidere Mountain, Mt. Ascutney, and Mt. Pisgah. Jon first showed us maps and gave explanations of the geological formations. Then we hiked up the mountain stopping to see real examples along the way. The folding of rocks on Belvidere Mountain were especially interesting. One area is called the fold garden. Ascutney had an impressive crack in the rocks. Jon pointed out types of rock (granite, feldspar, etc.) but mostly concentrated on formations. These were very informative trips. Without someone to point things out, the unobservant among us wouldn't have seen these things and even those who were more observant would not have know the causes and other information about them.

### Administrative Changes

Outings also underwent several administrative changes. First, the President, Len Carpenter, and Ridge Lines Editor, Sally Spear, took over the typing and printing of the schedule which had previously been the responsibility of the outing chairman.

Len, Section President from 1994 through 1997, was one of our strongest and most active presidents. He was interested in all aspects of the club. He spent much time working on shelters, led hikes, and had input to most committees. He was also active in Main Club activities and helped improve relations between the Club and Sections. He continued to be very active after his presidency ended.

In 1995 we changed from a twice a year schedule to a four times a year schedule. Dot Myer, the outing chairman at the time, was already discouraged because of the difficulty of finding leaders and other people to help. She felt that this change would make twice as much work. So three additional outing coordinators were appointed so that each one would be responsible for a schedule. Pat Collier, Debbie Lane, and Deborah Brown worked on this. This helped a little. However, our outings schedule was going downhill; there were too few serious hikes and too many "open dates". Mary Lou Recor, who was new to the section at the time, once said "There's nothing on the schedule that I want to do".

It was definitely time for a change. In 1997 circumstances made for a smooth changeover. Connie Plunkett was now a member of the Laraway Section and no longer in the Burlington Section. She resigned as

membership chairman of the Burlington Section. Mary Lou Recor was interested in Outings. The solution was obvious. Dot Myer became membership chairman and Mary Lou became outings chairman.

Some of the good things that came of this: Mary Lou introduced some new hike leaders; for example, Paul Houchens, Suzanne Ritger, and Howard Hansen; and more serious hikes appeared on the schedule again.

Mary Lou instituted leader training. The training included three workshops: Map and Compass led by Dave Hardy a GMC Field Coordinator, Wilderness First Aid led by Steve Briss an EMT and member of the Sterling Section, and Leadership led by Pam Ahlen, Steve Brill, Reidun and Andrew Nuquist, Karen Sharpwolf, and Mary Lou Recor. These were not required of leaders, but were offered to them free. There was a small fee for other interested persons. About twenty people attended these workshops which were held on Saturdays.

The map and compass session consisted of classroom instruction followed by practice in the Colchester Pond area. The first aid section followed a similar pattern: indoor instruction followed by an imaginary emergency situation outdoors which we had to handle with whatever materials we could find. The indoor session was interactive with participants asking questions, relating experiences, and telling what they carried in our first aid kits. There were some surprises here--outdated or unusual items.

The final session was a general leadership workshop for current and future trip leaders. Thirteen people participated, taking roles in plays demonstrating leadership styles and how to handle a hiker who showed up unprepared. Like the other two sessions, this workshop concluded with an outdoor portion—this time a snowy hike up Mt. Philo.

The following verse is part of a much longer verse written by Bev Remick as a “resume of GMC activities 1961”. It equally well sums up our activities over many years.

“Well as you can see from this long tale,  
We’ve eaten and played and hiked on the trail.  
We’ve had some hikes with no one or only a few  
And parties with 102.

We’ve had good days, hot days and colder,  
Hikers who ranged from infant to older;  
We’ve had easy trips, hard ones, short and long,  
Trips for the timid and some for the strong.”



**MISCELLANEOUS OUTINGS**

Upper Left, Tuckerman's Ravine; Upper Right, canoeing; Lower Left, Pat Collier snowshoeing in Wind Gap; Lower Right, Cross Country Skiing on Great Hill Pond near Wanalancet.

## MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Most of the business of the Section is conducted by the executive committee, which consists of the officers and committee chairmen. This group meets several times a year with no prearranged schedule. Until the 1990s we usually met in people's houses. Recently we began holding the meetings in Corky Magoon's office or in public meeting rooms that were made available to us, such as the Williston Library. Theoretically executive committee meetings are open to all members, but since most members don't know when or where they are being held, people who are not on the Executive Committee rarely attend. One year we tried planning ahead and putting them on the outing schedule.

### "MEETINGS" COMMITTEES

This committee was first called the "Entertainment" committee, then the "Recreation" committee. Their responsibilities included the Annual Meeting, a sugar party, a Halloween party, and occasionally other similar affairs. Several years after these parties were discontinued, the name of the committee was changed to "Meetings" committee. This only lasted for a short time. In 1995 Bill Nash introduced his winter hiking series and soon afterward Fred Kosnitsky started an ecology series. Both of these at first came under this committee. It was decided to call the committee "Meetings and Special Events". This name remained but the responsibilities didn't. These educational series became a new committee, "Education" headed by Fred Kosnitsky. Other events, such as sponsoring Taylor Series, were added to the responsibilities of the "Meetings and Special Events" committee.

Chairmen of this committee have included: Shirley Strong, Julia Hatch, Helen Farrington, Fred and Flossie Eaton, Janet Page, Corky Magoon, Madeline Miles, Det Nemcosky, Hollie Johnson, Gretchen Mead, Dot and Pirk Pirkanen, Bobbie Conquest, Judy Lance, Peg Whitson, Tom Brooks, Pam Gillis, Janice Lange, Beverly Nichols, Greg and Penny Bostock, Gale and David Cass, Ginny Yandow, Bill Nash, Llyn Ellison, and Brenda Wright.

### ANNUAL MEETINGS

The section holds its annual meeting each January. Sometimes they were held in a church hall or similar meeting place and include a covered dish supper; other times they were in restaurants. Restaurants were more expensive and became less popular. Most recently we have had a combination: a catered main dish (usually lasagna) and other dishes contributed by members. This system seemed to be very well liked and will continue.

At these meetings business is discussed, things that have to be decided by the whole membership are voted on, and new officers are voted in. Then there is entertainment or a program of some kind. There have been a great variety of programs.

Programs about trips are very popular and have included: the Galapagos Islands by Will and Jane Curtis; Morocco by Dick Sirola; the Olympics by William Hall, member of the 1972 US Olympic bobslet team; bicycling on four continents by Al Karnatz; Nepal by Dot Evans and more recently by the Explorer's Network, and others. More local or regional travel and information included: programs on the Appalachian Trail and the Long Trail; George Perkins Marsh, by Will and Jane Curtis; "Keeping Track" by Sue Morse; Hiking in the Green and White Mountains by Erling Omland.

We also had many interesting educational programs. These included: Annie Dillon by Susan Morse; Wood Energy by Darby Bradley, staff attorney for Vermont Natural Resources Council; Hypothermia by Dr. John Bland; Environment, including the arctic tundra on Camel's Hump and Mt. Mansfield, by Dr. Hubert Vogelmann; the early GMC by Daan Zwick; an Appalachian Mountain Club movie "Mountain Holiday" taken in the White Mountains which emphasized hazards and safety measures; and "Legends of American Alpine Skiing" by Rick Moulton,

### Dolls:

In many years special committees work on table decorations and other aspects of the meeting. One year Anne Clark and her committee (Emily Rice, Alberta Dean, Dot Myer, and others ) made figurines (which we usually call “dolls”) for table decorations. These figures had a wire frame covered with cloth and stapled to solid wooden bases. Anne’s artistic ability and the imagination of her committee created wonderful figures representing many aspects of hiking: carrying wood to build shelters, hiking with children, chopping wood (important in those days before camping stoves were popular), bird watching, fixing blisters, snowshoeing, etc. Some figures represented particular situations or particular people. One had crutches and a cast on its leg; this represented Joel Paige, who came to the Duck Brook Dedication with his leg in a cast. One is a snowshoer with its head in the snow and snowshoe-covered feet flying in the air. Jan Abbott relates to this one. Dot Pirkanen thought it was broken and tried to stand it up. Dot Myer made one which she calls a “self portrait”. It has skinny pigtails, a paint bucket in one hand and a paint brush in the other, and its clothes are splattered with blue paint.

These figures were so well liked they were used at Annual Meetings for many years, occasionally up to the middle 1990s, after which they were so worn and frayed they couldn’t be used any more. They were also used in a display at Dakin’s Mountain Shop in 1977.

### SUGAR PARTIES

From the 1950s through 1975 we held an annual sugar party. This was put on by the young people of the Colchester Grange. It was no ordinary sugar party. First we had a huge ham dinner. The sugar on snow was the dessert. Then we square danced. Gerry Grow danced tirelessly to the end of the evening even when he was in his eighties. Usually the parties were preceded by a hike in a sugar bush. These sugar parties were discontinued partly because they were no longer profitable to the young people.

We also had other sugar parties. Fred and Betty Smith (active members of the Section) had a sugar party at their sugar bush for several years. We went to a few sugar houses (Palmer’s in Hinesburg, Allen’s in Essex Junction, and others). One year Shirley Strong led a hike and sugar party. She poured the boiled sap out on the snow in the old fashioned way instead of using pans. It was fun and for most of us, who are not old sugar farmers, it was quite different. In a more recent year we went to the Audubon Sugar party. This is a large affair with hundreds of people. We were kind of lost in the crowd instead of being a group of our own. We have not had sugar parties recently.

### WINTER OUTDOOR SERIES

In 1994 Bill Nash led several outdoor “clinics”. These included “Introduction to Hiking in the Green Mountains”, “Hiking and Camping with Young Children”, “Dressing for Winter Hiking” and others. After doing this Bill proposed having related series on different topics instead of individual presentations. This idea was accepted and was the start of a Special Events committee instead of remaining part of Outings.

Bill led a very popular Winter Hiking Series in 1995-96. He was assisted by Greg Glade, Len Carpenter, John Brown, and Shane Bowley. The series consisted of classroom sessions followed by winter hikes. They started with a session on winter dress and equipment and ended with an overnight at Round Top Shelter. In between they climbed Camel’s Hump and went on other hikes.

There were over forty participants; even more had inquired about it. The participants ranged in age from 20 to 60. Some were Burlington Section members and some not. Some joined because of this series. All were very enthusiastic and they developed a great spirit of camaraderie. Some of their comments were: “Now winter is a time I can look forward to knowing I can stay warm and safe” (Karen McFeeters); “The course provided me with a wonderful experience to learn a new sport and opened up a whole new world” (Jim Mosenthal); and “the course was very valuable” (Sylvia Kabusk).

Later the course was led by Dan Cook, Terry Boyle, Lisa Tillotson, and Shane Bowley. This year was also successful. Interest was waning a little, however, and it was decided to drop it temporarily but plan to do it again in a few years when we would expect there would be a new group of people interested in such a series.

### ECOLOGY SERIES

Soon after the winter hiking series an ecology series was organized by Fred Kosnitsky in 1997. Carol Chapman arranged meeting places. The series consisted of two evening seminars and five outings, each emphasizing a different type of ecology.

The first field trip went to several "northern forest" locations including Battell Preserve with a stand of old growth hemlock, Wilmarth Woods near Snake Mountain with oaks and hickories, and Williams Woods which is a Nature Conservancy property in Charlotte with beautiful old pine stands. This trip was led by Greg Lowenberg, a naturalist who teaches at UVM. Another trip on Camel's Hump, led by Fred Kosnitsky, explored boreal forests and Alpine tundra. There were three trips to different types of water environments. One of these was to two "still waters" (lakes and ponds): Curtiss Pond and Wolcott Pond. The group compared the two ponds. Karen Bates, a wetlands specialist with the Agency of Natural Resources, led a field trip through several wetland types in the Colchester area. Jeff Meyers of the Vermont River Conservancy led the group in exploring streams ("flowing waters") of all sizes from a small stream running into Preston Brook to the Winooski River. This trip included a swim in the Lower Gorge of the Huntington River (not the dangerous Upper Gorge known for many drownings).

The course was well liked. However, many people expressed an interest but did not want to be tied down for that many hikes. So another year Fred led several individual hikes instead of a series.

### OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

In 1999 we helped sponsor the Taylor Series. Brad Washburn spoke at Billings and we sponsored it along with the UVM Outing Club and the Adventurous Traveler Bookstore. This was a very successful event. Brenda Wright, our Special Events chairperson, is now working on sponsoring a similar program in the February 2000. The speaker will be Jan Reynolds and her program will be "Everest Grand Circle".

### MEMBER MEETINGS

In 1997 Pat Collier suggested monthly Members Meetings. One problem with this was to find a free place where we could meet. Also most people felt every month would be too often. We finally decided to try having a meeting every other month if Pat could find a meeting place. She found a very good meeting room at the Burlington Water Treatment Plant.

She formed a committee to run these meetings (they are not part of the Special Events Committee's responsibilities). Debbie Lane, Herm Hoffman, and Dana Baron, and for a while Mary Lou Recor, were on this committee. At each meeting the president gave a brief review of what is going on in the club, then a speaker, and then refreshments. Debbie was in charge of refreshments.

The first meeting was held in September 1997. Sixteen people attended. Attendance after that varied from twelve to twenty seven. It was decided that this was enough to make the meetings worthwhile so they were continued. They are held on the second Thursday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M, each March, May, September, and November. None are held in January because of the Annual Meeting or in July because it was felt that people would be less interested in the summer..

The most popular program was Deborah Brown and Paul Houchens program on their thru hikes of the Appalachian Trail. Also very popular are the members' slides which are given each November. These have included everything from local hikes to far away places like Alaska, Italy, and Africa. Ben Rose gave a program on his visions for the GMC when he became Executive Director. Many of the programs have

been about environmental issues. Fred Kosnitsky gave a program on ecology and environment. The slide projector at the meeting place did not work, and Fred did an excellent job of ad-libbing without slides. There were also programs on towers, clear cuts, the Lake Champlain Basin, and the northern forest.

## RIDGE LINES

In 1963 Joe Frank suggested a Section newsletter. Others liked the idea and Joe became the first editor. Mary Forrester became the publisher, and soon Agnes Richardson became the editor. This first newsletter was a one page mimeographed sheet, printed on green paper. It was called simply "Bulletin". Mary investigated mailing, and we got a permit for four mailings a year at four cents a piece. We still publish our newsletter four times a year.

About 1970 Sally Spear became the newsletter editor and immediately set out to improve it. It acquired a name, Ridge Lines, and a masthead. The first masthead was drawn by Anne Clark, who used photographs of Roy Buchanan's to develop it. It was a composite of Sucker Brook shelter and Mt. Mansfield. In 1977 a new masthead, also by Anne Clark, began to be used. This was found after Anne's death in 1973. It showed Glen Ellen Lodge among a group of evergreen trees. In 1990 Sally suggested that we have a new masthead. For a while we used two different ones alternately: a line drawing by Ginny Yandow and one of Butler Lodge by Gardner Lane. Finally the Butler Lodge one became our regular masthead and is still used. We may change it soon, either by modifying this one to make it lighter, or by replacing it with a new drawing.

The next three pages show: one of the earliest Bulletins, the first page of a 1977 Ridge Lines, and the first page of a 1999 Ridge Lines.

Most important, Sally has greatly improved the content of our newsletter. There is excellent coverage of both Section and Main Club affairs. Articles have been included on various topics of interest to hikers: equipment, backpacking food, snowshoeing, environmental issues, etc. News of past outings is included, and recently Sally added a section describing coming hikes. This is particularly useful since our schedule card has room for only date, place and type of outing, leader with phone number, and some indication of difficulty. When space permits, articles by members about their outdoor adventures (not section related) are also included. Sally searches out interesting material as well as skillfully editing articles submitted and writing others herself.

Corky Magoon has spent countless hours over twenty-five years typing and printing Ridge Lines. Corky and Sally improved its look in many ways. Corky added pictures. Madeline Miles also contributed art work. Corky wrote a column "Peggy Porcupine Squills" which kept us up with doings of members. This is just one of the ways Corky has contributed to the Section over many years. She has been a committee chairman and officer, including president, has led hikes, and joined on work parties. In addition, she has done much behind-the-scenes work on annual meetings, provided a meeting place for Executive Committee meetings, and helped in many other ways.

In 1999 Corky was no longer able to print Ridge Lines for us and we went to a commercial printer. At that time we changed the format from a legal length page to an 8-1/2 x 11 page, with eight pages.

Many other members help with mailings and by writing items for the newsletter..

A section newsletter is the main vehicle for getting information to members, and Sally has developed an excellent newsletter. One indication of this is a comment in 1977 by Ralph Bryant, then Treasurer of the Main Club: "The latest issue of Ridge Lines is the greatest." It has become even greater since then.

BURLINGTON SECTION GOES INTERNATIONAL

In recent months, members of the St. Lawrence Region of the Canadian Youth Hostels Association have participated in some of our outings. They have been good companions and good hikers, both on foot and on snowshoes. Most recently, a dozen CYH'ers joined Dane Shortsleeves and his trail-clearing team for a fine supper on June 7th at STEM cabin. The CYH'ers had been on an overnight hike from Lake Mansfield to Route 108 and spent a night at Butler Lodge where the porcupines furnished many hours of entertainment. Although the GMC has not campaigned for members from the CYH ranks, a few have joined the Burlington Section spontaneously and more may in the future.

The CYH is extending an invitation to all members of the Burlington Section to join any of its scheduled trips. A large number of CYH trip schedules have been sent to Vice-President Shirley Strong for distribution among our members. Five of the trips in August and September are to places in Vermont. A charge of \$1.00 - \$1.50 per night is imposed to cover costs. Call Shirley Strong for further details.

MEMBERS OF BURLINGTON SECTION ATTEND TRAIL CONFERENCES

Members of the Burlington Section have attended two trail conferences in the past two months.

On May 30-31, the Annual Meeting of the Green Mountain Club was held at the Long Trail Lodge in Sherburne, Vermont. Twelve or more of our members attended. The May 30th luncheon was catered by our Section with President Al Wurthmann serving as chief chef. Assisting him in preparation or serving were Jan Abbott, Charlotte Philbrook, Rod Rice, Joe Frank, Shirley Strong and Shirley Wilcox. It was announced that the former Wiley Lodge has been renamed Buchanan Lodge in honor of the elder statesman of our Section.

From June 27th through July 3rd, the 16th Appalachian Trail Conference was held at the Stratton Mountain ski area in Stratton, Vermont, with the Green Mountain

BUTTON BAY CABIN BECOMES NEW WILEY LODGE

The Long Trail Patrol, under the supervision of Ed Highman, recently completed reconstruction of the former Button Bay Wigwag Lodge on the reconstructed Long Trail, a mile south of Robbins Mountain. The cabin sleeps 12 and is situated on Button Brook for a permanent water supply. The task of reconstruction was not an easy one. Loads of lumber were carried by the patrol. Eleven gallons of creosote were applied to the finished cabin. There is also a new outhouse.

The former Long Trail on the north side of Camel's Head will not be abandoned and has been named the Hamforth Ridge Trail in honor of the distinctive hiker in Vermont, Eugene Hamforth of Montpelier. The equally distinguished name of the former Wiley Lodge has been included in the article on the Long Trail.

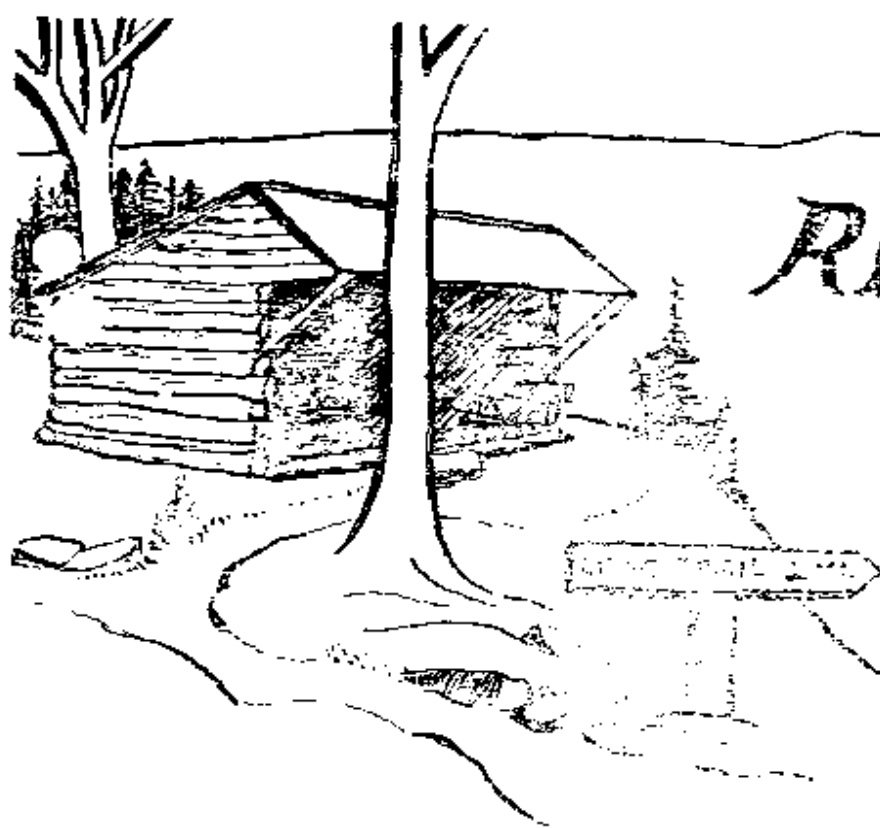
STEM LODGE PROGRESS REPORT

Progress has been made at the STEM Lodge. Frank Babbott, Jr. donated a good stove which was moved and installed on the 16th. Dick Roeder contributed his services and truck to the task. Dick is refurbishing the hot water heater which goes with the stove. Assisting in the stove moving and installation were Joe Frank, Jack Harrington, Gordon Perham, and an energetic young Roeder.

The new trail from the STEM cabin to Taylor Lodge has been blazed and substantially cleared for a distance of 1.3 miles. Another mile over the east ridge of Mt. Mansfield is to be done. On the trail to this ridge, a Dishpan which will be directly in the access to Butler Lodge, and one mile of clearing remains. Volunteers, please call

INTERSECTIONAL PLANNED FOR LAKE EDEN

Announcing the details of the 1964 intersectional have been mailed to all members. If you haven't received one, contact Fred Smith whose address is



# RIDGE LINES

Volume 6, Number 3

January 1977

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB  
BURLINGTON SECTION

You are cordially invited to attend the  
G.M.C.

BURLINGTON SECTION  
ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, January 22, 1977  
Old Lantern, Charlotte, Vt.

ALASKA  
(Our 49th State)

Fred and Ida Sainsbury of Weston, Ontario, Canada, will present a slide show of their trip to Skagway, Alaska, entitled "The Chilkoot (Pass), Then and Now."

The Sainsburys are G.M.C. members and are avid hikers. Ida was the first woman to complete the 430-mile Bruce Trail in Canada and she's hiked it end-to-end TWICE!

During the social hour there will be a continuous showing of G.M.C.'ers' vacation slides, as well as a variety of "get acquainted" games and activities. Come early and chat over a cup of hot cider or hot chocolate.

Dinner: The usual scrumptious variety - ham, turkey, meatballs, salads, pickles, coffee, milk, dessert.

TRUSTEES' REPORT ON GMC QUESTIONNAIRE  
Newell Briggs,  
Gardiner Lane,  
Madeline Miles

## Where Should We Be Going?

This is a report on the results of the questionnaire that was published in the last issue of Ridge Lines. As you recall, the questionnaire was developed in an effort to obtain a sense of direction from the Burlington section membership so that your trustees may more accurately represent you in the business of the main club.

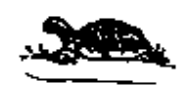
The response to the questionnaire was poor. It appears that many members are going along with the crowd or leaving the responsibility to someone else. From the responses received the following opinions were reflected.

Gold!

Mush!

Yukon!

Klondike!





# RIDGE

# LINES

SEPTEMBER 1999

Green Mountain Club  
Burlington Section

## A SALUTE TO VOLUNTEERS

### "We Got the Job Done"

The following is an excerpt from a letter of appreciation by Leo Leach (Shelters Chair) to his fellow volunteers after a weekend work outing. It describes how volunteers contribute to shelter work and recognizes how important volunteers are to the Burlington Section and the GMC.

7/17/99

*Hello My Friends*

*I want to send my thanks to you quickly, in the same manner in which I asked for your help. I was truly overwhelmed by the generosity and dedication of so many of my fellow GMC members who responded immediately.*

*One of my "insecurities" is asking people for help. Time and again you have proven to me that I shouldn't hesitate to ask for your help.*

*It was just a week ago that we decided to construct the cribbing for the Taylor Lodge privy. I sat down last Sunday night to send out email asking for help and Monday night made phone calls for the same reason. I had no idea that my request would be honored by so many.*

*As hot as the weather was in the valley, it wasn't that bad working at the site on Mt. Mansfield. We carried all the materials up in one shot — amazing! It was a good day; we got the job done.*

*I can't help but think that this must be how Roy Buchanan started the Long Trail Patrol: the work needed to be done and friends contributed to the task over and over*

*again. For those of you who have a copy of the book "Green Mountain Adventure, Vermont's Long Trail", on page 51 is a photograph of Roy Buchanan sitting on the running board of Patrol Truck #1. On page 91 is a photograph of Patrol Truck #3, the same truck that we used today, the truck the field staff calls "Joe".*

*Through the years the legacy of James Taylor (founder of the GMC) has been handed down from generation to generation. We are the new generation. I am proud to be a part of it, and it shows that you all are too.*

*Thank you all very much and until the next time, travel well.*

### The "Year of the Privy"

I thought it was going to be a relatively easy summer season. Instead there has been a lot of shelter activity, much of it focused on privies. (If you're actively involved in the GMC, you soon realize the topic of privies arises regularly for obvious reasons: effective waste disposal at shelter sites is crucial.)

The outing mentioned in my letter (above) established Taylor Lodge as the first site in the north to have its pit privy converted into a "moldering privy". A moldering privy uses the active biological soil layer (the first six inches) to break down waste. Red worms are added to increase decomposition. The worms need the right balance of fluids and solids to be effective. We attempted to install a moldering privy at Twin Brooks Tenting Area before we knew

what we were doing. We plan to re-establish this system at Twin Brooks in the future.

Puffer Shelter has a serious waste problem that was reported this spring. Pete Ketcham (GMC Field Supervisor) and I temporarily dealt with the overflowing catcher at this remote composting outhouse. Accumulated waste at the site needs to be trenched and buried. That is the immediate concern. We are planning to do away with the shelter's remote composter system and install a moldering privy.

Taft Lodge's composting system will be converted to a "Beyond the Bin" system this fall. A Beyond the Bin system separates the liquid from the solid waste, allowing a hotter environment for composting. The liquid is filtered and then allowed to perk into the ground. The Burlington Section has contributed half the cost of the conversion from the Taft Lodge Maintenance fund.

The Burlington Section Shelter Committee also worked with the Laraway Section to install a moldering privy at Laura Woodward Shelter, and worked with the Laraway Section and the Randonnee Adventure volunteers to install a moldering privy at Shooting Star Shelter.

*(continued on page 2)*

### Inside

The Fate of a Trail p 2  
Hiking the LT p 3  
Members Meeting p 4

## MEMBERSHIP

The members are what makes the Green Mountain Club and the Burlington Section. While only a few could be mentioned in this history, everyone who helped on trails and shelters, led hikes or served on a committee is essential. The section could not exist without them. All who joined a hike or attended a meeting or participated in any way are important. Those who contributed by paying dues but prefer independent activities are important too. Together we are the Club and the Section.

The Green Mountain Club started with twenty-three members in 1910. Our section began with ten members. We have grown to 537 memberships which represent well over 600 individuals.

Growing membership involved changing methods of keeping track of it. Originally a list was all that was needed. Index cards were used for many years. In about 1990 Connie Plunkett computerized the membership list. In addition to making it easier to keep track of members, this helped in a number of other ways. It made it easy to print out lists of all or some subset of the membership when they were needed for telephoning or other purposes. It made it easy to print out labels or envelopes for mailings. It made it easy to sort by location (or any other feature) for information and reports. Dot Myer continued this computerized membership list. It is now in Microsoft Works but in the future may be changed to Access.

Most of our members naturally come from the Chittenden County area, but some come from other parts of Vermont, out of state, or even from foreign countries. Marian Holmes, Betty Myers, and Elsie Washburn (the Middlebury Puffers) were very active in our section before the Breadloaf Section was formed. They were called Puffers, not after Lou Puffer, but because they sometimes huffed and puffed going up mountains. Some members come from nearby New York State or Canada. Some of the far flung members are people who formerly lived in the area and have moved away, for example we have three members in Florida and one in California.

Membership categories have changed somewhat over the years. The first separate categories were adult and junior. Later we added student (approximately college age, older than junior) and senior, as well as a family category. Life memberships were started, and in 1960 Roy Buchanan and Clarence Cowles were made life members. Life memberships at that time cost \$25 and were increased to \$250 over the years. We now have 21 life members. With the beginning of uniform dues in 1997 our membership categories were changed to match the Main Club and other sections. We now have individual and family memberships only. Although there are no special categories for seniors or students, seniors and students, as well as volunteers on trails and shelters and people who find the dues financially difficult, may take a discount of \$7.

Previously the membership chairman also sent out renewal notices and collected dues. The Section then sent an assessment (first called a "tax") to the Main Club. Recently this was changed so that the Main Club now collects the dues and sends a portion to the Section. They also handle sending out renewal notices.

In addition to keeping membership lists, the membership chairman sends information to prospective members and welcome letters and information to new members, reconciles our information with that of the Main Club, and makes reports to the treasurer as well as an annual report.

The membership committee also handles a membership table at various affairs, particularly the EMS Club Day. In recent years a display has been provided by the Main Club. Volunteers work at the table answering questions and selling memberships. Peg Whitson has been in charge of this from 1997 to 1999.

Since February, 1998, when membership application requests became available on our web site, slightly more than half of our requests for membership information have come through the web site.

Membership chairmen, in addition to Dot and Connie, have included: Jerry Grow, Mary Forrester, Newell Briggs, Anne Clark, Carlene Whitcomb (Squires), Linda Thoma, Agnes Richardson, Rose Bloomhardt, Elise Palmer, Corky Magoon, and Elizabeth Thompson.

## PUBLICITY

In the early days the Green Mountain Club and the Section got a lot of publicity. Many articles were published in the Burlington Free Press. As there began to be more and more clubs and more and more activities to report, the amount of publicity given to us diminished. Finally, we had our outings listed regularly in the calendar or "Happenings" as it was sometimes called. This has been published on different days at different times. For a while it was on Friday, which was not good for us because people usually wanted to know sooner than that for a Saturday hike. Now it is published on Thursdays which is much better.

Larry Dean was our "Publicist" from the 1950s through 1967. Subsequent publicity chairmen included: Jan Abbott, Franklin Smith, Russell Farnsworth, Elizabeth Thompson, Sally Spear, Janice Lange, Al Perkins, Carlene Squires, Judy Lance, Peggy MacDonald, Judy Lance, Pam Gillis, Carol Chapman, Sarah Joslin, John Somers, and Pat Collier.

For many years the hike leaders gave information about their hikes to the publicity chairman who then gave it to the Burlington Free Press and sometimes the Essex Junction Suburban List. Sometimes this worked very well, sometimes not at all well. Even when we followed all the rules and got everything in on time, it often was not published. This was especially frustrating to us because items from out of the area sections (Breadloaf, Montpelier, and Laraway) and from other clubs like the Sierra Club seemed to always be in the paper when ours was not.

While we never knew exactly what caused this, Pat Collier solved the problem by starting a new system when she became publicity chairman in 1996. She brought all our hikes to the papers for a whole schedule as soon as the schedule came out. This made it necessary for hike leaders to decide details long before the hike or to have people call them for details, but it worked very well. Our announcement was left out of the paper only a couple of times in the four years that this system has been used, and there was good reason for those times. Pat puts the information in the Vermont Times and Seven Days, free Burlington area weeklies, as well as in the Burlington Free Press.

Occasionally extra publicity is needed for a special event. This may be handled by the members in charge of the event, by the publicity chairman, or probably most often by both. It has included radio announcements, posters, phone campaigns, and whatever else seemed appropriate at the time.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### FINANCES

Our major source of funds is membership dues of course. In addition we have had a few endowments over the years. The first was the Anna Smith Reynolds fund of \$1000. Later there were funds in memory of Don Havens, Roy Buchanan, and Marian Smith. The newest and largest is the Marion Holmes fund of \$4475 in 1996. These funds were generally saved for capital expenses or other major improvements to the Section.

Like any organization, we were eventually faced with the problem of either raising dues or fund raising. First we sold bumper sticker, suggested by Madeline Miles and Sally Spear. While we sold a number of them they didn't go over quite as big as we hoped. We still have four or five hundred of them. We also sold Section patches starting in 1963, and later bandanas.

### Tee Shirts:

But our big money maker was tee shirts. Ralph Gibbs suggested this. Ralph was one of our very active members and a real idea person with enthusiasm and work to carry out his ideas. Tee shirts were



Ralph Gibbs

only one of his many ideas. He also had new ideas for outings, ways of getting shelters work done, and other things. He served many years as properties co-chairman.

He was an ardent and accomplished hiker, particularly in winter. In 1983 he completed hiking all 113 high peaks in the Northeast in winter, the fifth person to do this. He continued to be active right up to the time he died in June, 1991.

Ralph interested other members in winter peak climbing. It is a credit to the Section that of the first twenty-one people to climb the 113 high peaks in winter, five (about one quarter) were Burlington

Section members. Dot Myer, who did most of her winter hiking with Ralph, was the sixth in 1985. Tony Smith, George Putnam, and John Sharp were numbers 19 through 21 in 1992. John and Tony went on to finish the 100 highest peaks. In another kind of hiking accomplishment, Deborah Brown, an active member of our Section, thru hiked the Appalachian Trail in 1998. Many other members have hiked all of the Long Trail or climbed the high peaks.

At first we thought we would buy tee shirts wholesale and resell them. However, Gardner Lane had silk screening equipment. In 1969 his son Tommy had set up a business making tee shirts for ski areas during his summer vacations when he was at Dartmouth. He did this for four years but was no longer using the equipment. Gardner offered the Burlington Section the use of this equipment. He was still able to get the screens made at Dartmouth. We had many happy sessions printing tee shirts at Gardner's house in Bolton. The shirts were spread out to dry in his basement. The basement and often the rest of the house were wall to wall tee shirts during this drying period.

Our first design was the Green Mountain Club seal which we began printing and selling in 1976, followed by "Leave Nothing but Footprints" the following year. Both were bright yellow shirts; the seal in green and the "Footprints" design in orange. This was the time of a rising tide of tee shirt popularity. We did very well with these designs and decided we should have some new designs. Everybody wanted a porcupine. We didn't know quite what slogan should go with the porcupine, so we had a contest. The

winner was "I'm an Ornerly Member of the Green Mountain Club". Peg Whitson drew a cute porcupine and we made new tee shirts. We wanted one more design. In 1979 we had a brainstorming session and came up with a design that was truly a committee idea. A consultant met with us and we went over ideas. A popular song at that time was "Old Soldiers Never Die" She suggested "Old Hikers Never Die" they do what? Everyone thought for awhile and then at the same moment Ginny Yandow and Dot Myer came out with the final words "They just lose their soles". Peg drew a falling-apart hiking boot hanging on a trail sign. Several of us had boots we thought could have been the model for that. We also had a couple of other designs, including one like the bumper stickers "I'll take the high road", but they were never used. We made shirts in different colors. The next three pages show our tee shirt designs (not actual size).

Our original outlay for tee shirts was \$400. They were very profitable and helped finance our Section.

Cathy Frank was our first "tee shirt salesman". We continued to sell them for several years. Carlene Squires was in charge of it most recently. Rosemarie Bagioni was Section fund raiser for awhile.

Finally in 1999 we gave the last of the shirts to the YMCA. Meanwhile the Main Club had taken up the idea and were selling their own tee shirts

### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

In 1960 Dick Cowles noted that we were operating without a Constitution or By-Laws. The two terms were used interchangeably. One was written at that time. Being an informal group, we didn't refer to it often and it was "lost" a couple of times.

In 1998 it was necessary to change the By-Laws to meet uniform dues. After locating a copy and studying it, we realized it was out of date in other ways as well. Instead of revising it, we wrote a new By-Laws which was approved at the Annual Meeting in January 1999. A copy of it is in Appendix II.

### CONSERVATION

In the early 1960s we formed a conservation committee. Its first job was to help in a survey of Mt. Mansfield use and its effect on the mountain. Chuck Hadden was chairman of the committee and Jan Page and Emily Rice organized the survey. Over thirty Burlington members took part in the actual survey. In 1964-65 this committee's work was primarily to help fight the Green Mountain Parkway (a proposed scenic highway through Vermont which had been proposed several times). The entire June 1965 Bulletin was devoted to this issue. In the 1970s we worked with the Main Club on RARE (Roadless Areas Review and Evaluation). A more recent issue was whether or not to make the Long Trail a National Scenic Trail. For a while there was considerable objection to this. We no longer have a conservation committee but conservation is a frequent topic at our members meetings.

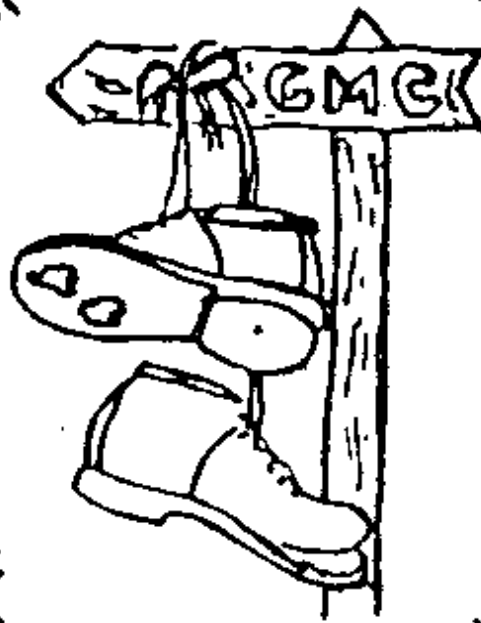
### RANCH CAMP

Ranch Camp was originally a lumber camp belonging to the Burt Forests of Stowe. It consisted of a group of buildings and was located in the Ranch Valley just south of the Toll House Slopes on Mt. Mansfield. In 1961 it was suggested that the Section have a "private camp" and Lee Brown was appointed to investigate. He found the Stem cabin, one of the buildings at Ranch Camp. The Burlington section of the Green Mountain Club rented this building during the 1960s for \$50 per month. Mr. Burt, the owner of Burt Lumber Company, had it insulated and repairs made for us. The Section paid half the cost (about \$300). Frank Babbott donated a stove for the camp. We had several section outings there, including overnights from 1964 through 1969. Often these outings were in the winter when we skied or snowshoed in. On one occasion Connie Roessler demonstrated walking barefoot in the snow!

We explored (actually looked for) old abandoned trails. Once Mr. Burt helped us. Joe Frank and Jack Harrington flagged trails toward Taylor and Butler Lodges. We re-opened a trail to Devil's Dishpan



old hikers never die...



they just lose their soles

**LEAVE NOTHING BUT  
FOOTPRINTS**



**Green Mountain  
Club**



and hiked on the Bruce Trail to the top of Mt. Mansfield. Some of these trails are now cross-country ski trails. Agnes Richardson and Dot Myer flagged a new trail from Ranch Camp to the Toll House ski area, using strips from an old yellow tee shirt of Agnes's for flags. This trail was rarely if ever used.

The cabin was also used by individuals and by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts several times, for which the section charged a small fee (25 cents for members, 50 cents for non-members). Soon after our lease was terminated in 1971, the camp was burned down. However, many people still ski in the area.

### RAFT RACE

The University of Vermont sponsored a raft race on the Winooski River each spring for several years. This event was open to groups outside the University, and in 1974 the Burlington Section of the GMC entered. Rafts had to be home made; we constructed a very sturdy one. This raft had metal drums for flotation, a strong wooden platform and metal braces (procured by Jules Doner) for the rudder. Jack Harrington was captain, and others involved were: Ralph Gibbs, Tony Smith, Carlene Whitcomb (later Squires), Jules and Sylvia Doner, Harris Abbott and Dot Myer.

On the day of the race we transported our raft to the starting point in Jonesville and were ready to go. Unfortunately before we could put in, the race was cancelled due to dangerous conditions and too much litter. We were told that even the rescue boat capsized. We couldn't let all our work go to waste, so the next day we put our raft into the water. After a few hairy moments going under the railroad trestle, we enjoyed drifting down the river so much that, after a brief stop in Richmond where the race was supposed to end, we continued on to IBM, which we reached at 10:00 p.m. We had to stop there in order to avoid going over the dam. We left our raft there for several days until we could find a truck to transport it back. We had to provide a guard for it during those days because IBM was worried that children would play on it and get hurt.

The same raft was used the next year by the Navy Reserve. After that we didn't know what to do with it. Finally Russ Ireland agreed to keep it at his place in Williston.

### COOPERATION WITH MAIN CLUB AND WITH OTHER SECTIONS

In addition to the cooperative hikes and work mentioned above, we sometimes had cooperative hikes with other sections and cooperated with the Main Club on some projects, including trails standards, long range planning, and Section/Main Club relations. The Section made a contribution to the Long Trail Protection Fund, as did many individual members.

Starting in 1975, trails on Camels Hump and Mt. Mansfield were closed in May. Burlington Section members Al and Brad Perkins and Jack Harrington were stationed in Monroe State Park to ask people not to hike there. About fifty people were contacted, and only two went up the mountain anyway. Other Section members were stationed at trailheads to Mt. Mansfield.

Like all sections, we took our turn at hosting annual meetings and the week-long intersectionals that were held each year. We hosted the first GMC Intersectional, as mentioned in Part I, and several others. Fred Smith, and Harris and Jan Abbott were active in organizing early Intersectionals at Lake Eden. We hosted annual meetings at the Old Lantern in Charlotte and at the GMC headquarters in Waterbury.

#### Intersectional at Twin Hills:

In 1976 the Burlington Section coordinated the intersectional week. Dot and Pirk Pirkanen, Jack and Jean Lance, Hollie Johnson, and George Lawrence were in charge of this. Many others helped. Planning began a year ahead of time. The first job was finding a site. Consideration had to be given to camping, parking, closeness to hiking and other attractions, etc. Finally Twin Hills Girl Scout Camp in Jonesville was selected. We rented it from the Girl Scouts for \$350 plus trash removal and other grounds expenses.

Ruth and Newell Briggs planned a variety of daily outings, including daily Long Trail hikes, an Adirondack hike led by Jack Lance, a canoe trip on the Green River Reservoir, a history hike at Waterbury Reservoir led by Joe Frank, and many others. On August 30 a hike from Smuggler's Notch to Stevensville was aborted at the summit of Mt. Mansfield due to snow, sleet, wind, and cold. Other hikes were more pleasant and enjoyed by everyone. There were shorter outings to Shelburne Museum, the Audubon Society, the Discovery Museum, and Bushey Brothers farm as well as the longer hikes. Many of the younger campers enjoyed these.

Betty Myers and her committee (Madeline Miles and Elizabeth Thompson) planned evening programs. These included Fran Mack's slide show on Mt. McKinley, an auction by Leonard Dailey, a bingo game, a "stunt night" organized by Ralph Gibbs, and other programs.

Peg Whitson found all the area swimming places and got permission for us to use them. Campsite guides were Corky Magoon, Dot Myer, Madeline Miles, Harris Abbott, and Arlene Weitzel. Hollie Johnson took on the task of keeping the latrines clean and earned herself the title of "Latrine Queen". Someone tipped her a penny a day!

Ron and Det Nemcosky served a gourmet meal including zucchini soup, barbecued chicken, corn on the cob, salad and fresh vegetables, coffee, and a enormous cake. Pirk, Jack Lance, George Lawrence, Brad Perkins, and Paul Brugger, put on a delicious breakfast on the last Saturday.

Attendance included 152 campers (38 from the Burlington Section) and 88 "guests".

Taylor Series: We helped sponsor Taylor Series in 1999 and will again in 2000. There is more about this under Meetings and Special Events.

## COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

### Bike-a-thons:

Ralph Gibbs had diabetes and was interested in the Vermont Diabetes Association bike-a-thon which was held each May. He interested several other members of the Section in this event. While it was never a section affair, it was listed on our schedules from 1979 through the early 1990s. Several of our members took part by riding, working at check points, or sponsoring riders. Andy Squires, an amateur CB operator, worked on the radios. Ralph rode and was a major collector of funds for this event, usually collecting more than anyone else.

### ETV Auctions:

The Section also helped out at ETV auctions for several years. The first year we answered phones. In subsequent years we continued to answer phones, were "runners", and helped in several other ways. ETV seemed to have plenty of volunteers so after a few years we discontinued this activity.

### Earth Day:

We also took part in the first Earth Day by cleaning up trash from roads. It was about that time that we did major cleanup of the trails and shelters also.

### Burlington Outdoor Group

For a short time we had a cooperative arrangement with the Burlington Outdoor Group, a group of young adults (mostly 30s and 40s) interested in hiking and socializing, headed by Jay Collier. Their outings were listed on our outing schedule for a short time in the mid 1990s..

### Scouts and Other Youth Groups

Boy Scout troops and individuals helped on many of our work projects, particularly those mentioned under Trails and Shelters, but also including many others. The help they give us is invaluable.

Stowe High School students, under teacher Elise Braun, helped repair Taylor in 1973. They refloored the lodge and built a new outhouse. They did the same at Butler in 1974.

The Section built a shelter for the Girl Scout Roundup which was held at Button Bay in 1962. Roy Buchanan, Al Wurthman, and Harris Abbott were in charge of this. Mary Forester worked on publicity for it. The shelter was staffed during the roundup. Later this was reconstructed as the new Wiley Lodge on Preston Brook on the relocated Long Trail a mile north of Robbins Mountain.

A Canadian Youth Hostels group from the St. Lawrence region joined on some of our hikes in the early 1960s and invited us to participate in theirs. They helped with trail clearing, and some of them became GMC Burlington Section members.

### Other Groups

In 1974 we had a very successful joint canoe trip with the Canoe Cruisers. Fred Fields and George Saunders led 23 people (about half GMC and half Canoe Cruisers) on a weekend of canoeing in Maine.

For the last few years we have had a joint winter weekend with the Burlington Ski Club. This is further described under Outings.

### WEBSITE

In 1996 Jay Collier started a web site for the section. Although he left the area soon afterward, he continues to manage this site for us. The site includes Ridge Lines, a volunteer form, and requests to join the Section. These requests and volunteer offers are forwarded to the Section membership chairman, who sends out membership applications. About half of our membership information requests now come through the web. The volunteer forms are recorded by the membership chairman and then forwarded to the president who now keeps the volunteer lists. We hope in the future to find a person to handle this task (volunteer data base, not web site) and lessen the work of the president.

Our website address is: <http://gmcburlington.org>

## THE FUTURE

We feel that we are ending the twentieth century in good shape. We have grown from ten members to 537 memberships which represent well over 600 individuals. We have accomplished much: built and maintained trails and lodges/shelters, ran a schedule of interesting and varied hikes, and developed an excellent newsletter.

We don't know what the twenty-first century will bring, but there are a few immediate plans.

- (1) Butler Lodge will be rebuilt in 2000.
- (2) We will need a new Bolton relocation, probably involving a bridge over the Winooski River.
- (3) We will be sponsoring a Taylor Series in February, 2000. Jan Reynolds will speak on "Everest Grand Circle". Brenda Wright is coordinating this event.
- (4) The Green Mountain Club will be celebrating its ninetieth birthday. The Section will be involved in this and is considering a leadership role in conducting it.

Beyond that predictions are more difficult. We will certainly continue our trails and shelter work, our outings, our newsletter, and other things already started. We can expect that the population, and our membership, will grow, presenting new opportunities as well as new challenges. We will probably be more involved in the environment and protecting the Long Trail and might extend our efforts to other parts of the state.

We are a vital and dynamic section, changing with the times yet holding fast to our original purposes "to protect and maintain the Long Trail" and "to make the mountains play a greater part in the lives of the people". We are ready to enjoy the twenty-first century and to face its challenges.

# Appendices

## APPENDIX I

### MAJOR EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE BURLINGTON SECTION

- 1910 - Green Mountain Club founded
- 1916 - Burlington Section reorganized
- 1920 - Taft Lodge built
- 1926 - Taylor Lodge built
- 1928 - Bolton Lodge built
- 1931 - Long Trail Completed
- 1933 - Butler Lodge built
- 1951 - Taylor burned and rebuilt
- 1952 - First Oyster Stew
- 1960 - First Intersectional
- 1964 - Section started using Ranch Camp
  - First Section newsletter
- 1964-65- Jonesville reroute
- 1966 - Duck Brook Shelter built
- 1969 - Section expeditions to Algonquin Park and the Cascades
- 1970 - Dumps cleaned out of Bolton and Duck Brook
- 1971 - Ridge Lines started
- 1973 - First Winter Camp hike
- 1974 - Puffer Lodge built
- 1975 - Twin Brooks Tentsite built
- 1975 - Mt. Mansfield and Camel's Hump closed in spring
- 1976 - Intersectional at Twin Hills
  - First tee shirt sales
- 1978 - Taylor Lodge Rebuilt
- 1979-80- Bolton Reroute
- 1984 - Buchanan Shelter built
- 1995 - First Winter Outdoor Series
  - Outing Schedules changed to four times a year
- 1996 - Taft Lodge rebuilt
  - Section web site started
- 1997 - Twin Brooks Tentsite rebuilt
- 1997 - Members meetings started
- 1998 - Ice Storm
  - New By-Laws written

## Appendix II

By-Laws Written in 1998 and Adopted at  
the Annual Meeting in January 1999

**BYLAWS OF THE BURLINGTON SECTION  
OF THE GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB, INC.**

**ARTICLE I — NAME**

This section shall be known as the Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club, Inc.

**ARTICLE II — PURPOSE**

The objectives of the Burlington Section shall be to carry out ongoing maintenance of the Long Trail, its various side trails, and shelters located between U.S. Route 2 and Vermont State Route 108; to engage in activities that raise awareness of the Long Trail system, the Green Mountain Club, and in particular the Burlington Section; to sponsor outings; and to make the Green Mountains play a larger part in the lives of the people.

**ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP**

Any person may become a member of this Section upon application to the Green Mountain Club, Inc. (hereafter known as the parent club) specifying a selection of the Burlington Section or to the Burlington Section Membership chair, and the payment of the appropriate dues as specified by the parent club.

**ARTICLE IV — DUES**

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

Section 2. The annual membership dues shall be set by the parent club. Dues are payable to the parent club and a specified percentage of the dues shall be returned to the Burlington Section.

**ARTICLE V — OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of this Section who shall be elected at the Burlington Section's annual meeting shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Each officer shall perform the traditional duties of his or her office.

Section 3. If an office becomes vacant, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall elect a successor for the balance of the term.

Section 4. The Section shall elect director(s) to serve on the Board of Directors of the parent club. The number of directors and the length of term of directors shall be determined by the parent club. The director(s) shall represent the Section in relations with the parent club and perform other duties that may be assigned to directors, either by the Section or by the parent club.

## ARTICLE VI — EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the four officers, the Chairs of the standing committees, and any Director(s) of the parent club elected from the Burlington Section not otherwise included.

Section 2. The meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the President or the Vice President.

Section 3. A quorum shall be a majority of the Executive Committee, of whom not fewer than two shall be officers.

## ARTICLE VII — COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to create any standing committees necessary to carry on the objectives of the Burlington Section. Standing committees may be created by a simple majority of the Executive Committee present at a meeting in which a quorum is present. The Executive Committee shall also recommend dissolving any standing committee(s) deemed no longer necessary. Such a recommendation must be ratified by a majority of the membership at the next annual or special membership meeting. If the membership fails to ratify the recommendation, the standing committee shall continue to function.

Section 2. In accordance with the bylaws of the parent club, the standing committees shall include committee(s) responsible for trails and shelters. This may function as one joint committee or two separate committees, one for trails and one for shelters.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee shall be selected by the Executive Committee at least four months prior to the next annual meeting. The purpose of the Nominating Committee shall be to select a slate of candidates for the four officers, the director(s) of the parent club when there is a vacancy, and the chairs of the various standing committees. The slate of candidates shall be announced at the time of the formal announcement of the annual meeting as specified below.

Section 4. The chairs of the standing committees shall be elected at the annual meeting. Each of these committees shall have in addition to the chairs not less than two members who shall be appointed by the chair.

Section 5. The Executive Committee may create ad hoc committees and elect the chairs thereof who shall select the other members. Such ad hoc committees shall terminate upon completion of the committee's designated task, or at such earlier time as dissolved by the Executive Committee.

Section 6. If a chair becomes vacant, the Executive Committee shall elect a successor for the balance of the term.

### ARTICLE VIII -- MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Section shall be held before the end of February of each year. The officers for the ensuing year and the Chairs of the standing committees shall be elected. In addition one Director of the parent club shall be elected at the annual meeting prior to the expiration of the term of the incumbent Director.

Section 2. Notice of this annual meeting shall be given at least fourteen days in advance of the meeting, and such notice shall contain the nominations of the Nominating Committee. A quorum shall be 10% of the voting membership.

Section 3. The Executive Committee may call a special meeting of the membership. Notice of such a meeting shall be given at least ten days in advance of the meeting. A quorum shall be 10% of the voting membership.

### ARTICLE IX -- BYLAWS OF THE PARENT CLUB

Section 1. The Burlington Section shall abide by the bylaws of the parent club. Any article or section of the Section bylaws that conflicts with the bylaws of the parent club shall be considered void, but all other conforming articles and sections shall remain in effect.

Section 2. The Burlington Section Executive Committee shall take steps to correct non-conforming articles and sections by the next annual meeting after the nonconformity is created or identified.

### ARTICLE X -- AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority of the voting members present at an annual meeting or special meeting provided that notice of the subject matter of the proposed amendment is given with the notice of the meeting.

## APPENDIX IIIA – SOME SECTION OFFICERS

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Vice-President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
1916	Joanna Croft			
1917	Joanna Croft			Theron Dean
1918	Laura Cowles	Walter Isham	Caroline Huntington	Lucius Wells
1919	Laura Cowles			Lucius Wells
1920	Laura Cowles	Clarence Cowles		E. Mabel Brownell
1926				Ernest Smith
1932				Ernest Smith
1933				Ernest Smith
1934				Ernest Smith
1938	Roy Buchanan		Henry Bouchard	
1941	Ken Fisher	Jerry Grow	Alice Rogers	Ernest Smith
1943			Henry Bouchard	
1947			Henry Bouchard	
1952			Henry Bouchard	
1954				Lee Brown
1955				Lee Brown
1956	Betty Paulsen	Sam Hatfield	Ruth Aseltine	Lee Brown
1957	Rod Rice	Margaret Muller	Ruth Aseltine	Lee Brown
1958	Rod Rice	Ann Otis	Shirley Strong	Lee Brown
1959	Ann Otis	Dave Otis	Shirley Strong	Lee Brown
1961	George Saunders	Al Wurthman	Wilda Gige	Lee Brown
1962	George Saunders	Al Wurthman	Wilda Gige	Lee Brown
1963	Al Wurthman	Shirley Strong	Wilda Gige	Lee Brown
1964	Al Wurthman	Shirley Strong	Shirley Wilcox(Grimm)	Lee Brown
1965	Shirley Strong	Dane Shortsleeve	Shirley Wilcox(Grimm)	Lee Brown
1966	Shirley Strong	Dane Shortsleeve	Beverly Remick	Lee Brown
1967	Dane Shortsleeve	Harris Abbott	Betty Myers	Lee Brown
1968	Dane Shortsleeve	Harris Abbott	Betty Myers	Ken Fisher
1969	Harris Abbott	Newell Briggs	Betty Myers	Russell Farnsworth
1970	Harris Abbott	Newell Briggs	Marion Holmes	Russell Farnsworth
1971	Newell Briggs	Kenn Boyd	Marion Holmes	Ron Nemcoski
1972	Newell Briggs	Madeline Miles	Corky Magoon	Ron Nemcoski
1973	Kenn Boyd	Madeline Miles	Corky Magoon	Glen Fineholdt
1974	Madeline Miles	Corky Magoon	Virginia Charlotte	Glen Fineholdt
1975	Corky Magoon	Hollie Johnson	Redetta Nemcosky	Jean Lance
1976	Corky Magoon	Hollie Johnson	Gretchen Mead	Jean Lance
1977	Hollie Johnson	Jan Abbott	Redetta Nemcosky	Alverta Perkins
1978	Jan Abbott	Dorothy Myer	Bobbie Conquest	Alverta Perkins
1979	Dorothy Myer	Andrew Squires	Sylvia Ewerts	Alverta Perkins
1980	Dorothy Myer	Andrew Squires	Irena Case	Alverta Perkins
1981	Andrew Squires	Judy Lance	Irena Case	Paul Beebe
1982	Andrew Squires	Judy Lance	Barbara Stevens	Paul Beebe
1983	Judy Lance	John Sharp	Barbara Stevens	Paul Beebe
1984	Judy Lance	John Sharp	Elise Palmer	Tom Joslin
1985	Pam Moritz(Gillis)	John Sharp	Tom Joslin	Wyman Smith
1986	Pam Moritz (Gillis)	John Sharp	Tom Joslin	Wyman Smith
1987	John Sharp	Tom Joslin	Debbie Macy	Wyman Smith

1988	John Sharp	Tom Joslin	Olga Vrana	Wyman Smith
1989	Tom Joslin	Virginia Yandow	Olga Vrana	
1990	Tom Joslin	Virginia Yandow	Olga Vrana	Mary Ladabouche
1991	Virginia Yandow	Irena Case	Mickey Wetzel	Mary Ladabouche
1992	Virginia Yandow	Gary Myers	Carol Hignite	Mary Ladabouche
1993	Virginia Yandow	Len Carpenter	Carol Hignite	Tom Joslin
1994	Len Carpenter	Irena Case	Carol Hignite	Tom Joslin
1995	Len Carpenter	Irena Case	Sarah Sherrill	Tom Joslin
1996	Len Carpenter	Dana Baron	Sarah Sherrill	Sylvia Ewerts
1997	Len Carpenter	Dana Baron	Shirley Wolfe	Sylvia Ewerts
1998	Dana Baron	Mary Lou Recor	Nancy Nesbitt	Sylvia Ewerts
1999	Dana Baron	Mary Lou Recor	Nancy Nesbitt	Sylvia Ewerts

## APPENDIX IIIB COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

<u>Year</u>	<u>Trails</u>	<u>Shelters</u>	<u>Outings</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Publicity</u>	<u>Meetings /Spec. Events (Recreation)</u>
1918	Theron Dean	Theron Dean	Mable Balch	Louis Paris	Mrs. Edward Read	Mabel Brownell
1940		Larry Dean				
1941	Dave Dunklee	Larry Dean	Lee Brown			
1956	Don Havens	Don Remick	Dave Otis	Ann Otis	Larry Dean	Helen Puffer
1957	Don Havens	Don Remick	Dave Otis	Ann Otis	Larry Dean	Helen Puffer
1958	Don Havens	Don Remick	Dave Otis	Fred Smith	Larry Dean	Sam Hatfield
1959	Don Havens	Fred Smith and Harris Abbott	Don Remick	Gerry Grow	Larry Dean	Sam Hatfield
1961	Fred Smith and Harris Abbott	Fred Smith and Harris Abbott	Andy Buchanan	Gerry Grow	Larry Dean	Shirley Strong
1962	Dane Shortsleeve	Harris Abbott & Joe Frank	Andy Buchanan	Mary Forrester	Larry Dean	Shirley Strong
1963	Dane Shortsleeve	Jack Harrington & Joe Frank	Pete Keely	Mary Forrester	Larry Dean	Julia Hatch
1964	Dane Shortsleeve	Jack Harrington & Joe Frank	Pete Keely	Mary Forrester	Larry Dean	Julia Hatch
1965	Al Wurthman	Harris Abbott & Jack Harrington		Dot Myer	Larry Dean	Helen Farrington
1966	Al Wurthman	Harris Abbott & Jack Harrington	Mary Forrester	Dot Myer	Jan Abbott and Franklin Smith	Helen Farrington
1967	George Pearlstein	Kenn Boyd and David Cass	Helen Farrington	Newell Briggs	Jan Abbott and Franklin Smith	Fred and Flossie Eaton
1968	George Pearlstein & Andy Buchanan	Harris Abbott and David Cass	Madeline Miles	Anne Clark	Russell Farnsworth	Janet Page and Corky Magoon
1969	<i>David Fonseca</i>	<i>Kenn Boyd</i>	<i>Corky Magoon</i>	Anne Clark	Elizabeth Thompson	Madeline Miles
1970	Bill DeGroot	Kenn Boyd	Jim Vlarus	Anne Clark	Elizabeth Thompson	Det Nemcosky
1971	Bill DeGroot	Rod Halstead	Fred Smith	Anne Clark	Sally Spear	Det Nemcosky
1972	Jack Harrington &	Kenn Boyd	Fred Smith	Anne Clark	Sally Spear	Hollie Johnson

<u>Year</u>	<u>Trails</u>	<u>Shelters (properties)</u>	<u>Outings</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Publicity</u>	<u>Meetings</u>
	Bill Tennett					
1973	Jack Harrington & Bill Tennett	Howard Van Benthuyssen	Dot & Pirk Pirkanen	Carlene Whitcomb (Squires)	Janice Lange and Sally Spear	Hollie Johnson
1974	Jack Harrington & Bill Tennett	Howard Van Benthuyssen	Dot & Pirk Pirkanen	Carlene Whitcomb (Squires)	Jean Lance	Hollie Johnson
1975	Jack Harrington & Bill Tennett	Ralph Gibbs and Jack Lance	Dot & Pirk Pirkanen	Carlene Whitcomb (Squires)	Al Perkins	Gretchen Mead
1976	Jack Harrington & Bill Tennett	Ralph Gibbs and Jack Lance	Dot Myer and Cathy Frank	Linda Thoma	Al Perkins	Dot and Pirk Pirkanen
1977	Jack Harrington & Bill Tennett	Ralph Gibbs and Jack Lance	Dot Myer and Cathy Frank	Agnes Richardson	Carlene Squires	Dot and Pirk Pirkanen
1978	Jack Harrington & Rick Rice	Jack Lance and Dick Sirola	Peg Whitson	Agnes Richardson	Judy Lance	
1979	Rick Rice and Gordon Moore	Jack Lance and John Sharp	Peg Whitson	Rose Bloomhardt	Judy Lance	Bobbie Conquest
1980	Rick Rice and Gordon Moore	Jack Lance and John Sharp	Betsy Schneider and Elise Palmer	Rose Bloomhardt	Elizabeth Thompson	Judy Lance
1981	Gordon Moore & Arnie Newstaetter	John Sharp and Keith Edson	Dot Myer and Mark Mancuso	Rose Bloomhardt and Elise Palmer	Elizabeth Thompson	Peg Whitson
1982	Carlene Squires and Rick Rice		Dot Myer and Pieter Crow	Corky Magoon	Elizabeth Thompson	Tom Brooks
1983	Carlene Squires and Rick Rice	Basil Goodridge and Steve Worcester	Dot Myer and Ginny Yandow	Corky Magoon	Elizabeth Thompson	Pam Moritz (Gillis) & Barbara Yerrick
1984	Carlene Squires and Rick Rick	Basil Goodridge and Chris Ward	Dot Myer and Ginny Yandow	Corky Magoon	Peggy MacDonald	Pam Moritz (Gillis)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Trails</u>	<u>Shelters</u>	<u>Outings</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Publicity</u>	<u>Meetings</u>
1985	Carlene Squires	Basil Goodridge and Chris Ward	Dot Myer and Ginny Yandow	Corky Magoon	Judy Lance	Janice Lange and Bev Nichols
1986	Carlene & Andy Squires	Basil Goodridge and Chris Ward	Dot Myer	Elizabeth Thompson	Judy Lance	Janice Lange and Bev Nichols
1987	Carlene & Andy Squires	Chris Ward and Paul Sheckel	Dot Myer	Elizabeth Thompson	Judy Lance and Pam Gillis	Greg and Penny Bostock
1988	Roland Boucher & Mark Turner	Chris Ward and Paul Sheckel	Dot Myer	Elizabeth Thompson	Judy Lance and Pam Gillis	Greg and Penny Bostock
1989			Dot Myer			
1990	Don Dewees and Pam Gillis	Dana Baron and Newt Garland	Dot Myer	Connie Plunkett	Carol Chapman and Pam Gillis	Greg and Penny Bostock
1991	Pam Gillis and Clem Holden	Dana Baron and Newt Garland	Dot Myer	Connie Plunkett	Carol Chapman and Pam Gillis	
1992	Pam Gillis and Clem Holden	Dana Baron and Herman Hoffman	Dot Myer	Connie Plunkett	Carol Chapman and Pam Gillis	Gale and David Cass
1993	Pam Gillis and Clem Holden	Dana Baron and Herman Hoffman	Dot Myer	Connie Plunkett	Carol Chapman and Pam Gillis	Gale Cass
1994	Pam Gillis and John Sharp	Dana Baron and Herman Hoffman	Dot Myer	Connie Plunkett	Sarah Joslin and Pam Gillis	Gale Cass and Ginny Yandow
1995	Pam Gillis and John Sharp	Dana Baron and Herman Hoffman	Dot Myer	Connie Plunkett	John Somers	Bill Nash
1996	Pam Gillis and John Sharp	Herman Hoffman and Leo Leach	Dot Myer	Connie Plunkett	Pat Collier	Bill Nash
1997	Pam Gillis and John Sharp	Herman Hoffman and Leo Leach	Mary Lou Recor	Dot Myer	Pat Collier	Bill Nash

<u>Year</u>	<u>Trails</u>	<u>Shelters</u>	<u>Outings</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Publicity</u>	<u>Meetings and Special Events</u>
1998	Pam Gillis and John Sharp	Herman Hoffman and Leo Leach	Mary Lou Recor	Dot Myer	Pat Collier	Brenda Wright & Llyn Ellison
1999	Pam Gillis and John Sharp	Leo Leach	Mary Lou Recor	Dot Myer	Pat Collier	Brenda Wright <u>Education</u> Fred Kosnitsky

## APPENDIX IV: APPROXIMATE MEMBERSHIP

1910	10	1960	183
		1962	226
1917	85	1963	221
1919	100		
1920	100		
1921	96	1979	379
1923	88		
1924	101	1982	383
1925	104	1983	401
1926	117	1984	379
1927	126	1985	390
1928	154		
1929	141	1989	468
1930	108	1990	487
1931	88	1991	435
1934	79		
1935	106		
1936	79		
1937	78	1997	396
1938	100	1998	438
1939	96		
1940	76		
1941	99		
1942	79		
1943	74		
1945	95		
1946	99		
1947	113		
1948	117		
1949	113		
1950	133		
1951	138		
1952	139		
1953	138		
1954	139		
1955	140		
1956	143		
1957	164		
1958	160		
1959			

These figures are memberships. Since we have family memberships which represent two or more people, the actual number of members is higher than the numbers shown.

**APPENDIX IV**  
**THINGS KEPT BY SECTION HISTORIAN**

Minutes of Executive Committee Meetings and Annual Meetings, 1961-1999\*

Financial Records, 1918-1958, in bound book\*\*

Financial Information (budgets, etc., not complete records), 1961-1999\*

Copy of current and past by-laws

Most issues of Ridge Lines and some of the preceding Bulletin

Some issues of Long Trail News

Outing schedules since 1958\*

Outing Reports (individual outings) in loose leaf books, 1965-1999

Some annual reports of committees

Information about Trails, Shelters, Outings and other activities

Membership Lists, current and past – not all years

Miscellaneous files

Photo Albums – one old, one current

Section Banner, Silk Screens for Tee Shirts, “Dolls”, Bumper Stickers

Miscellaneous supplies

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\*Some years/meetings/schedules are missing

\*\*This may be turned over to the Vermont Historical Society in the future

**APPENDIX V**  
**THINGS KEPT BY OTHERS**

Vermont Historical Society

Their Doc. No.

184-13	Burlington Section Reports, Minutes, etc., 1918-1959
184-14	Burlington Section Reports, Minutes, etc., 1960-1980
184-15	Burlington Section, Membership lists, 1918-1980
184-16	Burlington Section Newsletters, 1964-1974
184-17	Burlington Section Newsletters, 1975-1982, 1993-
184-18	Burlington Section Correspondence, 1918-1980
184-19	Burlington Section History, 1910-1927

Bailey Howe Library, University of Vermont

Complete set of Ridge Lines

Six publications on the early history of the Green Mountain Club, not specifically the Burlington Section

Sally Spear

Complete set of Ridge Lines