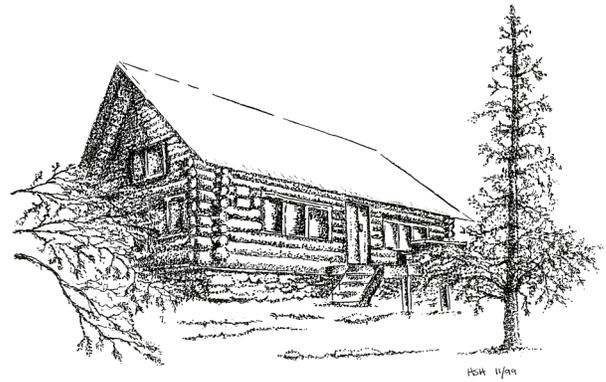


# *RIDGE LINES*



GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB  
BURLINGTON SECTION

[www.gmcburlington.org](http://www.gmcburlington.org)

Spring 2010

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!!**

**THE GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB WILL BE 100 YEARS OLD  
ON MARCH 11, 2010.**

**ALL FOUR 2010 ISSUES OF *RIDGE LINES* WILL FEATURE ARTICLES ABOUT OUR HISTORY. WE'RE STARTING WITH AN OVERVIEW OF HOW THE CLUB WAS STARTED AND HOW THE LONG TRAIL CAME TO BE. ON PAGE 2 OF THIS ISSUE, YOU CAN READ ABOUT THE HISTORIC MEETING AT A FAMOUS BURLINGTON HOTEL, WHEN THE LONG TRAIL WAS BORN.**

### **ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

**UPDATES ON 2009 TRIUMPHS AND CHALLENGES FROM MEMBERS OF THE BURLINGTON SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

❖ **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – PAGE 3**

❖ **SPECIAL EVENTS, MEMBERSHIP, AND OUTINGS REPORTS – PAGE 4**

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**SPRING HIKING – HOW TO PROTECT OUR TRAILS – PAGE 8**

**CRITTER COLUMN: CHIPMUNK LOVE – PAGE 8**

**SCHEDULE OF HIKES AND OTHER OUTINGS – PAGES 9 - 11**

**BE SURE TO CHECK OUT REMINDERS ABOUT  
SPECIAL 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY EVENTS  
PAGES 5, 6, 7**

## *A Short History of the Green Mountain Club*

*By Valerie Wilkins*

The tale of how the Green Mountain Club and the Long Trail came to be has been told in many wonderful articles and books over the years. But, on the eve of the celebration of the centennial of the Green Mountain Club, we thought it would be appropriate to provide a short history of the Club in this edition of *Ridge Lines*.

For those in the Green Mountain Club, the name James P. Taylor is a household word, as he is the person who had the vision and energy to get the ball rolling for the creation of the Long Trail in the early 1900s. As the Assistant Headmaster of the Vermont Academy in Windsor, Taylor was frustrated by the lack of “mountain hospitality” available in Vermont. He believed that robust outdoor exercise was an important part of the boys’ education. However, beyond the trails and the rustic shelter on nearby Ascutney Mountain, there were few resources available to hikers in Vermont.

In 1909, Taylor first conceived of the idea of a state-long skyline pathway connecting the mountains from the Massachusetts line to the Canadian border. Next came the challenge of how to make this lofty dream of “the Long Trail” a reality. Taylor was well known as a speaker, publicist, and organizer. (He eventually left education to work for the Chamber of Commerce.) He put these skills to work to find individuals and organizations willing to join him on this project. Failing to find a willing partner in the Appalachian Mountain Club in Boston, whose members deemed Vermont to be “flat as a pancake”, Taylor turned his attention closer to home. In the first few years, he used every opportunity he could to promote his vision throughout the state. (One historian refers to him as a “compulsive after-dinner speaker”.) Eventually, Taylor felt he had enough statewide support. The founding meeting of the Green Mountain Club was held at the Van Ness House in Burlington, Vermont on March 11, 1910.

### **For those interested in Burlington history**

The Van Ness House was a prominent hotel at the corner of Main and St. Paul Streets for many years. The original structure was built in 1871. In 1881, it was purchased by Urban A. Woodbury (who served as Governor from 1894 to 1896). In 1883 and again in 1892, the hotel was expanded – eventually having room to accommodate 400 guests. Over the years, the Van Ness House was a hub of business and social life in Burlington. James P. Taylor himself lived at the Van Ness House. Many well-known people visited the hotel, including three United States presidents: William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, and William Howard Taft. The Van Ness House burned in 1951. Today, you’ll find the Howard Bank on the site formerly occupied by the hotel. You can easily find images on the Internet of the Van Ness House in its heyday.

At the historic 3/11/1910 meeting, the organizers pledged to “make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people”. James Taylor continued to be the spokesperson and motivating force behind the Long Trail. However, it was many others within Vermont and from neighboring states who took up the tools and did the hard, physical work of scouting and clearing the trail. Notable in the history of the Green Mountain Club are Judge Clarence Cowles, who helped construct many trails around Mt. Mansfield; the State Forest Service, for their early work on the section of trail from Camels Hump to Killington; Will S. Monroe, who helped re-route the trail to the ridgeline extending from Camels Hump south to Middlebury Gap; and Roy Buchanan, who helped close the gap from Jay Peak to the Canadian border. Many of these names are familiar to us, as they later became names of popular trails and shelters on the Long Trail.

The final section of the Long Trail was finished in the summer of 1930, just 20 years after the founding of the Green Mountain Club. Since then, the Club has continued to bring together people that share a love for hiking and a commitment to preserving and protecting the Long Trail System. The Burlington Section plays an important part in the success of the Club. With our large and dedicated group of volunteers – including the Executive Committee, Trail and Shelter Adopters, Outing Leaders, Event Organizers, Ridgelines Team, and many other hard-working section members – we help continue the wonderful vision that began 100 years ago.

*Sources for Valerie's article about GMC history, and recommended reading:*

There are many more wonderful stories about the early days of the Green Mountain Club. Use these resources to learn more:

- \* *A Century in the Mountains: Celebrating Vermont's Long Trail*, Green Mountain Club, 2009.
- \* *Forest and Crag: A History of Hiking, Trail Blazing, and Adventure in the Northeast Mountains*, Laura and Guy Waterman, Appalachian Mountain Club Books, 2003.
- \* *Footpath in the Wilderness: The Long Trail in the Green Mountains of Vermont*, Middlebury College Press, 1941.
- \* *Long Trail News*, Green Mountain Club, Fall and Winter 2009.
- \* *The Vermonter*, "A Famous Vermont Hostelry," March 1911.

**The beginning of each new year is a time for the volunteers who work on Burlington Section committees to reflect and report on the accomplishments and challenges of the previous year. Below and on the following pages are summaries of the annual reports completed in January.**

*President's Report - submitted by Phil Hazen*

Last year (2009) was a great year for the Green Mountain Club. There were two things that were of special interest to me: First, the new Visitor Center in Waterbury was finished in time for the Annual Meeting in May, replacing the South Barn that burned in 2003. Equally exciting, the GMC has a budget projection to put it into the black for the first time since 2003.

- The Burlington Section has also had a great year.
- Our financial condition, as usual, is in excellent condition with a budget of about \$10,000 for 2010.
- Trails and Shelters are in good shape with many volunteers making all that possible.
- Membership numbers are holding steady.
- *Ridge Lines* continues to receive great reviews.
- The web-site has had improvement in content and presentation. Electronic delivery of *Ridge Lines* will begin this year after some limited distribution tests last year. Members will have the option of receiving *Ridge Lines* by mail, e-mail or both. More details will be available soon.
- We continue to have many dedicated leaders and willing participants for our hikes and other activities, leading to a full schedule of varied outings. (Rich Larsen has stepped down as co-chair of outings, but we hope to continue to see him leading hikes as usual with his familiar Dunkin Donuts coffee or a Coke in his hand. Rich has certainly added to the success of our outings!)

Our new success story for the year has to be the introduction of our "Short Clips of Great Trips" social events for members and non-members alike. Robynn Albert and her committee put on events in spring and fall that exceeded all expectations. There were 92 people at the first event and 131 at the second one – among the largest attendance at any GMC event in some time. From all accounts, the events were thoroughly enjoyed by all. The opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones has been a great part of the success of this new program.

We used some of the marketing techniques that worked for the "short clips" events to advertise the Burlington Section Annual meeting, and ended up with 106 people in attendance. For more details, see Anneliese's report on the next page.

Kelley Mackison has joined the Executive Committee as our vice-president and will be a welcome addition to our group. Join Kelley on one of her many hikes to meet a very dynamic person.

My special thanks to all members of the Executive Committee that make the Burlington Section function so well.

## *Committee Report: Special Events*

*Submitted by Anneliese Koenig*

The annual meeting of our Burlington Section was held on January 23, at the Faith United Methodist Church in South Burlington. Attendance was a record high of 106 members and guests. Socializing started at 5:00, dinner at 5:45. It was also a birthday party: We toasted 100 years of annual meetings for GMC Burlington. After the business meeting, John Mitchelides presented his breathtaking slides on the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan - a land of mystery and beauty - to a fascinated audience. Thank you, John, for your educational contribution!

## *Committee Report - Membership*

*Submitted by Dot Myer*

Last year, the Burlington Section had 721 memberships. Now we have 707, with 964 members total. (Some memberships are for families.) Individual memberships went down from 375 to 345, a loss of 30 individual memberships. The Friend category went up from 28 to 49, a gain of 21. This suggests that a number of people switched from regular individual memberships to "friends", possibly due to the economy. The higher categories (Defender, Protector, Sponsor, Guardian and Steward) also increased by more than 50%. All of these categories together had 54 memberships last year and 88 this year.

## *Committee Report - Outings*

*Submitted by Paul Houchens and Rich Larsen*

We want to start our report with a THANK YOU to the leaders who made the outings possible, and to the members who participated. A successful year of outings requires a robust schedule of diverse events, an enthusiastic group of leaders, and a membership that participates in and enjoys the hikes and other activities.

### **Statistics for 2009 Burlington Section GMC outings**

Outings Scheduled	116
Outings known to have occurred	81
Outings known to have been canceled	26
Outings with no report	9
Typical Participation	5.9

Average participation in our outings seemed to drop some, compared to last year. In 2009, there was an average of 5.9 participants, counting the leader (on hikes for which we have the numbers). There were some outings with 14 or more people, reported by Peter Cottrell, Linda, Evans, and Richard Larsen. There were also a number of outings with only 2 people.

Trip leaders who signed up to lead three or more Outings were recognized at the Annual Meeting. In descending order of number of outings, these were Kelley Mackison (most), Dot Myer, Robynn Albert, David Hathaway, Pam Gillis / John Sharp, Richard Larsen, Robert Chaperon, Russ Kinaman, Sheri Larsen, Linda Evans, Phil Hazen, Peter Cottrell, Carlene Squires, Kathy Adams, Ted Albers, Suzanne Daningburg, Len Carpenter and Pete Saile. Outings summaries can be viewed online at [www.gmcburlington.org/category/trip-reports/](http://www.gmcburlington.org/category/trip-reports/). We have three full years of outings reports online now – 2007 through 2009 – and older reports from the previous website have been added as well. You might like to look at them sometime. As always, we encourage the membership to contact Phil or Paul with ideas as to how the Outings Committee can provide an even stronger schedule, with more leaders and more participants.

## *Trails Report*

*Submitted by Pam Gillis, Trails Co-Chair*

In 2009, we had 5 work days on the trails, with 51 volunteer-days and over 250 volunteer-hours. We averaged 10 volunteers on each outing, which is better than the last few years. I would like to recognize and thank Dot Myer and George Long, who each came on 4 outings.

Two outings took place on Sept. 16 - a Women's Trail Workshop and regular trail work. We (mostly Phil Hazen and John Pennucci) removed a very large tree just as the two groups met. One outing was unplanned: After a report of losing the Long Trail a little north of Buchanan, Sue Girouard and I went out and did some blazing to insure that other hikers didn't get lost.

This will be the 17<sup>th</sup> year that John Sharp has been my co-chair and it will be my 21<sup>st</sup> year as Trails co-chair.

**In 2010, we'll have a trail work day on Sunday during the GMC Annual Meeting. I expect we'll have plenty of trees and limbs to remove over all the trail sections, so we will need big turn-outs this year. The work is simple, the pace is mostly slow, the company is great, and you really feel good at the end of the day, knowing you have helped clear the trails that we all enjoy!**

## *Director's Report*

*Submitted by Sue Girouard*

The Board of Directors met at Woodstock on 1/23/10. We heard that 2009 was a good year for the club. Executive Director Ben Rose noted that the club has its head above water, financially, for the first time since the barn burned. The financial portion of the Long Range Plan will be completed by the March board meeting.

Centennial Celebration plans are well underway. (See below.) To go along with the birthday bash, radio station WCVT will air a spot about the Club's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on its daily program, Book of Days, on 3/11/2010. The program is carried by 10 radio stations throughout the state.

### **DON'T MISS THE BIRTHDAY EVENTS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Party - Thursday, March 11, 2010** at the Doubletree Inn in South Burlington, starting at 6PM. Cash bar, finger foods, slideshow, special entertainment, big birthday cake – **and talent!**

**Fine Dining** and gala fundraiser for the Long Trail - **Friday, May 7, 2010** at Trapp Family Lodge. Governor Howard Dean will be among the attendees.

GMC's 100<sup>th</sup> **Annual Meeting - Saturday, May 22, 2010** This year's event will be at GMC headquarters, hosted by the Burlington Section. Another birthday cake opportunity!

Contra/Square **Dance - Friday, July 16, 2010** at Bruce and Debbie Hallett's barn in South Londonderry.

**Relay Hike** up the entire Long Trail - **Saturday, July 17, 2010** will be the first day of a month-long relay with day hikes led by GMC Sections, board members, and local volunteers. We are just now starting the process of signing up hike leaders for specific legs of the relay.

We know we've already told you about the many events in celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday - but we want to tell everyone again!

**Don't forget the Party!**  
**CENTENNIAL 2010**

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF MUD, ROCKS, ROOTS,  
SWEAT, BLACK FLIES, HEROIC VOLUNTEERS, AND  
GREAT HIKES ON VERMONT'S LONG TRAIL

*Starring James P. Taylor himself!!!*

*As well as other famous people from GMC history*

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Social 6:00 PM Program 6:30-9:00 PM

DoubleTree Hotel, 1117 Williston Road, South Burlington  
(home of Trader Duke's Restaurant)

HEARTY HORS D'OEUVRES - plus CASH BAR  
BIRTHDAY CAKE & ICE CREAM  
\$10 DONATION SUGGESTED

**RSVP APPRECIATED - SPACE IS LIMITED**

RSVP - [gmcevents@greenmountainclub.org](mailto:gmcevents@greenmountainclub.org)

## *Reminder for Spring Hikers: Stay Off High-Elevation Trails*

Vermont's trails are wet and muddy in the spring. When hikers step on saturated soil, they make deep gullies and pits that will be there all summer long. If hikers step off the trail to avoid the mud, they increase erosion by creating additional trenches for run-off. The State of Vermont closes hiking trails on state land (including the trails on Mt. Mansfield and Camel's Hump) from mid-April to Memorial Day. The state also joins with the Green Mountain Club, Green Mountain National Forest, and Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation in urging responsible use of *all* of Vermont's hiking trails between sugaring season and Memorial Day.

**Stay off Vermont's sensitive summits.** The delicate and rare tundra plants are easily crushed or ripped out of the earth by the combination of boots and water. In addition to the two closed mountains, hikers should avoid Stratton Mountain, Killington Peak, Jay Peak and Lincoln Ridge (Mount Ellen to Appalachian Gap).

**Walk through the mud. Don't walk around it.** If a trail is so muddy that you have to walk on neighboring vegetation, turn back and find a different place to hike.

**Plan lower-elevation hikes.** A trail may be dry at the trailhead but very muddy higher up. Spring is a great time to walk in lakeside parks or hike on dirt roads, rail trails and rec paths. In northwestern Vermont, some good options are the Burlington and Stowe Bike Paths, Red Rocks Park, Colchester Park and Malletts Bay Causeway, Mills Riverside Park in Jericho, Mobbs Farm in Jericho Center, Niquette Bay State Park, Charlotte Recreation Path and Wildlife Area, Shelburne Bay and the LaPlatte River area, Wiessner Woods in Stowe, Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail and the trails at Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge. (There are maps for many of these walks in the *Day Hiker's Guide* and *Nature Walks in Northern Vermont and the Champlain Valley*, by Elizabeth Bassett. Most areas are also easy to find in Vermont gazetteers.)

**Give our hiking trails a chance to dry out. They'll need less maintenance and will be safer and more enjoyable all summer and fall.**

## *Critter Column: Chipmunk Love*

(another installment in our now-and-then feature of facts and stories about Vermonters who walk on four legs, hop, bound, slither, or fly)

by Maeve Kim

My friend John doesn't really mind having furry critters share the seed he sets out for the birds, but far too many squirrels and chipmunks take up permanent residence around his home. To keep the numbers down, John dedicates a few days every summer to "REP" – his Rodent Emigration Program. He baits Hav-a-Hart traps with peanut butter and then releases the captured critters on a large piece of wooded property that he owns, about fifteen miles from where he lives. The drop-off point is on a dirt logging road, right at the end of a narrow animal trail. Every rodent he releases scampers right down the animal trail and disappears into the woods.

One day last summer, he dropped off a chipmunk. A week later, he "emigrated" a second one. As usual, the little animal took off like a shot down the narrow trail. But then John saw another chipmunk coming up the trail toward the logging road. The two critters caught sight of each other at the same instant. They both leapt straight up in the air, ran to each other with excited squeaking, and did a lot of touching noses to faces. Then they whirled around and raced off into the woods together. John feels there can be no explanation for their behavior other than recognition and delighted reunion!

If you have a critter story you'd like to share with other *Ridge Lines* readers, e-mail it to Maeve at [maevulus@surfglobal.net](mailto:maevulus@surfglobal.net)

## Section Outings

### Spring 2010

Unless otherwise specified, call the trip leader to sign up, find out what equipment you'll need, and learn about any changes. **Check with trip leader before bringing your pet along.** Human guests are always welcome. Trip leaders often arrange carpooling. If you ride along in someone else's car, we recommend reimbursing the driver at the rate of 10 cents a mile.

### March Outings

3/5 (Fri) to 3/7 (Sun) **Adirondack Ski and Snowshoe Week-End** Weizel Cabin, near Lake Placid NY. If you are one of the lucky ones to sign up early for this annual GMC/Burlington Ski Club trip, you know this is one bargain not to be missed. Come play in the snow with some of your newest or oldest best friends, eat and drink and relax to your heart's content. Call early for details and to get on the list. Linda Evans, 899-3006.

3/6 (Sat) **Mt. Abraham Via Battell Trail** Depending on the weather conditions, we will hike or snowshoe to the summit, where the views in winter can be really lovely. If it's icy, crampons or microspikes and poles may be necessary. Difficult hike, moderate pace, 6 miles, 2500 vertical feet. Please call leader a few days before trip. Sheri Larsen, 878-6828 or larsen007@aol.com

3/7 (Sun) **Clark Mt. Bushwhack on Snowshoes** We'll start at the Stevensville Road parking area and follow the Nebraska Notch Trail to the Long Trail south. Then we'll leave the trail to bushwhack to the top of Clark Mountain. Moderate to difficult, moderate pace, 5 miles, 1500' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 3/6. Len Carpenter, 655-3071 or lennysworld@myfairpoint.net

3/11 (Thurs) **GMC 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration** See page 6.

3/13 (Sat) **Abbey Pond (Dog Friendly)** Easy snowshoe at a leisurely pace, a few sections of steady climbing, 2.3 miles, 1260' elevation gain. The trail follows a brook and ends at small wilderness pond and wetlands with a view of Robert Frost Mountain. The snowshoe up takes a little under 2 hours, with the return about 1 1/2 hours. The trailhead is south of Bristol, just northeast of Middlebury. (This is a long drive for anyone in Burlington or points north.) Meet in Shelburne at the town offices/fire station/library on Route 7 (Shelburne Road) at 9AM and carpool from there. We'll be back in Shelburne at 2:30 or so. Contact leader with any questions. Ted Albers, 985-9064 or ted@ted-albers.net

3/14 (Sun) **Camels Hump** Snowshoe to the top of the second highest peak in Vermont. Great views on a clear day. Difficult, 7.3 miles, 2600' elevation gain. Group limit 8. Contact leader by 3/12. Kathy Adams, 399-8687 or hikeradams@hotmail.com

3/19 (Fri) **Lake Champlain, Seen From the Water** 7-9 PM, McCarthy Arts Center Recital Hall at St. Michael's College See page 7.

3/20 (Sat) **Butler Lodge, Wampahoofus, Maple Ridge Loop** We'll snowshoe from the Stevensville trailhead in Underhill Center to Butler Lodge on the south side of Mt. Mansfield. From Butler Lodge, we'll traverse the Wampahoofus Trail and then descend via Maple Ridge and Frost Trails. This snowshoe trip features an interesting, little-used trail and outstanding views. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 5.1 miles, 2200' elevation gain. Peter Cottrell, 879-0755.

3/21 (Sun) **Mt. Hunger via Waterbury Trail (Dog Friendly)** Late winter snowshoe - or, better yet, early spring hike! Be prepared for any type of conditions. Get out and bring your eager dogs and we'll hike Mt. Hunger via the Waterbury Trail to get some of the best views in Vermont. At the summit, we'll enjoy camaraderie, hot chocolate and cookies! Moderate with a moderate pace, 4 miles, 2290' elevation gain. Group limit 10 people, 4 dogs. Contact leader by 3/19. Kelley Mackison, kelleymackison@gmail.com or 999-7839.

3/27 (Sat) **Taylor Lodge** Snowshoe varied terrain with some views along the way. Moderate, 5 miles, 1200' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 3/25. Kathy Adams, hikeradams@hotmail.com or 399-8687.

3/28 (Sun) **Snowshoe? Hike? Location? Who Knows??** The end of March in Vermont can be like mid-winter or it can be like spring – so details of this trip will be decided closer to the time. Wherever we go, it will be an easy to moderate hike at a slow pace. Contact leader a few days before trip. Dot Myer, 863-2433 or Dotmyer@myfairpoint.net

### April Outings

4/3 (Sat) **Skylight Pond Trail, Long Trail, Burnt Hill Trail (Dog Friendly)** Have you been eager to see some of the side trails off the Long Trail? Come join my first outing for the Side to Side Series. Bring your dogs, and let's hike up the Skylight Pond Trail to the Long Trail south, meet up with the Burnt Hill Trail and hike back out. Moderate with moderate pace, 7.1 miles, 1400' elevation gain. Group limit 10 people 4 dogs. Contact leader by 4/1. Kelley

### ***April Outings – cont.***

4/4 (Sun) **Mount Hunger & White Rock** We'll climb the Waterbury trail to the summit of Mount Hunger, taking a side trip to the summit of nearby White Rock Mountain on the way back. Difficult with strong pace, ~6.5 miles, ~2500' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 4/3. David Hathaway, 899-9982 or david.hathaway.78@gmail.com

4/11 (Sun) **Mount Mansfield Hike** Mount Mansfield from Underhill State Park. How high we park and which trail we take will depend on road and snow conditions. Snowshoes should be carried. Difficult hike, strong pace, 9 miles, 3000' elevation gain. Group limit 12. Contact leader by 4/9. Richard Larsen, 878-6828 or larsen007@aol.com

4/17 (Sat) **Map and Compass Workshop** Learn the basics of reading a map and using a compass to get from Point A to Point B. We will then do a little hike and bushwhack near Colchester Pond to test our skills. Moderate, 5 miles. Group limit 10. Please call for details. Phil Hazen, 355-7181 or philhazen@comcast.net

4/18 (Sun) **Bushwhack Near Honey Hollow** Starting on Honey Hollow Road in Bolton, we'll follow the remains of an old logging road to beaver ponds and then bushwhack to ledges over looking Bamforth Ridge and views of Camels Hump. Then we'll return to the Long Trail parking lot. Moderate to difficult, moderate pace, +/- 5 miles, 1100' elevation gain. Group limit 8. Contact leader by 4/15. Len Carpenter, 655-3071 or lennysworld@myfairpoint.net

4/24 (Sat) **Biking on the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail** We'll start in St. Albans and bicycle the full 26-mile length of the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail to Richford, and return. Round trip 52 miles. Difficult because of the distance, moderate pace. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 4/23. David Hathaway, 899-9982 or david.hathaway.78@gmail.com

4/25 (Sun) **Niquette Bay State Park Wildflower Hike** We will hike the trails on the perimeter of Niquette Bay State Park while looking for early spring wildflowers. Easy walk, moderate pace, 3.5 miles relatively gentle ups and downs and stairs. Group limit 15. Register with leader by 4/23. Sheri Larsen, 878-6828 or [larsen007@aol.com](mailto:larsen007@aol.com)

### ***May Outings***

5/1 (Sat) **Snake Mountain** This small mountain, halfway between Burlington and Middlebury, offers an excellent view of the Champlain Valley, remains of an old hotel and "dance pavillion"(!), and a small pond where turtles are often seen sunning on a log. At this time of the year. there should also be numerous flowers, and we may take a very short side trip to a beaver pond. Easy hike, slow pace, 3.6 miles, 900' elevation gain. Dot Myer, 863-2433 or dotmyer@myfairpoint.net

5/2 (Sun) **Trapp Cabin** Hike up the trail and have lunch at the picturesque Spence Field Cabin at Trapp Lodge. Goodies at the end! Moderate hike, moderate pace, 6.2 miles, 1000' elevation gain. Call leader by 4/30. Russ Kinaman, 879-6666.

5/8 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work – for National Trails Day** Spring trail work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM Visitors' Lot at 8AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30AM. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4-10 miles. Pam Gillis, 879-1457 and John Sharp, 862-3941.

5/15 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work** Spring trail work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM Visitors' Lot at 8AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30AM. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4-10 miles. Pam Gillis, 879-1457 and John Sharp, 862-3941.

5/16 (Sun) **Stark's Nest, Mad River Glen** We will hike up an easy ski trail to the top of the single chair lift and have lunch at the Stark's Nest ski patrol hut. Goodies at the end! Moderate hike, moderate pace, 5 miles, 2000' elevation gain. Call leader by 5/14. Russ Kinaman, 879-6666.

5/21 (Fri) through 5/23 (Sun) **GMC Annual Meeting** The Burlington Section is hosting this year's meeting and has planned a full schedule of events. On Friday afternoon, you can take a tour of the new Visitor Center in Waterbury and learn about its "green" construction and operation. On Friday evening, there will be refreshments and a presentation by Lee Allen, past Stratton Pond caretaker and retired forestry professor. Allen hiked the LT end-to-end in 1972, and again in 2008. Using pictures and logbooks from his two hikes, Allen will show how he, the Long Trail, and Vermont changed over thirty-six years. Early Saturday morning, there will be a bird walk on GMC's campus. Then comes the annual meeting, lunch and an afternoon full of hikes and other activities for all ages, toddlers to seniors. Saturday's festivities will conclude with a social hour and a dinner catered by the New England Culinary Institute. Following dinner, Dot Helling, Montpelier attorney and GMC member, will present an illustrated talk about her 2007 round-the-world run for safe drinking water. Sponsored by the Blue Planet Run Foundation, twenty international runners on five teams ran continuously for ninety-five days across sixteen countries. Dot will describe the logistics of the run, tell us of interactions with various cultures, and share her knowledge of the global problem of insufficient drinking water. A work hike on Sunday concludes the weekend's scheduled activities. (See next page.)

### **May Outings – cont.**

5/23 (Sun) **Spring Trail Work** This work hike is part of the GMC's Annual Meeting. We'll clear the Lake Mansfield Trail and the Long Trail between Taylor Lodge and Puffer Shelter. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at Lake Mansfield Trout Club parking lot at 9AM. Pam Gillis, 879-1457 and John Sharp, 862-3941.

5/27 (Thurs) **Nature Walk for Beginning Birders** Enjoy the excitement of spring migration, courtship and nesting. Easy walk at a leisurely pace, under 4 miles. Location will be decided based on what's going on in various locales. Maeve Kim, 899-4327 or [maevulus@surfglobal.net](mailto:maevulus@surfglobal.net)

5/29 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work** Spring trail work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM Visitors' Lot at 8AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30AM. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4-10 miles. Pam Gillis, 879-1457 and John Sharp, 862-3941.

5/30 (Sun) **Harrington's View** This hike covers a 3 mile section of the Long Trail that is rarely hiked. It goes slightly uphill north from Bolton Notch Road. The lookout is named after Jack Harrington of the Burlington Section. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 6 miles, 900' elevation gain. Call leader by 5/28. Russ Kinaman, 879-6666.

5/31 (Mon) **Loop Hike to Mt. Mansfield's Maple Ridge** Starting from the parking area at the end of Stevensville Road in Underhill, we'll hike up the Frost Trail, across Maple Ridge Trail, down Rock Garden Trail to Butler Lodge and then down Butler Lodge Trail to the cars. If we're lucky, we might be able to spot some lady slippers along the way. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4.0 miles, 1700' vertical feet. Group limit 12. Contact leader by 5/29. Sheri Larsen, 878-6828 or [larsen007@aol.com](mailto:larsen007@aol.com)

### **June**

6/5 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work** Spring trail work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM visitor's lot at 8AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30AM. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4-10 miles. Pam Gillis, 879-1457 and John Sharp, 862-3941.

6/6 (Sun) **Camels Hump via Forest City, Long, Monroe and Dean Trails (Dogs Welcome)** Come join another excursion of my Side to Side Series. We'll summit Camels Hump by way of the Forest City Trail and Long Trail. We'll make our way back down the Monroe Trail and cut over the Dean Trail to return back on the Forest City Trail. Difficult with moderate pace, 8.9 miles, 2200' elevation gain. Group limit 10 people, 4 dogs. Contact leader by 6/4. Kelley Mackison, 999-7839 or [kelleymackison@gmail.com](mailto:kelleymackison@gmail.com)

6/12 (Sat) **Clark Brook Trail to Roosevelt Mountain** The trailhead is on the east side of the Green Mountains near Granville (Route 100). This trail ends at the Long Trail, then north on the LT to Roosevelt Mountain with views to the east and south. Moderate hike at a moderate pace, 6.8 miles. Please contact leader in advance. Carlene Squires, [carlene@gmavt.net](mailto:carlene@gmavt.net)

6/13 (Sun) **Mount Ellen** We will take the Jerusalem Trail to the LT, then south to the summit of Mount Ellen; and return. Difficult hike, strong pace, 9 miles, 2500' elevation gain. Group limit 12. Contact leader by 6/11. Richard Larsen, 878-6828 or [larsen007@aol.com](mailto:larsen007@aol.com)

6/19 (Sat) **Long Trail from Birch Glen Camp to Montclair Glen Lodge** We will access the Long Trail from the west using the Beane Trail. Hiking north from Cowles Cove Shelter, we'll traverse Burnt Rock, Ira Allen, and Ethan Allen before descending via the Forest City Trail. 11.7 miles, 8 hours, moderate pace. Call leader for meeting time and place. Peter Cottrell, 879-0755.

6/20 (Sun) **Sterling Pond** We will hike from Route 108 in Smugglers Notch to Sterling Pond, enjoy the pond for a bit, then hike around it. Lunch will be at an overlook facing the Notch and Mt. Mansfield. Goodies at the end! Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4 miles, 1000' elevation gain. Call leader by 6/18. Russ Kinaman, 879-6666.

6/26 (Sat) **Work Hike to a Burlington Section Shelter** We'll hike to a local site in either the Mansfield or Bolton Mountain areas with the intention of spiffing up the site, the shelter, and any nearby trails. This will be an easy-going, moderate hike suitable for most anyone. Destination to be determined closer to the date. Call Linda Evans 899-3006 for details.

6/27 (Sun) **Abbey Pond** The trail follows a beautiful brook with a number of cascades and ends at a nice pond with a view of Robert Frost Mountain. Easy to moderate hike, slow pace, 4.6 miles, 1260' elevation gain. (If the Abbey Pond trail is closed for "sensitive species", as it sometimes is, a substitute hike will be found.) Dot Myer, 863-2433 or [dotmyer@myfairpoint.net](mailto:dotmyer@myfairpoint.net)