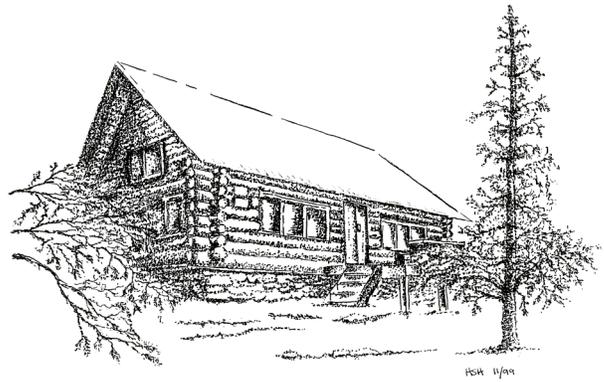


RIDGE LINES



GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB
BURLINGTON SECTION

www.gmcburlington.org

Spring 2011

Spring Trail Work

By Pam Gillis, Trails Committee Co-Chair

Maintaining the Long Trail is a large part of why the Green Mountain Club exists. Every year, members of our section go out on a series of trail work outings to help prepare the LT and some of the side trails for the summer hiking season. We've had a lot of volunteers each year. The more folks who come out, the more work we can get done and the easier it is for everyone!

This year I want to put out a special call for younger members to help out. Last National Trails Day, we only had four of us (the two co-leaders and two others) and I was the youngest - at 61! We still were able to cut all the trees that had fallen (split into two groups of two each, each group with a chain saw), but it sure would have helped to have some younger folks.

Trail work outings are slow-paced and you have plenty of opportunity to chat with the other volunteers. **People of all abilities can help.** Activities include clipping, clearing out water bars, and removing the debris from the chain saw. I really love the outings because at the end of the day everyone feels good about having given back to the trail. Even when the weather is less than ideal, we still have a good time. (Often a rain shower is *welcome* because it cools us down.) And we always end our outings with drinks and snacks back at the cars.

Please note that my two dogs (Labs) come on the outings and other well-behaved dogs are welcome. We almost always split into two or more groups, so if you don't want to hike with dogs, we can be sure there is a no-dog group.

The huge windstorm of December 1 did a lot of damage, so we'll have many downed limbs and whole trees to get off the trails before summer. **We really need good turn-out on the work hikes this spring!**

See pages 10 and 11 for specifics about work hikes this spring.

Also in this issue:

Reports about 2010's Activities and Accomplishments – pages 2, 3 and 4

Backpacking of Yesteryear – page 5

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Outings and Activities – pages 9 - 11

At the beginning of each new year, volunteers who work on Burlington Section committees report on the accomplishments and challenges of the previous year. Below and on pages 3 and 4 are summaries of the reports that were shared with members at the Section's Annual Meeting on January 29, 2011.

President's Report For 2010 - Phil Hazen

It has been a great Centennial Year of Celebrations for the GMC, starting with the March 11 Centennial Birthday Celebration that the Burlington Section was proud to have hosted at the DoubleTree Hotel in South Burlington with 300 attendees.

We also hosted the GMC Annual meeting in May. We did three legs of the End-to-End Long Trail Relay hike in August ending with a full-page article in the *Burlington Free Press*. Also in August, we celebrated the Burlington Section Centennial at John Connell's Greenmont Barn with a catered dinner.

We held a short clips event in November at the DoubleTree Hotel with one hundred attendees. And we did trail & shelter work, EMS club days, and many, many outings, along with continuing with *Ridge Lines* and our Burlington Section website. The year also held countless other things I cannot recall at the moment.

This was all made possible with a lot of great help from our volunteers. Now that the GMC birthday is over, things should be a little more "relaxed" this year . . . oh, I forgot, I believe we have a lot more blow downs on the trails to clear this spring because of the December wind storm. I'm sure our wonderful volunteers will get us through again!

Thanks again to our volunteers: that is what we are, a great volunteer organization.

Website - Ted Albers

The website continues to publish the latest outings, trip reports and of course on-line versions of *Ridge Lines*. On average, about 32 people visit the site daily, looking for outings, how to volunteer, and trip reports. Leaders can share their trip reports by posting them as "comment" on any page on the site. Send comments or suggestions to me by posting a comment on any page. I moderate all comments before they are posted. The Burlington Section's web address is <http://gmcburlington.org>

Thanks!

Membership – Dot Myer

As of January 21, 2010, the Burlington Section has 624 memberships. 197 of these are family memberships, which we count as two people. So our total membership is 821.

During 2010, we added 140 members, either first-timers or old members who rejoined. We lost 101 members (mostly people who stopped paying annual dues). Overall, we gained members during the last year.

The following people joined the Burlington Section from June through December 2010.

Robert Abrams, Alfred Belluchi, Margie Berger, Stephen Burke, Jonathan Butler, Blaise Cote, Alton Deslandes, Mary Dunlop, Nate and Jessie Eastman, David Farmer, Theresa Gbert, Christopher Haessley, Robin Hood, Matthew Hopper, Matt Joseph, Adam Kunin, Martin LaLonde, Paul Lane, Martin Mainer, Rick Manning, Dick Miller, Andrea Mower, Mark Murray, R. Brian O'Neal, Robert Olesen, Linda Patterson, Larry Peace, Christopher Perra, Gwen Regnier, Evin Riggs, Marjan Schugar, Joyce Sheehey, Denise Spinelli, Kathlene Titterton, Patrick Towbin, Colin Whitehouse, Katharine Williams, Sumner Williams

WELCOME!!

Reports about 2010's Activities and Accomplishments - cont.

Shelters – Linda Evans

We have seven overnight sites in our section, from a tenting platform to the largest shelter on the Long Trail (Taft Lodge). All of these sites must be checked periodically. Some years, they need large improvements such as a new roof or a new privy. Most years, they just need someone to clear out trash, take care of a renegade fire pit, or haul in bark mulch for the privy. Eight dedicated shelter adopters diligently visit their sites twice a year, usually in the spring and fall. Jeff Bostwick oversees Puffer Shelter. Kerstin Lange is the adopter for the Duck Brook Shelter. Clem Holden and Herm Hoffman have taken care of Buchanan Shelter for many years. Jen Andrews oversees Taylor Lodge, Scott Buckingham is at Twin Brooks, Jon Boyson at Butler, and John Bennett at Taft. In 2010, Burlington Section volunteers logged 90+ hours keeping the overnight sites looking good.

I want to express a special thanks to my son Eric, who helped me repair the door to the Duck Brook privy last spring. The door was hanging off its hinges, and it was definitely a two-person job to get it fixed!

There's one shelter hike scheduled for 2011, probably to Taylor Lodge. Everyone is welcome, regardless of your construction or destruction abilities!

Trails - Pam Gillis

In 2010, we had 5 days scheduled for trail work and ended up with 33 volunteer-days and 220 volunteer-hours. We averaged just over 6 volunteers for each of the outings, well under the 10 we had the previous year. Our lowest turnout was 4 on National Trails Day. It rained that day, but not nearly as much as a previous NTD outing. The small turnout meant that all we did was clear trees and other large obstructions. I would like to recognize and thank Phil Hazen, who came on all the outings and did almost all the chain sawing.

After a report of a tree down on the Long Trail between Jonesville and Duck Brook Shelter, Carline Squires and I went out and did quite a bit of cutting. Unfortunately, the December 1st windstorm hit between the report and when we went out, so there were *many* trees down, including one huge one whose large branches totally blocked the trail. We cut a path through that tree, but did not go as far as Duck Brook.

Special Programs - Robynn Albert

The Special Programs Committee held their third Short Clips of Great Trips event November 12 at the DoubleTree Hotel. This fairly new event was developed to bring together members and non-members for casual get-togethers, as well as to raise awareness of the Club and its programs and hear about members' adventures near and far. This third go-round, with about 100 present, was just as successful as the first two, which were held in 2009. We heard from Darryl Smith about climbing all the side trails in the Long Trail system. Sheri Larsen talked about day hiking in Alaska with her husband Rich. Paul Houchens entertained us once again, this time with pictures and stories about his "High Times in the High Uintas and other Utah Rambles". Phil Hazen and Kathy Adams shared their adventures nearer to home on Mt. Hunger and other Vermont peaks.

As always, we had some fantastic door prize giveaways from area merchants. I would like to recognize the committee who works hard at pulling together this program and making it the success that it has been for our members and non-members alike: Phil Hazen, Carlene Squires, Russ Kinaman and Darryl Smith.

**Join us on Friday, April 8 for our 4th evening of Short Clips of Great Trips. Great snacks, friendly surroundings, cash bar – and great camaraderie!
DoubleTree Hotel, Williston Road, South Burlington
Registration and refreshments at 6:15 pm.
Program at 6:45 pm**

Reports about 2010's Activities and Accomplishments – cont.

Year-End Update about *Ridge Lines* – Maeve Kim

Ridge Lines is going well. There have been so many exciting activities and opportunities for our readers that it's been easy to fill four issues a year.

For 2010, Valerie Wilkins did an article for each quarterly issue that tied in with GMC's year of history. Dot Myer also contributed to that series.

Publicity - In addition to writing, Valerie also makes sure that outings are published in the *Burlington Free Press*. Unfortunately, they've stopped accepting Word documents and now require every outing to be entered separately on an on-line form. *Seven Days* uses a similar cumbersome and time-consuming system– so at the moment we're not advertising outings in that paper. (There are just so many hours in the day!) Several smaller, local publications still accept e-mailed lists of activities. Each quarter, I contact South Burlington's *Other Paper*, the *Shelburne News*, the *Milton Independent*, and the *Mountain Gazette* (which serves Underhill and Jericho).

In fall 2010 we switched from Hard Copy printing in Burlington to Village Copy and Print in Essex Junction. We're delighted with the personal care and attention to detail!

This year, I'd like to mention *Ridge Lines*' "foreign correspondents".

(Yes, we have foreign correspondents – **just** like the *New York Times*.)

Daan Zwick in Rochester NY is writing his memoirs and has allowed us to print several of his favorite memories of hiking in Vermont.

Charles "Pete" Davis, who lives in Crested Butte, Colorado, also writes to *Ridge Lines* about once a year with recollections, lively stories and even a recipe for trail food.

Laura Philipps used to co-edit *Ridge Lines* but then she got married, moved to the southeastern corner of the state, had a baby, and started building a house with her husband. Even in the midst of house construction, with little Charley active and mobile, Laura still proofreads every issue of *Ridge Lines*.

Thanks to everyone who makes *Ridge Lines* possible!

The following slate of officers was approved at the 1/29/2011 Annual Meeting. Feel free to contact any of us with comments, questions, etc.

President	Phil Hazen	355-7181	philhazen@comcast.net
Vice President	Kelley Christie	999-7839	kelleymchristie@gmail.com
Secretary	Linda Evans	899-3006	linda.r.evans@comcast.net
Treasurer	Joel Tilley	865-9220	jptilley50@gmail.com
Membership	Dot Myer	863-2433	dotmyer@myfairpoint.net
Outings	Paul Houchens	658-1321	houchens@comcast.net
Trails	Pam Gillis	879-1457	gillis1986@gmail.com
	John Sharp	862-3941	jsharp@zoo.uvm.edu
Shelters	Linda Evans	899-3006	linda.r.evans@comcast.net
Director	- Open -		
Annual Meeting	- Open -		
Taylor Series	- Open -		
Web Site	Ted Albers	985-9064	ted@ted-albers.net
Special Programs	Robynn Albert	878-4036	robynnalbert@hotmail.com
Education	Taylor Christie	881-5466	taylorchristie@hotmail.com
Ridge Lines	Maeve Kim	899-4327	maevulus@surfglobal.net
	Valerie Wilkins	899-5127	dean.valerie@myfairpoint.net

Please let Phil Hazen know if you are interested in any of the open positions!

The Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues of *Ridge Lines* for 2010 had articles about the history of the Green Mountain Club and reminiscences about hiking and backpacking in the early days of the Club. Daan Zwick sent the following article:

BACKPACKING OF YESTERYEAR

Prior to WWII, hikers on the Long Trail carried their loads less comfortably than they do today. Old timers like Roy Buchanan and Lou Puffer used the venerable pack basket, a rigid woven cane basket of Native American design, open at the top with shoulder straps to hold it on one's back. Its advantages were due to its rigid nature – you did not have to pack so carefully as you would in a canvas sack, and basket contents were easily accessible. A major disadvantage for some people was the discomfort that the firm basket could induce in one's back.

Most people used some form of the standard Boy Scout canvas knapsack. It was relatively inexpensive, available in several sizes, and could have outside pockets or rings for carrying frequently-used items. Disadvantages were the need to pack very carefully so that one did not end up with a can of beans protruding into one's back, and the tendency of the carrying straps to curl into a thin uncomfortable roll on your load-bearing shoulders.

A few more affluent hikers sported solidly constructed knapsacks of European design that had external frames designed to put much of the weight on the hips and hold the pack away from the hiker's back – much appreciated in hot weather. These packs also had wide, comfortable shoulder straps. The design was emulated for the Tenth Mountain Division soldiers in WWII and became available as a less-expensive "army-surplus" item. It has evolved into the wide variety of external and internal frame backpacks of today.

As Boy Scouts in the 1930s, many of us used the inexpensive and comfortable horseshoe blanket roll. The outside layer was usually a used tablecloth made of oilcloth (the "plastic" of that era), and inside that was the major ingredient, a heavy wool blanket. The pack was formed by laying out the oilcloth on the floor or a bed and placing the unfolded blanket on top of that. Items to be carried on the hike were placed in a row near one long side of the blanket, with the softer items such as clothes near the center, and harder items like Dinty Moore canned stew nearer the ends. These were carefully rolled into a tube as long as the blanket. This roll was tightly tied in several places using short lengths of rope or leather straps, being especially tight at the two ends of the roll so nothing would fall out. The long roll was bent into a horseshoe and the two ends tied together. The hiker stuck his head through the curved end of the horseshoe leaving the curved part resting comfortably on one shoulder. If that shoulder became tired, one just swung the roll around to rest on the other shoulder. The disadvantages of this rig were the inconvenience of access to the contents while hiking, and the limits to the size and shape of items to be carried.

Larry Dean, who for over half a century was the Scoutmaster of Troop #1 in Burlington and the properties chairman of the Burlington Section, introduced us to the Trapper Nelson frame and pack. This was a light but sturdy slightly-curved wooden frame covered with a tightly-stretched canvas "corset". A fitted canvas bag could be attached to that frame using two thin metal rods and a simple grommet and screw eye arrangement. The combination made an excellent backpack for hiking, and the frame alone could be used to carry bulky items, lashed to the frame with rope.

When I became caretaker of Taft Lodge in 1939 I bought my Trapper Nelson - the frame part only. As caretaker for the next three years, I carried just about everything on that pack frame. At the start of the season there was the packing in of my own supplies, usually in cardboard cartons tied onto the frame. Then the sixteen big mattresses that were stored at the Mt. Mansfield Hotel over the winter had to be carried along the ridge and down Profanity Trail. Two mattresses tied into a huge roll made a load. When the Long Trail Patrol came to put in a new floor and new bunks, I used that frame to carry ten-foot boards that had been trucked up to the Hotel. It was fortunate that the route from the Hotel was above tree-line, for in order to keep my legs from hitting the boards behind me as I hiked, the boards had to stick out about six feet above my head.

- continued on page 7 -

Olga Vrana: A Lifetime of Adventures with Family and Friends

By Valerie Wilkins

Adventurous. Good-natured. Smart. Fearless. Inspirational.

For more than a year, fellow GMC members had been using these words to describe Olga Vrana and encouraging me to write an article about her. So I finally made an appointment to interview her, and on a snowy evening, Olga welcomed me into her warm, colorful and comfortable living room.

Before coming to Vermont, Olga spent many years in Ithaca, New York, raising a wonderful family of boys and exploring Adirondack lands and water with the Adirondack Mountain Club and other outdoor groups. She worked at the Society for the Humanities, which brought distinguished Visiting Fellows to the Cornell University campus to study and teach. Several of the Fellows became Olga's lifelong friends, and she showed me recent holiday letters from them.

In the early 70s, Olga had the idea to buy some land to pass down to her boys. She explored places in Montana and Wyoming but ultimately decided on seventy acres in Newark, Vermont. Although she was married at the time, she insisted on buying the land in her own name – to the great surprise of her husband and the realtor! Soon they built a small cabin. Over the years, the cabin in Newark became an important place in Olga's life and a familiar gathering spot for many dear family and friends.

In 1986 Olga moved to Vermont full time and settled in Burlington. Hoping to find like-minded people to play with in the outdoors, she searched in the local newspaper. In no time at all, she was going on outings with folks from the Breadloaf and Burlington sections of the Green Mountain Club. She fondly remembers early hikes with Dot Myer, Peg Whitson and Pat Collier. One outing included a bone-chilling hike up Mt. Mansfield where Olga was ill-prepared for snow in sneakers and light-weight clothes. She had to run down the mountain and hop in a warm car to avoid hypothermia. Olga has also gone on many of the annual GMC trips to the Wiesel Cabin in the High Peaks region of the Adirondacks. In fact, she was the first to reserve the cabin after it was built.

Over the years, Olga has led many trips for the GMC and other outdoor groups and has done her fair share of trail maintenance. One memorable day of trail work included a trip up Mt. Mansfield with Clem Holden and Roland Boucher to paint white blazes on the rocks leading up and over the Forehead. Roland had the cans of paint strapped to his waist. When they got to the ladder leading to the exposed ledges heading up to the Forehead, Roland couldn't make it through with the cans of paint on his back. Watching Roland try to maneuver this precipice was more than Olga could bear. Frightened, she scurried on ahead and waited for them on less treacherous ground.

Olga was a proud member of the "Old Goats", a group of retirees led by Gardiner Lane and Clem Holden. The Old Goats took it upon themselves to keep the Bolton trails cleared and ready for skiers. Now, Olga sticks to the downhill slopes of Morse Mountain at Smuggler's Notch, after fracturing her pelvis skiing a few years ago. In the early days, however, the backcountry of Bolton Valley was her playground. As a matter of fact, on the Bolton Valley Nordic Trail Map, you can find Olga's Falls.

Canoeing is another of Olga's outdoor passions. A former member of the Northern Vermont Canoe Cruisers, Olga has paddled many of the rivers and lakes in the northeast. She recalls with amusement several October trips led by Peter Alden to the Lake George region. On more than one occasion, they encountered early season snow and had to adjust their routes accordingly. One year, Olga had a brand new Kevlar canoe. The others had indestructible aluminum boats that they were able to maneuver anywhere. Olga had to work extra hard to keep her boat intact!

Summer 2010 marked Olga's 90th birthday. In the weeks before the big day, she was feted by friends from many of the groups she belongs to, including Green Mountain Club, the Spanish and Life History groups of the Women of UVM, the Burlington Ski & Outing Club, the YMCA, and more.

On July 4th, 2010, Olga celebrated her birthday. She wrote in her annual letter:

The highlight of the summer, in fact a highlight of my life, was my 90th birthday party at the cabin.

The party was attended by forty-two relatives from twelve states and Venezuela, including some she had never met!

- Continued on page 7 -

Valerie Wilkins' Interview with Olga Vrana - cont.

For Olga, it's all about the people. She loves being with people, whether she's at the cabin in Newark with old friends or on a bus traveling across the country chatting with a total stranger (someone who would not be a stranger for long!). Olga seems truly interested in the stories we all have to tell. One of the mottos she lives by is *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you*. The warmth with which her friends speak of her is a testament to her success at living up to this motto. "Olga is beautiful as well as talented," wrote her friend Patty Williams.

As Olga gets older, she admits that for the most part it's not possible to keep up with her younger friends (some of whom are now in their 70s). But Olga continues to live a very full and vibrant life. She still goes on multi-day camping trips, her only complaint being the chore of lugging her gear up the flight of stairs to her apartment when she returns home. She continues to write and take photographs. She continues to canoe and ski. And she continues to spend precious time with her family and friends.

Another motto Olga lives by is If it is to be, it's up to me. Clearly, she is someone who has made many wonderful things happen in her life. Along the way, she has blessed numerous people and places with her sense of adventure, her keen intellect, and her warm and engaging personality.

Daan Zwick's "Backpacking of Yesteryear" - cont.

When we replaced the tarpaper roof on Taft, I was carrying two 60-pound rolls of roofing plus the cans of tar and roofing nails, a 125-pound load. As I remember that took six trips from the Hotel parking lot, spread over three days.

During my college days at UVM, I won a bet by carrying an almost full barrel of potatoes tied to that frame from one fraternity house to another. (That is probably the cause of my current back problems, and it did not do the Trapper Nelson frame any good either.)

When I moved to Rochester, I used that pack frame with a duffle bag tied on it for my many canoe and bicycle trips. I found that the extra weight on my back was more efficient for biking than it would have been in saddlebags. Then there was a period of a few years after I became a family man when I clamped a little car-bed onto that frame for carrying a child, horizontal if the child was sleeping, or upright otherwise.

I still have that frame, consigned to the attic, now held together with screws and tape, and the shoulder straps repaired with rope.

Daan Zwick 2011

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR GMC MEMBERS AND OTHER VERMONT HIKERS

Travel in the Ukraine! Share Your Hiking Knowledge!

Last fall, Yuriy Bihun and John Connell, members of the Burlington Section, had the opportunity to spend time hiking and exploring the Carpathian Mountains of Ukraine. This was made possible by an exchange grant between the Green Mountain Club and the Transcarpathian Hiking Trail (THT). Last September, Yuriy and John met in Uzhgorod, the capital of Transcarpathia, with a Ukrainian group that was working on the THT. The group included stakeholders from national parks, tourism, trail maintenance, mountain safety and rescue, marketing and the media. This Ukrainian working group is eager to learn from the GMC about ways to operate and structure hiking opportunities in the Carpathians.

The September meeting set in motion a process that will facilitate a visit from a Ukrainian delegation to Vermont and the GMC in spring 2011. As the nature of the exchange becomes clearer, volunteer opportunities will be posted on the GMC website. This is an exciting opportunity for the GMC to help develop hiking and trail stewardship in the beautiful Carpathian Mountains. For updates on the project and information about volunteer opportunities, go to www.greenmountainclub.org and search Transcarpathian.

CRITTER COLUMN: BLACK BEAR

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

- most common bear in North America
 - sows weigh 200-300 pounds, boars 350-600 - depending on age, food, time of year
 - stay close to dense cover
 - range varies from 10-50 square miles, depending on availability of food
 - eat grubs, worms, spiders, ants, honey, grass, sedges, roots, flowers, berries and other fruits, fish, nuts
 - leave territorial claw marks on smooth-barked trees
 - leave tufts of coarse hair attached to rough-barked summer “scratching posts”
 - make “bear nests” when they sit in a nut tree and break branches in toward themselves to get at distant nuts
 - leave mud wallows in the summer (bathtub-size depressions along stream banks)
 - adults are solitary except during mating season (June and early July)
 - sows mate every other year and usually have twins
 - fertilized eggs are carried for five months and implant themselves in the uterine wall only if the sow is well-fed and healthy
 - cubs are born after a two-month gestation period, while the mother is in her winter den
 - cubs stay with mother for their first two winters
 - cub mortality rate is about 33% in first five years of life
 - winter dens: hollow logs, small caves, excavations under roots or into side of dirt hill
 - before denning, animals need 20,000 calories a day so they can add 50-60 pounds of fat
 - in the den, bears sleep deeply but it’s not true hibernation (body temp. stays near normal)
- (info. from *The Complete Tracker*, by Len McDougal)

Black bears come out of their winter dens in May. For several days, they are groggy and slow-moving. They often don’t start eating again for days – but then they’re REALLY HUNGRY. It’s a good idea to take down bird feeders by the end of April.

Our Annual Reminder about Spring Hiking 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 Camels 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. 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.

Section Outings

Spring 2011

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

3/5 (Sat) **Mount Mansfield via Laura Cowles** Winter parking lot to the summit (unless conditions are too brutal). Good winter layered clothing required. Difficult+ with strong pace, 8 miles, 3000' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Richard Larsen, 878-6828 or larsen007@aol.com

3/6 (Sun) **Camels Hump - Monroe Trail** Variety of terrain and spectacular views. Difficult, 7.5 miles. Contact leader by March 4. Kathy Adams, 399-8687 or hikeradams@hotmail.com

3/11-13 (Fri-Sun) **Adirondack Ski and Snowshoe Week-End** Wiezel Trails Cabin on The Adirondack Club's Heart Lake property, 8 miles south of Lake Placid - Heated cabin, complete kitchen, modern plumbing, hot and cold running water, separate men's and women's washrooms. Up to 16 people in four bunkrooms. Trails for hiking, snowshoeing and XC skiing. Linda Evans, 899-3006.

3/12 (Sat) **Sunset Ridge Trail** Be prepared for exposure at top of trail. Difficult, moderate to strong pace, 3.3 miles with serious elevation change. Group limit 15. Wes Volk, 355-4135 or wvolk@uvm.edu

3/13 (Sun) **Butler Lodge, Wampahoofus, Maple Ridge Loop** Stevensville trailhead near Underhill Center to Butler Lodge then up the Wampahoofus Trail and down on Maple Ridge and Frost Trails. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 5.1 miles, 2200' elevation gain. Peter Cottrell, 879-0755 or pcottrel@myfairpoint.net

3/19 (Sat) **Camels Hump Loop** Forest City Trail to Montclair Glen Lodge then Long Trail to the summit; return on Burrows Trail. Difficult hike, strong pace, 6 miles, 2400' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 3/17. David Hathaway, 899-9982 or David.Hathaway.78@gmail.com

3/20 (Sun) **Sterling Pond Shelter** Rt. 108 in Stowe up the Long Trail to Elephant's Head then Sterling Pond and the shelter. Moderate, 8 miles, 1200' elevation gain. Expect to begin hike about 9:45am. Group limit 5. E-mail leader for details about time and car-pooling: ted@ted-albers.net

3/26 (Sat) **Bamforth Ridge to Bamforth Ledges** South on the Bamforth Ridge section of the LT toward Camels Hump, then an off-trail loop. Moderate terrain, moderate to strong pace, 7-8 miles, 2000' elevation gain. Contact leader by 3/24. Darryl Smith, 522-2516 or snuffy_vt@yahoo.com

3/27 (Sun) **Beaver Meadow Lodge via the Beaver Meadow Trail** Another side-to-side hike. Moderate with moderate pace, 6 miles, 900' elevation gain. Group limit 10 people, 4 dogs. Contact leader by 3/25. Kelley Mackison Christie, 999-7839 or kelleychristie@gmail.com

April

4/2 (Sat) **Snowshoe Devil's Gulch to Bowen Mountain** From VT 118 along the Long Trail south through Devil's Gulch to the two Bowen Mountain summits and back. Difficult hike, strong pace, 10.8 miles, 1000' elevation gain. Contact leader in advance. Wolfgang Hokenmaier, 862-5302 or hogges@gmx.net

4/3 (Sun) **Jerusalem Trail to Orvis Lookout (Dogs Welcome)** Another hike in the side-to-side series. We'll hike or snowshoe up the Jerusalem trail to Orvis Lookout, have some cookies and hot chocolate at Glen Ellen shelter, and then make our way back to the trailhead. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 5.4 miles, 1802' elevation gain. Group limit 10 people, 4 dogs. Contact leader by 4/2. Kelley Christie, 999-7839 or kelleychristie@gmail.com

4/8 (Fri) Short Clips of Great Trips – An evening of noshing and fun! See page 3.

4/9 (Sat) **Map & 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, 100' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Please contact leader for details. Phil Hazen, 355-7181 or philhazen@comcast.net

April - continued

4/10 (Sun) **Road Bike on Jonesville Loop** A road ride for cyclists who are wanting to hit the pedals as the snow is just melting. Essex Jct. to Jonesville loop. Helmet required. Bad weather cancels. Moderate, 30 miles, approximately 14 mph. Group limit 8. Contact leader by 4/8. Robynn Albert, 878-4036 or robynnalbert@hotmail.com

4/16 (Sat) **Easy Stroll in a Beautiful Location** We might head for Shelburne Farms. Very easy. Dot Myer 863-2433 or dotmyer@myfairpoint.net

4/17 (Sun) **Bike Ride in Hinesburg and Bristol** A road ride for cyclists who are wanting to see some beautiful scenery off the main road. Hinesburg to Bristol via Silver Street and Monkton Road. Helmet required. Bad weather cancels. Moderate, 30 miles at approximately 14 mph. Group limit 8. Contact leader by 4/15. Robynn Albert, 878-4036 or robynnalbert@hotmail.com

4/23 (Sat) **Bike from The Junction** Lots of rollers on this ride for cyclists who are wanting to see Camels Hump from "the other side". The Junction to Colchester, Milton, Fairfax, Westford and back. Helmet required. Bad weather cancels. Moderate, 30-35 miles, approximately 14 mph. Group limit 8. Contact leader by 4/21. Robynn Albert, 878-4036 or robynnalbert@hotmail.com

4/24 (Sun) **LaPlatte River Marsh Natural Area** It's too damaging to hike a real mountain trail in Mud Season, so we'll stay at sea-level and walk the LaPlatte River Marsh Natural area, the Shelburne Bay Clarke Trail and perhaps some of the Ti-Haul trail, all in Shelburne. Total distance to be determined by the group depending on the trails we take but will be between four and six miles, mostly flat. We'll maintain a leisurely pace. This is a chance to get familiar with the walks around Shelburne Bay. Meet at the public boat launch, Shelburne Bay, on Bay Road at 9:00 AM. On Google Maps, search for: "1135 Bay Road, Shelburne, Vermont 05482." The boat launch is 1/2 mile east of the entrance to Shelburne Farms (at Harbor Road and Bay Road.) Group limit 5. Contact leader by 4/23. Ted Albers ted@ted-albers.net

4/30 (Sat) **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 at a moderate pace, 3.5 miles on relatively gentle ups/downs and stairs. Group limit 15. Contact leader by 4/28. Sheri Larsen, 878-6828 or larsen007@aol.com

May

5/1 (Sun) **Snake Mountain** We will go up a trail and back down an old carriage road. At the top is the site of an old hotel and "dance hall" and a good view of the Champlain Valley. There should be interesting wildflowers at this time of year, but don't worry about snakes - the mountain was named for its serpentine shape not for its wildlife. Easy to moderate, 3.6 miles. Dot Myer 863-2433 or dotmyer@myfairpoint.net

5/7 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work** Annual maintenance work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM visitors' lot at 8:00 AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 5 miles, 1000' elevation gain. ALL WELCOME! Pam Gillis and John Sharp, 879-1457, 862-3941 or gillis1986@gmail.com

5/8 (Sun) **Bike Ride around Kingsland Bay State Park** We'll give our precious trails time to heal from the winter and take out our road bikes for a beautiful ride around Kingsland Bay State Park. Moderate, 20 – 25 miles. Group limit 6 people. Contact leader by 5/6. Kelley Christie, 999-7839 or kelleymchristie@gmail.com

5/14 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work** Annual maintenance work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM visitors' lot at 8:00 AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4-10 miles, 2000' elevation gain. ALL WELCOME! Pam Gillis and John Sharp, 879-1457, 862-3941 or gillis1986@gmail.com

5/15 (Sun) **The Hump via Bamforth Ridge** Substantial elevation gain for a Vermont hike. We'll climb up the Bamforth Ridge Trail, summit, then proceed down the Monroe Trail. Difficult hike, strong pace, 11 miles, 3700' elevation gain. Group limit 15. Contact leader in advance. Wes Volk, 355-4135 or wvolk@uvm.edu

5/15 (Sun) **Bird Walk** They'll be defending their territories, courting, mating and setting up housekeeping – and we'll be watching. Easy nature walk on generally flat terrain, under 4 miles. Beginning birders welcome! Maeve Kim, 899-4327 or maevulus@surfglobal.net

May - continued

5/21 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work** Annual maintenance work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM visitors' lot at 8:00 AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4-10 miles, 2000' elevation gain. ALL WELCOME! Pam Gillis and John Sharp, 879-1457, 862-3941 or gillis1986@gmail.com

5/22 (Sun) **Mad River Glen - Starks Nest** We'll hike up an easy ski trail to the Ski Patrol hut at the top of the single chair (Starks Nest). Moderate hike at moderate pace, approx. 5 miles, approx. 1500' elevation gain. Call leader by 5/20. Russ Kinaman, 879-6666.

5/28 (Sat) **Spring Trail Work** Annual maintenance work to clear the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM visitors' lot at 8:00 AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 4-10 miles, 2000' elevation gain. ALL WELCOME! Pam Gillis and John Sharp, 879-1457, 862-3941 or gillis1986@gmail.com

5/29 (Sun) **Emily Proctor Trail** Beautiful hardwoods at the beginning of the trail. Once we hit the Long Trail we will proceed South to the Lookout. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 7.5 miles, 1900' elevation gain. Group limit 15. Contact leader in advance. Wes Volk, 355-4135 or wvolk@uvm.edu

5/30 (Mon) **Laraway Loop** From Davis Neighborhood, we'll head over to Coddington Hollow, follow the Long Trail up over Laraway Mt., and return via Davis Neighborhood Trail. Moderate hike, moderate pace, ~8 miles, ~1600' elevation gain. Group limit 15. Contact leader by Saturday, May 28. David Hathaway, 899-9982 or David.Hathaway.78@gmail.com

June

6/4 (Sat) **National Trails Day Work Hike** Get out on the trails with thousands of volunteers all over the country! Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at UVM visitors' lot at 8:00 AM or Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 5-10 miles, 2000' elevation gain. Pam Gillis and John Sharp, 879-1457, 862-3941 or gillis1986@gmail.com

6/5 (Sun) **Montclair Glen, Beaver Pond, Allis Trail** This has been an enjoyable hike in the past and should be again. We follow a nice brook on the way up to the Long Trail, then a downhill walk to a beaver pond with a fantastic view of Camels Hump. Then back to the Long Trail and a short (.3 mile) loop on the Allis Trail which has a very different view of Camels Hump. Approx. 9 miles in all, slow pace. Dot Myer, 863-2433 or dotmyer@myfairpoint.net

6/12 (Sun) **Appalachian Gap to Camels Hump** We will hike from Route 17 at the Appalachian Gap to Camels Hump Road via the Long and Forest City Trails. The Long Trail passes over Molly Stark's Balcony, Huntington Gap, Burnt Rock Mt, and Ethan Allen Mt. Moderate hike, moderate pace, 12.8 miles, 2500' elevation gain. Contact leader ahead of time. Peter Cottrell, 879-0755 or pcottrel@myfairpoint.net

6/18 (Sat) **Mansfield Trails** From trailhead on Stevensville Road, up the Frost Trail, Maple Ridge to Forehead, Long Trail to Chin, then down Sunset Trail to Underhill State Park. Difficult hike, moderate pace, 6 miles, 2800' elevation gain. Meet at 8:30. leewrigley@myfairpoint.net or call 318-6281.

6/19 (Sun) **Cooley Glenn to Mt. Grant (Dogs Welcome)** Come see more of the Green Mountains and join another hike in the side-to-side series. We'll hike up Cooley Glenn Trail, then head north on the Long Trail to the open summit of Mt. Grant where there are commanding views south along the ridge towards Killington. Moderate with a moderate pace, 8 miles, 2120' elevation gain. Group limit 10 people, 4 dogs. Contact leader by 6/17. Kelley Christie, 999-7839 or kelleychristie@gmail.com

6/24 (Fri) **Work Hike to Taylor Lodge** Bring your chain saws and paint brushes! Or just bring yourself for a fun outing with no pressure. We're going to Taylor Lodge to clean and spiff it up a bit. Moderate hike. Slow pace. Dogs welcome. Call Linda Evans at 899-3006.

6/25 (Sat) **Stowe Pinnacle to Mt. Hunger** We'll hike up Stowe Pinnacle, continue up to the Skyline Trail which we'll follow to Mt. Hunger (and maybe White Rock), and then come down Waterbury Trail. Moderate hike, moderate pace, ~8 miles, ~2400' elevation gain. Group limit 15. Contact leader by 6/23. David Hathaway, 899-9982 or David.Hathaway.78@gmail.com

6/26 (Sun) **Camels Hump** Hike will begin from the Couching Lion Parking Lot. The hike will start out on the Monroe Trail, to the Dean Trail. In Wind Gap we'll pick up the Long Trail north up Camels Hump and will return to our cars via the Monroe Trail. Difficult hike, moderate pace, 7.4 miles. Group limit 10. Contact leader in advance. Carlene Squires, 434-2533 or carlene@gmavt.net

Ridge Lines

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Green Mountain Club
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