

# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 61, Number 1

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

February 2008

## Mrs. Gorp: On the Road Again

*[Killington Section Director, shelter adopter, and AT End-to-Ender, Cindy Taylor-Miller, (a.k.a. Mrs. Gorp), who last summer bicycled across the country and back, provided the following update.]*

Once again I'll be riding across the country on my bicycle. This time the route I'll follow is called the "Southern Tier", as it traverses 3,159 miles through the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. I'll begin this adventure at the Pacific Ocean in San Diego, CA and ride east to the Atlantic Ocean.

I'll have a bit of climbing to do to get out of San Diego before I spill out into the desert near In-kopah Pass. This route is best ridden before it gets too hot. That is why I'm making this my end of February get-a-way from the snow ride.

I will reach the route's highest point at Emory Pass, 8,228 feet in New Mexico. Once I ride out the Texas hill country the route should "flatten out" as I pedal through the bayous and farmlands of the Gulf Coast and reach the Atlantic Ocean in Florida.

I hope to be back in Vermont near the first of May, just in time for black fly and mud season!

## Minerva Hinchey Shelter Maintenance Endowed



By Cindy Taylor Miller

*Smoke & Blazes* has been informed that the future maintenance of Minerva Hinchey Shelter has been permanently endowed through a generous Second Century Campaign contribution from Scott and Deb Livingston of Bolton, Connecticut.

Scott Livingston is President and CEO of Horst Engineering, a 61 year old manufacturer of precision machined components for aerospace and other high technology industries.

The Livingstons both are competitive endurance athletes, and

completed a thirteen day End-to-End of the Long Trail in 2005. Their Long Trail hike was chronicled in the June 2006 issue of the Appalachian Mountain Club's *Appalachia*. When asked why they chose Minerva Hinchey Shelter, Deb said, "I lived in Mendon and taught snowboarding at Killington for many years. I feel a closeness to that area because of that."

The Killington Section is thankful for generous people like the Livingstons who have the ability to ensure the future of one of the seven shelters within our section.



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2008 ..... \* Barbara Griffith  
" ..... Barry Griffith  
" ..... \* Steve Williams  
2009 ..... Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... \* Andrea McQuade  
" ..... \* Roma Pulling  
2010 ..... \* John Hale  
" ..... \* Lynda Hutchins  
" ..... \* Cindy Taylor-Miller

\*Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Barbara Griffith  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Susan Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... vacancy

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## Section Directors to Meet

It's not often that a Killington Section event is postponed because of our fickle Vermont weather but it happened in February, not to an outing but to the regular quarterly meeting of the Section Board of Directors. President Barry Griffith has rescheduled the meeting for

6:00 ~~AM~~ Tuesday 25 March  
at the Back Home Again Café

on Center Street in beautiful downtown Rutland

Board meetings are not always the most exciting way to spend an evening but meetings are open to all members and, in fact, to anyone who is interested. This would be a good opportunity to gain some insight into what it takes to manage our program of outings and maintenance of our section of the Long Trail. You might even find a way to become more involved in your club.



**Directors Steve Williams and John Hale at a Previous Board Meeting**

And then there's our second favorite sport. While discussing club business you can enjoy a cup of tea, a light snack, or even a full delicious Back Home meal (on your own nickel, of course). Join us on the 25th.

### Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

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John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, john@lighters.com

Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, lmhutch@shoreham.net

Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 wkrevetski@hotmail.com

Andrea McQuade, 2 Jan Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 775-5104, andreamcquade@adelphia.net

Cindy Taylor-Miller, 337 East St., Wallingford, VT 05773, 446-2288, ctmiller@vermontel.net

Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, (H)293-2510, (W)774-2200, hogden@vermontel.net

Bob Perkins, 6 Rachel Dr., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu

Roma Pulling, 883 US Route 4 East, Rutland, VT 05701, 773-6997, pullingra137@aol.com

Susan Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185

Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com

Stephen Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg@sover.net



## Outing Reports

### Black Mountain, Whitehall, NY

14 July 2007

By Allison Norton, leader

A fifty percent chance of rain was forecast, but the day turned out to be clear and sunny. We had a nice group of nine people plus everybody's favorite terrier. When signing in at the trail register on Pike Brook Road, I wrote a greeting to the Burlington Section in the log, because according to the GMC calendar they would be doing the same hike the next day!

After a little climb out of the parking lot, the trail is an old road for a while, goes past someone's (uninhabited?) camp with outbuildings, and then turns up the Black Mountain trail toward the summit. The trail to the summit is pretty steep and very eroded. As we were climbing, we met a woman and her puppy. The puppy became Burdock's new best friend and for much of the climb, the two dogs raced and chased each other up and down the trail, back and forth past our group. They must have gone at least ten times the distance that we people hiked.

When we reached the summit, we found that the windmill was gone, which was a surprise to some of us. There were some solar panels instead, along with the usual assortment of communication towers and the remnants of a ranger cabin and an old fire tower. Having anything on top of a mountain, especially in a wilderness, is controversial to many of us, but personally I prefer solar panels and windmills to condos. The weather was still clear and sunny at the top, and we enjoyed a leisurely lunch while discussing the views.

The area around the peak has some steep cliffs, but the only casualty was one water bottle. From

the peak, we could see Lake George, Lake Champlain, the High Peaks, and Route 4 extending to our very own Pico, Killington, and Mendon. We could even see White Rocks when the haze shifted. I swear I could even see the faintest outline of the Champlain Bridge, but don't ask me to explain exactly how to find it!



Photo Op on Black Mountain

After our lunch was the moment of decision: in the hike schedule, I had listed the hike as a trip to the summit, with an "optional" longer loop down the west side of the mountain, depending on weather and the group's preference. The decision was enthusiastically unanimous, or unanimously enthusiastic, to continue the loop! The trail down the west side of the peak is beautiful, with views of Lake George much of the way down. It is much less eroded as well. We followed a few faint side trails in search of better views. It was only after bushwhacking through chest-high shrubbery and across rocky ledges to reach some blueberries that someone mentioned the possibility of rattlesnakes! No sightings, even though we had Barb with us. I wasn't on her infamous snake hike, but I've heard!

The trail switchbacks down, down, and down some more. We marveled at the well-constructed trail, with retaining walls built of rock, and we wondered if it had been a road in the past. At the bottom of the trail, we looped back to our starting point, along the Black Mt.

Pond trail and the Lapland Pond trail. Black Mt. Pond had a lean-to with a nice new picnic table. Both ponds were pretty clear, and we could see frogs and little fish. Near Lapland Pond, we were able to catch a view of the towers on the summit of Black Mt., and with all of the climbing and descending we had done, the summit didn't really look all that far away. Much of the Lapland Pond trail heading back to the junction with the summit trail was pretty wet, but for a warm sunny day we put up with it just fine. Once we reached the junction with the summit trail, it was an easy walk back to the trailhead.

### Great Hawk Colony, Rochester

25 November 2007

By Gordon Cawood, leader

Eight GMCers resisted the temptation to go skiing on this, the first decent ski weekend of the season. Instead, we enjoyed what developed into a sunny hike up Austin Hill in Rochester, VT. We admired the upscale Great Hawk Colony dwellings from roads clearly marked "Hunting Prohibited". The hunters were busy, however, judging from the rifle reports sounding from the Maple Hill area to the west. The sun came out while we had lunch beside the community's swim pond.

A moment of excitement occurred when Viv's still-rolled-up seat pad rolled out onto the ice. A gentle breeze took it out near the middle of the pond. After some agonizing minutes another playful zephyr brought it back to shore where it was quickly recovered. Views to the west of the lightly snow covered hills were irresistible.

Thanks for coming, Arlene Zivitz, Larry and Viv Walters, Sue Thomas, Allison Norton, Gerry and Cheryl Martin. I enjoyed your company.



**Crown Point Road, Proctor**

1 December 2007

By Barry Griffith

We carpooled to Proctor, where we were met by Jim Moore, our leader for this outing. Jim told us that he went on many Killington Section outings as a teenager, learning from Churchill Scott, Craigie Perkins, and others. He was pleased to share his knowledge and love of the outdoors with us. Appropriately, we met at a Crown Point Road marker at the northeasterly corner of Beaver Pond. The Crown Point Road could be described as Vermont's first hiking trail. After driving the French from Lake Champlain in 1759, British General Amherst sent troops to cut and mark a route from Crown Point to Fort No. 4 on the Connecticut River. In the years which followed colonists used this route to come and settle here.

Traces of the old Crown Point Road are hard to spot in most towns. However, as we descended into the Garden of Eden Jim pointed out a remarkably well-preserved abutment carved into the hillside above his home. We paused to admire the workmanship in a stone house Jim has erected nearby. We then continued north, past another noticeable abutment, and on to Shelter Rock. The southerly side of this massive outcropping benefits from solar warmth even in the winter, and was likely used as a campsite.

Our next stop was the cellar hole of Roger Stevens, who settled here in 1770. His home was west of Gorham Bridge, on a tract with a great view of the Otter Creek valley and Green Mountains to the east. Jim shared stories about Roger's son, Roger Jr., who remained loyal to the Crown during the American Revolution, and was required to

remove to Canada to avoid the wrath of his neighbors. We then struck out to the west until we came across another old highway, the Market Road, which was used to take goods from Middlebury and other towns along its route southerly to Albany. We followed this road south to the Powers cellar hole – home of another early area settler. We talked about the local marble industry, dominated by the Proctors in the years which followed.

A short trek along the present-day highway returned us to our vehicles. We expressed pleasure with our walk in the woods, enjoying both the natural features and the history of the area. Thanks for a great day, Jim!

**High Pond, Sudbury**

5 January 2008

By Barbara &amp; Barry Griffith, leaders

Holidays over, cabin fever amongst us – twenty snowshoers and one dog came out for this hike. It was so nice to see everyone again. We were fortunate to have along with us a former maker of signs and resident of the High Pond ski area. Gleaned from Cindy Taylor-Miller was history of the '80's. The mystery of the trails and signs that crisscross the area was solved.

The Nature Conservancy trailhead to High Pond Preserve is on Ganson Hill Road in Hubbardton. High Pond itself is in Sudbury. The hiking trail was constructed by the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps in 2005. One word of caution – you hike into and down to High Pond. Thus you hike out and up when you leave.

Conservationist Douglas Burden started buying parcels of land here in the 1930's. Eventually these lands came under the Conservancy's care in the early 1980's. The preserve now includes nearly three thousand

acres in Hubbardton, Brandon, Pittsford, and Sudbury. There is quite a history about the site. If you wish to learn more, let the Griffiths know and we will forward the information to you. For history buffs, there is evidence that an old military road passed by the Pond. We noted evidence of the Taconic Mountains, with shale and slate outcroppings here and there.

Returning to Rutland we managed to drive over High Pond Road, and stopped to view the site of the old High Pond Ski Area. There are old buildings still existing with remains of ski tows and trails. There are even gravestones beside the old farmhouse across from the old ski area. One can go online to the NELSAP website (New England Lost Ski Area Preservation) and read about High Pond's history from the 1940s to the 1980s.

**Mad Tom Notch Road**

12 January 2008

By Larry Walter, leader

Tom Capps and I recon'd this hike the weekend before and encountered a nasty combination of zero Fahrenheit and a hard crust with four inches of powder on top. Any side hill traversing rapidly degenerated into frustrating skating expositions with poles and shoes scattered over a 200-meter radius (speaking for myself here...Tom did a lot of waiting). Thankfully, a long rain and lots of January thaw had lowered the snow level and made the footing a lot better for the GMC hike.

The trail begins about a half mile east of the Dorset Town Clerk's office where the paved road turns northerly. We parked at the town office. It's a nice place to park, but beware of speedy automobiles slaloming off of the hill. Once on the trail, it continues about a half mile along the north bank. That's



## Killington Section, GMC – Outing Schedule: March – May 2008

Visit our web site: <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

- 2 March, Sunday, 10:00 AM**                      **Woodland Snowshoe**                      **Jerry Parker, 775-6208**  
Explore animal tracks and winter signs. May involve some bushwhacking.  
Moderate, 3 miles.
- 15 March, Saturday, 9:00 AM**                      **Spruce Peak, Manchester**                      **Tom Copps, 770-9394**  
Snowshoe south on the AT/LT to the summit of Spruce Peak for views of the Taconic Range and the valley. (Depending on conditions a lower elevation hike may be substituted.) Bad weather date: 3/16.  
Moderate, 5 miles.
- 29 March, Saturday, 9:00 AM**                      **Pharoh Lake Wilderness, Chilson, NY**                      **Allison Norton, 775-1627**  
Options include several back-country ponds and mountain summits with sweeping views. Very wet with several stream crossings. Actual route will be determined by weather and trail conditions.  
Difficult, 6 to 7 miles.
- 5 April, Saturday, 5:30 PM**                      **Killington Section Annual Meeting, Rutland**                      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Join us at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Hillside Avenue for a potluck supper followed by a short business meeting with election of officers and updates on Long Trail issues. Bring a dish to share and your own place setting. All welcome.
- 12 April, Saturday, 10:00 AM**                      **Shrewsbury Ramble, Shrewsbury**                      **Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Explore old logging roads in Shrewsbury. May be wet.  
Moderate, 7 miles (with shorter options).
- 19/20 April, Saturday/Sunday**                      **Merck Forest Weekend, Rupert**                      **Viv & Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Come down for a day hike or spend the night in one of the shelters at this 3,000 acre preserve. Fee for overnight stay. Call leaders for details or to make overnight reservations.
- 26 April, Saturday, 9:00 AM**                      **Tree Hike, West Rutland**                      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
In celebration of Arbor Day, join us for a hike with forester Russell Reay We'll climb to a summit with great views and learn about tree identification, the history of this hardwood landscape, and forest management.  
Moderate, 3 miles with some climbing. (Rain date: 4/27.)
- 3 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM**                      **Deer Leap Overlook, Killington**                      **Steve Williams, 645-9529**  
Climb, with a few steep pitches, to a rocky overlook with beautiful views. Then loop back via the Long/Appalachian Trail.  
Moderate, 3 to 4 miles, elevation gain of 800 feet.
- 10 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM**                      **Shaw Mt., Benson**                      **Connie Youngstrom, 492-3502**  
Welcome spring with a bird and wildflower walk through this beautiful Nature Conservancy preserve, home to white trillium, wild ginger, and fringed polygala. The migrants will be back from winter quarters so bring binoculars, field guilds, and bug spray. No dogs, please.  
Moderate, 2.5 miles.

Schedule continued on next page.



## Killington Section, GMC – Outing Schedule: Dec. 2007 – Feb. 2008

Schedule continued from previous page

- 17 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Long Trail Spring Cleaning**      **Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
All are welcome to join us for our annual cleanup and maintenance preparing the trail for the summer hiking season. We'll clear water bars, trim brush, and cut blowdowns on the lower elevation stretches. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and lunch; tools will be provided. Have fun in the woods while doing a good deed. (Rain date: 5/18).
- 24 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **North Branch Trail to Silver Lake, Goshen**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Hike from Moosalamoo campground to beautiful Silver Lake with possible extension to see the Falls of Lana.  
Moderate, 6.5 miles. (Rain date: 5/25.)
- 30/31 May, Friday/Saturday**      **Main Club Annual Meeting, Waterbury**      **GMC, 244-7037**  
This year's meeting of the state-wide Green Mountain Club will be at the club headquarters in Waterbury Center. Learn about the activities of the main club, meet like-minded folks from across the state and beyond, and choose from a dozen hikes in the central Vermont area. See your *Long Trail News* for more information, or log on to [www.greenmountainclub.org](http://www.greenmountainclub.org).
- 1 June, Sunday, 9:00 AM**      **Gilmore Pond, Bristol**      **Jerry Parker, 775-6208**  
Hike to a remote pond in the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness.  
Easy to moderate, 3 miles
- 7 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **National Trails Day Maintenance, Killington**      **Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
Volunteers all over the country will be out today clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns, and painting blazes, readying the trails for the summer hiking season. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and lunch; tools will be provided.  
(Rain date: 6/8.)
- 8 June, Sunday, 10:00 AM**      **Senior Shuffle (or Black Fly Ramble), Tinmouth**      **Roma Pulling, 773-6997**  
Stroll by Chapman Lake and visit the grave of early Vermont Statesman Nathaniel Chipman. Bring bug juice!  
Easy, 3 miles.
- 14 June, Saturday**      **Bike Trek**      **Bill Holt, 537-4227**  
Pedal along old roads and a discontinued railroad bed. Call leader for details and meeting time and place.  
Moderate, 15 to 20 miles. (Rain date: 6/15.)





where the road crosses to the south side over a bridge that was washed out in the early 1900s. The twisted remains of an I-beam stringer lie down stream from here.



### Mad Tom Brook

I'm inclined to think that this was more than just an access route for pig-iron smelters. The bridge footings (at least three of which we encountered) were all substantial, with stone and mortar wing walls. When the road crossed back to the north bank, further up the ravine, we found beautifully constructed retaining walls complete with iron support cradles built into the stone work (to support wooden rails?). When we hit the third massive bridge footing, where the road crosses back to the south side of the brook, we paused for lunch. A dark fisher-cat trotted side slope to the north of us.



### Lunch at Mad Tom

All in the party appeared well and relatively oblivious to future hazards (similar to Irvin and Mallory?), so we left the drainage and climbed northerly and westerly over a series

of old skid trails until we hit the height of land. Earlier, some of us were silly enough to believe my proclamation: "we probably won't need snow shoes". It got a bit dicey on the southeast slope with some glazed surfaces and post-holing. Lesson learned...I'll be a bit more conservative the next time. Tom kept track of our progress with his trusty GPS. The satellites accurately indicated us as being within striking distance of Pierre, South Dakota. We were welcomed by a relatively bare, razor-back ridge upon which we descended several hundred feet southwesterly, catching views of the back side of Bromley and Stratton as well as the Taconic Range. We discovered several, beautiful old maples and oaks along the way, some with cryptic cross-hatched scribe marks and blazes. Some of the old snags had been all but disassembled into brick-sized chunks by the local woodpecker. Not many people get up this way. Eventually we had to bail off the west side onto old skid roads, eventually joining back onto the main trail. We got back to the cars at about three o'clock and rendezvoused at the local store for essential sugar, fat, salt and caffeine supplements. Nine souls started and nine finished with no injuries...just the customary dose of whining (brownies were provided to soften the blow).

I'm going to attempt to get the Town and the Forest interested in adopting this route, bridge crossings included, as an official LT side trail. Mad Tom Brook is a beautiful stream with huge pools. The third bridge is within easy reach of Mad Tom Notch Road and Forest Road 21. Another branch could easily be established to a major ridge to the south which eventually tails out near East Dorset. We'd probably need another bridge crossing there. I'll schedule a fall

hike, when the water levels are negotiable, for one of these extended routes. Being that I'm allergic to spot-the-car scenarios, I'll probably attempt to loop things off. Hope to see you there.

### Ski Day for Shareheat, Peru

27 January 2008

By Connie Youngstrom

Wild Wings XC Center, located in Peru, VT., was the host of this year's Shareheat fundraiser. BROCC organized the event to raise money for heating assistance. With the current high fuel prices, the fundraiser was especially important this year.

Cindy Taylor Miller, Mark and I were the representatives from the Killington Section. The month of January saw a big meltdown, so skiing was limited to the easier terrain, mostly on the level near the warming cabin. Under overcast skies with a light snow fall we climbed the hills and enjoyed exhilarating downhill, while taking in the views of the snowy woods.

In total we raised almost \$500 for this important cause. Many thanks to those of you who made donations.

### Merck Forest Ramble, Rupert

2 February 2008

By Steve Williams, leader

With icy conditions on the afternoon and evening of the preceding Friday, and thinking of the connecting road from Route 315 to the Merck Forest Visitor Center, the key question about the hike was whether it would be held at all. Fortunately, the leader was able to make contact with Merck Forest, specifically Ken Smith, the man responsible for sanding the aforementioned road. With a reassuring report by Ken at 7.30 a.m. the leader felt sufficiently confident



to invite others to join him, which a surprising number of eleven did.

Most of the four-hour loop trail hike was on the Forest's old logging roads, but with the last half mile or so down from the shoulder of Spruce Peak being a more conventional hiking trail. Fortuitously all participants had snowshoes or yak tracks or similar which, given the occasional ice beneath the snow covering of a few inches, were highly desirable. Views out towards the Adirondacks, Mount Equinox and Mount Antone were all worthwhile, even if mostly through trees. Larry Walter did some sterling maintenance work by cutting and removing a number of obstacles from the trail.

All in all a pleasant outcome bearing in mind what might have been expected from the previous day's inclement weather.

### **Gifford Woods, Killington**

16 February 2008

By Roma Pulling

Without the help of my co-leader, Steve Pulling, this roast would never have gotten off the ground. He drove his truck, which was a big help in carrying our equipment and supplies; he lifted crates of wood and a 5-gallon water carrier with great ease; and he strapped all this stuff to a toboggan and hauled it to the shelter.

As our 11 hikers and 2 dogs were on their way over Route 4 to our destination, we saw a car lying on its side on the shoulder. It was surrounded by a police vehicle, fire truck and ambulance with westbound traffic backed up for some distance, but eastbound traffic was moving smoothly and we were soon in the parking lot near the maintenance shed at Gifford Woods. Steve quickly had the supply toboggan ready to go and we proceeded on

snowshoes for a short distance to a group of lean-tos named Locust, Pine and Cherry but decided on Aspen as having a fireplace we could actually identify under the snow. Taking turns with the shovel Steve had carried in, the men cleared enough snow away so a fire could be built. Jerry and Steve P. volunteered as firekeepers while 7 of our group went on a snowshoe hike. Jean and I enjoyed an abbreviated version and returned to the shelter to find that our firekeepers already had water boiling so we could warm up with hot chocolate.



### **Hot-dogs on the Fire**

Shortly the long trekkers returned, and we partook of roasted hot dogs in rolls, chips, mustard and relish and topped it off with a cake and candle in honor of my grandmother's 144th birthday. For both the idea and the cake I owe thanks to our Outings Chairperson, Sue.

Who was my grandmother? Ruth Ellen Lewis was born February 16, 1864, in Bridgewater and upon completing her education taught in area schools. On 21 February 1885, she married Gilman Fernando Robinson and settled on his farm in Bridgewater Chateaugay until they were hired to work on renovation of the Inn in Wallingford, he in construction and Ruth furnishing meals for the workers. While there, Ruth gave birth to her first child [my uncle].

On completion of the work in Wallingford, Gilman purchased a farm just over the Bridgewater line in the town of Woodstock, where my mother was born. Besides caring for her two children, Ruth mothered three boys from Gilman's first marriage, his mother and his brother, and a two-year-old child which they adopted from an orphan train and even a grandson for a while. In time Gilman and Ruth had a new three-story house and a five-story barn built, which are still there, now being used as a bed-and-breakfast.

Thanks to everyone who came on the annual roast and helped to make it a huge success.

### **Nina LaPenna**

By Sue Thomas

The Killington Section has lost another devoted member with the passing in February of Nina LaPenna, 91. Throughout the 1980s and early 90s Nina was a regular on hikes, short and long, and an enthusiastic and welcome contributor to pot luck suppers.

### **Raffle Quilt**

Calling all sewing enthusiasts: The Killington Section is planning to make a quilt, which will be raffled off to benefit the Green Mountain Club's Second Century Campaign. Our goal is to have it completed in time for the annual meeting in late May. If you'd like to help by contributing a square (or two, or three...!), by donating money or materials, or by helping with the construction and quilting, please contact Sue Thomas, 773-2185.



## Killington Section, GMC Members as of February 2008

- Timothy J. Abraham, Rutland  
 Bob Amelang, Rutland  
 Lulu Anderson, Rutland  
 William P. Anderson, Sr., Rutland  
 Robert L. Badger, Potsdam, NY  
 Greg M. Badgley, Ludlow  
 Diane Bargiel, Whitehall, NY  
 Jeff Bayden, Morristown, NJ  
 Lynda Bayden, Morristown, NJ  
 Vivian Bebee, Rutland  
 Richard Biziak, Cuttingsville  
 Joel Blumenthal, Proctor  
 Abigail Boone, Hebron, CT  
 Robert B. Boutwell, Rutland  
 Karen Bowles, Killington  
 Michael J. Brayton, Monkton, MD  
 Lyle K. Bretkopf, Teaneck, NJ  
 Jeffrey Breslow, Chicago, IL  
 Linda Brown, Orwell  
 Richard Brown, Orwell  
 Anne C. Brown, Plymouth  
 Bruno Brzoza, Ludlow  
 Dewey A. Burleson, Hackensack, NJ  
 Steve Carbine, Rutland  
 Andrew Carter, Brandon  
 Jenny Carter, Brandon  
 Raymond Catozzi, Rutland  
 Rachael W. Charland, Franklin, NH  
 Ronna G. Charlton, Rutland  
 David Charnock, Rutland  
 Dale Christie, Proctor  
 Bill Cobleigh, Wallingford  
 Stephen M. Cohen Belmont  
 Norman Cohen, Rutland  
 George Conlon, Rutland  
 Clare Coppock, Rutland  
 Dave Coppock, Rutland  
 Tom Copps, Rutland  
 Bill Craib, Woodstock  
 Elizabeth Craib, Woodstock  
 Leo A. Crawford, Plymouth  
 Nathan Dansereau, Pittsford  
 Mrs. Robert P. Darrow, Mendon  
 Robert P. Darrow, Mendon  
 Kit Davidson, Castleton  
 Joan Davidson, Orwell  
 Theresa L. Davis, Pittsford  
 Bernard G. Donahue, Rutland  
 Joan Ebberson, Rutland  
 Bill Edgerton, Gaysville  
 Marilyn Edgerton, Gaysville  
 Russell Edwards, Rutland  
 Michael H. Foster, Silverthorne, CO  
 Ginna Frantz, Chicago, IL  
 Monica M. Freson, Pittsford  
 Ruth Gibbud, Rutland  
 Frances Ginsberg, Rye, NY  
 Ronald Grande, Rutland  
 Molly Griffith, Boulder, CO  
 Barbara Griffith, Shrewsbury  
 Barry Griffith, Shrewsbury  
 Thomas Grillo, Proctor  
 Gerald L. Guppy, Killington  
 Karen Gwozdz, Pawlet  
 William Gwozdz, Pawlet  
 John M. Hale, Castleton  
 Til Hale, Castleton  
 Patricia K. Hannegan, Rutland  
 Ruth Hare, Montpelier  
 Lorraine Hawley, Rutland  
 Chuck Helfer, Poultney  
 Gail Helfer, Poultney  
 Jean A. Hinsin, Rutland  
 Rick Hollenbaugh, Pittsford  
 Bill Holt, Orwell  
 Lynda M. Hutchins, Orwell  
 Michael Ilyichenko, Yaphank, NY  
 Betty P. Johnson, West Rutland  
 Wayne Jones, West Rutland  
 Robert Kancir, Fairfield, CT  
 Sue Kancir, Fairfield, CT  
 Shawn Kershaw, Chalfont, PA  
 Peter Kirk, Rutland  
 Paul Kraby, Killington  
 Joseph M. Kraus, Rutland  
 Kathy Krevetski, Rutland  
 Wayne Krevetski, Rutland  
 Joyce M. Krevetski, Toms River, NJ  
 Ruth Lamb, Queensbury, NY  
 Sandy Lamb, Queensbury, NY  
 Jill Lauren, New York, NY  
 Susan Lipkin, Rutland  
 Betty Little, Rutland  
 John Little, Rutland  
 Tammy Loomis, Wells  
 Shelley Lutz, Center Rutland  
 Sam Malkus, West Rutland  
 David S. Martin, McLean, VA  
 Janet Martin, Rutland  
 John Martin, Rutland  
 Jon Mathewson, Middletown Springs  
 Kimberly Mathewson, Middletown Springs  
 Dave Mathis, Rutland  
 M. Cecilia McCallen, Ludlow  
 Sandra McCall, Rutland  
 Patti M. McGowan, Belmont  
 Amy C. McLaughlin, Rutland  
 Dennis S. McLaughlin, Rutland  
 Andrea McQuade, Rutland  
 Mary T. Mellow, Rutland  
 Mic Metz, West Rutland  
 Mathew S. Mitchell, Newton, MA  
 Tarra Mitchell, Newton, MA  
 Richard C. Mitchell, Oswego, NY  
 Bruce Moreton, Cuttingsville  
 Kelly Moreton, Cuttingsville  
 Nancy L. Murphy, Rutland  
 Brett B. Myhre, Clarendon  
 Gene C. Nelson, Orwell  
 Martin Nitka, Ludlow  
 Allison Norton, Rutland  
 Cindy Oas-Kirk, Rutland  
 Okie O'Bries, Killington  
 Herbert G. Ogden, Mt. Tabor  
 MJ O'Hara, Ludlow  
 William L. Oppenheimer, Manalapan, NJ  
 Gerald Parker, Shrewsbury  
 Ralph Perkins, Rutland  
 Robert Perkins, Rutland  
 Thelma Perkins, Rutland  
 Mark J. Pettrone, Averill Park, NY  
 Kern Phillips, Ringoes, NJ  
 Svetlana Phillips, Ringoes, NJ  
 Paul Pilcher, Proctor  
 Chuck Piotrowski, Rutland  
 Frances Powers, Killington  
 Ronald Pulcer, Rutland Town  
 Sarah Pulcer, Rutland Town  
 Roma Pulling, Rutland  
 Anna Rayner, Mendon  
 Jeremy Rayner, Mendon  
 Steven Roberts, Bristol, PA  
 Wally Rogers, Castleton  
 F. John Romeo, Homosassa, FL  
 Moira Romeo, Homosassa, FL  
 Lora Salladin, Cockeysville, MD  
 Christel Schiffer, Mendon  
 Ed Schiffer, Mendon  
 Ellen Schlagel, Rutland  
 Jim Schlagel, Rutland  
 Robert Schulhafer, Mahopac, NY  
 Charlotte S. Schwartz, Goffstown, NH  
 Marilyn Sheldon, Rutland  
 Joan Sibley, Cuttingsville  
 Joan F. Smith, Killington  
 Carlene P. Smith, Proctor  
 Karen Stannard, Rutland  
 J. Ross Stevenson, Poultney  
 Nancy L. Stevenson, Poultney  
 Larry Stewart, Ludlow  
 John Suddarth, Mendon  
 Lindsey Suddarth, Mendon  
 Kevin Sweeney, Rutland  
 Joseph F. Taylor, Long Beach, NY  
 Cynthia Taylor-Miller, Wallingford  
 Catherine L. Thomas, Mt. Tabor  
 Sue Thomas, Rutland  
 Craig H. Tomkinson, Belmont  
 Dot Tomkinson, Belmont  
 Jeffrey Trubisz, Salem, MA  
 Leslie Tucker, Rutland  
 Albert L. Tufano, Cuttingsville  
 Deborah L. Waggett, Fair Haven  
 Larry Walter, Rutland  
 Mary Lou Webster, Brandon  
 Jack Whitney, Queensbury, NY  
 Stephen M. Williams, West Pawlet  
 Joyce K. Wilson, Shrewsbury  
 R. Lee Wilson, Shrewsbury  
 David P. Wright, Middletown Springs  
 Carol J. Wright, Rutland  
 Connie Youngstrom, Shrewsbury  
 Mark Youngstrom, Shrewsbury  
 Joan Zardus, Amesbury, MA  
 Marilyn Zimmerman, Pittsford  
 Randal B. Zimmerman, Pittsford  
 Arlene Zivitz, Rutland



Your Invitation to Join  
**Killington Section, Green Mountain Club**

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

**ANNUAL DUES:**

Individual ..... \$35  
Family ..... \$45  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$20

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677

Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



**KILLINGTON SECTION**



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 61, Number 2

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

May 2008

## Allison Norton Elected New Killington Section Director

At the recent annual meeting of the Killington Section newcomer Allison Norton (trail name Landshark) was elected to the Board of Directors. Also elected to the nine-member board were former director Sue Thomas and continuing director Barry Griffith.

Allison graduated as a psychology major from Alfred University and has an advanced degree from SUNY Albany. She works as a school psychologist for grades K-6 in Whitehall, NY.

Growing up in the Buffalo area, Allison's outdoor experience was pretty much limited to occasional visits to her Dad's hunting camp and to family camping in state parks. When a friend, seven or eight years ago, invited her to climb Sleeping Beauty Mountain near Lake George she was hooked on the woods and hiking.

Allison settled in Rutland in 2005 and soon found the Green Mountain Club. She became an active participant and before long was leading Killington Section hikes, especially in the southern Adirondacks. With a small group from the club, Allison has been hiking the Long Trail in bits and pieces. Her favorite spot on the Trail so far is – surprise – Little Rock Pond. She expects to become an End-to-End by this October.

At Emerald Lake State Park in July Allison Norton will become Mrs. Allison Henry. Phil Henry, her husband-to-be, a

teacher in West Rutland, is not much of a hiker, but somehow arranged for them to be on top of Mount Mansfield when he proposed.



## Killington Section Kayak Raffle

By: Wayne Krevetski

Do to the generosity of Eastern Mountain Sports of the Diamond Run Mall; the Killington Section was able to raffle a Kayak during Mother's Day weekend, in conjunction with Eastern Mountain Sports 20% Gear-Up Sale. EMS donated the Kayak, a Perception Prodigy 10, and allowed us space at the entrance to the store to sell tickets. Thanks go to Allison Norton, Sue Thomas, Cindi Taylor-Miller and her son Kyle, Bob Perkins, Chryl Martin, and Barry Griffith for spending part of a beautiful weekend in doors at the Mall to sell tickets as well as to others who helped with ticket sales. The Kayak was won by GMC member, Paul Dahm of Poultney. All of the proceeds, \$267.00 will go to the Killington Section. Lastly thanks to Sarah, Craig, Scott, and the rest of the gang at EMS for their help in making this event possible.

## AT Thru Hikers Companion

By Kathy Krevetski

I am working with the Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association as a field editor for their AT Hiker's Guide the "Thru-Hiker's Companion". The "Companion" lists the resources available to hikers along the length of the Appalachian Trail, and is up-dated every year. I will be helping to up-date the section dealing with the trail running through Vermont, and ask that any members who find any new hiker resources or resources no longer available to contact me so that the information can be included in the next printing of the "Companion". I can be contacted at [kkrevetski@hotmail.com](mailto:kkrevetski@hotmail.com) or by phone 779-1485. People who are not familiar the "Thru-Hiker's Companion" can view and/or download the latest edition for free at the Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association website at [www.aloha.org](http://www.aloha.org). Your help will be appreciated, thank you.



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2009 ..... Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... \*Andrea McQuade  
" ..... \*Roma Pulling  
2010 ..... \*John Hale  
" ..... \*Lynda Hutchins  
" ..... \*Cindy Taylor-Miller  
2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Norton  
" ..... Sue Thomas

\*Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Susan Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## Killington Section Treasure Hunt

By Herb Ogden

I will give a Long Trail Guide from the 1960s to the first person who sends me the correct answer to this paper treasure hunt -- and I will give the Kirk Trails & Shelters Fund \$100 in that person's name, too.

- Start at the site of the southernmost shelter, camp, or lodge that ever existed in the Killington Section.
- Go north on what was the LT until the 1997 relocation, to the top of the first hill.
- Go west until you hit the present LT.
- Note the first letter in the first word of the name of the place where you now are.
- Go to the former camp complex developed by a man whose last name began with the same letter as the first word in the name of the place where you just hit the present LT. It is on a blue blazed trail maintained by the Killington Section.
- Go as far north as you can on this blue blazed trail.
- Note the first letter in the second word of the name of the place where you now are.
- Go to the shelter whose name used to begin with the next letter in the alphabet.
- Hike 13.8 miles on the LT while remaining in the Killington Section.

Where are you now?

Send your answer to:

Herb Ogden	802-293-2510
214 South End Road	
Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756	hogden@vermontel.net

### Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Barry Griffith 68 Griffith Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-3573, Griff2VT@Vermontel.net  
John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, john@lighters.com  
Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, lmhutch@shoreham.net  
Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 wkrevetski@hotmail.com  
Andrea McQuade, 2 Jan Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 775-5104, andreamcquade@adelphia.net  
Cindy Taylor-Miller, 337 East St., Wallingford, VT 05773, 446-2288, ctmiller@vermontel.net  
Allison Norton 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, allisonnorton@lycos.com  
Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, hogden@vermontel.net  
Bob Perkins, 6 Rachel Dr., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu  
Roma Pulling, 883 US Route 4 East, Rutland, VT 05701, 773-6997, pullingra137@aol.com  
Susan Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com  
Stephen Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



## Killington Section, GMC – Outing Schedule: June – August 2008

Visit our web site: <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

- 1 June, Sunday, 9:00 AM** **Gilmore Pond, Bristol** **Jerry Parker, 775-6208**  
Hike to a remote pond in the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness.  
Easy to moderate, 3 miles
- 7 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM** **National Trails Day Maintenance, Killington** **Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
Volunteers all over the country will be out today clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns, and painting blazes, readying the trails for the summer hiking season. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and lunch; tools will be provided.  
(Rain date: 6/8.)
- 8 June, Sunday, 10:00 AM** **Senior Shuffle (or Black Fly Ramble), Tinmouth** **Roma Pulling, 773-6997**  
Stroll by Chapman Lake and visit the grave of early Vermont Statesman Nathaniel Chipman. Bring bug juice!  
Easy, 3 miles.
- 14 June, Saturday** **Bike Trek** **Bill Holt, 537-4227**  
Pedal along old roads and a discontinued railroad bed. Call leader for details and meeting time and place.  
Moderate, 15 to 20 miles. (Rain date: 6/15. Schedule continued on next page.)
- 22 June, Sunday, 9:00 AM** **Otter Creek Paddle – Proctor to Florence** **Jerry Parker, 775-6208**  
Paddle your canoe or kayak past farms and covered bridges. PFDs required.  
All day, 5 miles.
- 28 June, Saturday,** **18th Annual Taconic Mountain Ramble, Hubbardton** **Kit Davidson, 273-2982**  
Featured in Vermont Life Magazine! Massive cliffs, rolling meadows, mountain peaks with views, and a Japanese garden full of waterfalls. Wine and cheese afterward; bring no lunch. Walkers can leave the group at several points and relax on the lawn.  
Easy half mile or moderate 3 miles.  
Rain date 6/29. Call leader if in doubt.
- 6 July, Sunday, 9:00 AM** **Lye Brook Falls, Manchester** **Tom Copps, 770-9394**  
Climb to one of Vermont's highest waterfalls, in the Lye Brook Wilderness.  
Moderate, 5 miles.
- 13 July, Sunday, 9:00 AM** **Moscow Pond & Glen Lake, Bomoseen** **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Visit a remote beaver pond and end with a swim at Glen Lake if it's hot.  
Moderate, 5.5 miles
- 19 July, Saturday, 10:00 AM** **Mt. Ascutney, Windsor** **Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
We'll ascend via the Brownsville Trail to the rocky, 3150-foot summit where a fire tower provides spectacular views of the Connecticut River, the Green and White Mountain ranges, and the Windsor-Cornish covered bridge. Back down the Weathersfield Trail.  
Difficult, 6.1 miles, 2400-foot elevation gain.
- 26 July, Saturday** **Paddle Down the Poultney River, Poultney** **Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Join us for a leisurely paddle down the Poultney River near the New York border. Bring your canoe or kayak, lunch, sun screen, and PFD.  
Call leaders for meeting time and place.

Schedule continued on next page.



## Killington Section, GMC – Outing Schedule: June – August 2008

Schedule continued from previous page

- 3 August, Sunday** **Lost Pond Bog, Danby** **Dick Andrews, 885-3201**  
 Joint hike with the Ottauquechee Section to a remote natural area. Some bushwhacking.  
 Moderate, 7.5 miles, 900-foot elevation gain.  
 Call leader for meeting time and place, or call Sue Thomas, 773-2185 for car pool from Rutland
- 9 August, Saturday, 9:00 AM** **Hadley Mountain, Hadley, NY** **Allison Norton, 775-1627**  
 Great views from the summit tower of Great Sacandaga Lake, the Adirondacks, and the Greens. Some very steep parts.  
 Moderate, 4 miles.
- 16/17 August, Saturday & Sunday** **2nd Annual Long Trail Festival, Rutland** **Wayne Krevetski, 282-2237**
- 24 August, Sunday, 9:00 AM** **Around Chittenden Reservoir, Chittenden** **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
 Pass thru the abandoned town of New Boston where only cellar holes and a small cemetery remain, and follow old roads to Lefferts Pond.  
 Moderate, 4 miles.
- 6 September, Saturday, 10:00 AM** **Deer Leap Overlook, Killington** **Steve Williams, 645-9529**  
 Climb to a rocky overlook with beautiful views. A few steep pitches on this loop hike via the Long/Appalachian Trail.  
 Moderate, 4 miles, 800-foot elevation gain.

## Turtle Walks Schedule

The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of "Turtle" hikes for seniors and others who wish to enjoy their outings at a somewhat slow and easy pace. The outings typically cover two to four miles, involve limited elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9 AM** at the Godnick Adult Center on Deer Street off Woodstock Avenue. We return in early to mid-afternoon. Call leaders listed at the right below if you have questions. All are welcome.

12 June	<b>Pine Hill, Rutland</b> Hike to Rocky Pond via several of the new trails in our city park.	Bob Perkins 773-0184
26 June	<b>Quechee Gorge, Hartford</b> Hike to the bottom of Vermont's Grand Canyon and more.	Edith Kellogg 775-1246
10 July	<b>Exploring Trees, Pittsford</b> A nature walk focusing on identification and appreciation of trees.	Jean Davies 483-6623
24 July *	<b>Cookout, Camp Plymouth State Park</b> Bring something to cook. We'll supply the fire. Hike and/or swim optional, or just relax in the park.	Al Tufano 492-3608
7 August	<b>Lefferts Pond to Chittenden Dam, Chittenden</b> Follow a section of the Catamount Trail to the dam.	Bob Perkins 773-0184
21 August *	<b>Lowell Lake, Londonderry</b> Hike around the lake in this little-known state park.	Edith Kellogg 775-1246

\* Bring Green Mountain Passport if you have one. Seniors can get a Green Mountain Passport for a small fee from your city/town clerk. Passport is good for lifetime free admission to State Parks.



## Outing Reports

### Emily Proctor Shelter to Lincoln Gap

21 July 2007, E2E Leg 12

By Steve Williams, leader

Participants; Tom Copps, Allison Norton, Cindy Oas-Kirk, Steve Williams, and special guests Nicola Culmo, Sara Jones and Brian Culmo ((Steve's daughters and grandson respectively)).

The first key feature of the day was rising early enough to coordinate an early enough start for all participants to be at the Emily Proctor trailhead by 8.00 AM., with a car already spotted at the Lincoln Gap end point.

The next feature was 3.5 miles on the Emily Proctor trail before the Long Trail was even reached. Fortunately the weather was kinder than on the descent down the trail two weeks earlier when rain had made the steeper top section a tad hazardous. In addition, the trail starts off at a very gradual incline, so the hiker is lulled into a comfortable feeling that "there's nothing to this".

Once on the LT this belief in the ease of LT hiking was rapidly dispelled by the ascent and partial descent of Mounts Wilson, Roosevelt, Cleveland, and Grant and Little Hans Peak. Together with the ascent on the Emily Proctor Trail, this results in a day's total climbing of over 4200feet: not a bad workout by most standards. A summary of this leg is readily given: trees, rocks, ups and downs, and occasional splendid views over great swaths of the Green Mountains.

Of note was the party's search for Sunset Ledge, 1.1 miles short of Lincoln Gap. In mid afternoon, with a fair degree of exhaustion setting in, with the party's GPS and topographical identification skills being at a low ebb, and with one participant feeling that it was just around the next corner, some two hours were spent eagerly awaiting our arrival at Sunset Ledge. So, when the Ledge was finally reached, with the knowledge of its proximity to the concluding trailhead, it was welcome indeed.

Two memories remain of the descent to Lincoln Gap, 1) the non-appearance of Lincoln Gap Road until it was only twenty five yards away, and 2) that it was reached about half an hour after sunset, which is about as close to losing light that one wants to be. Nevertheless, the party learned from the experience, and on the following hike all were equipped with hiking headlamps.

The journey home was notable for two events, the first being the ride back to Bristol from the Emily Proctor trailhead. The Williams party parted from the others and, following the suggestion of one of the other participants, took off on a dirt road toward Vermont Route 125. This turned out to be much longer than expected, with the result that the travelers arrived at a crossroads in the middle of nowhere, with no indication of which way to travel to get to "somewhere". At that point an angel of mercy, in the form of a woman in a Volvo, unafraid of coming across a large SUV with out-of-state plates, rolled down her window and said "Can I help you?" which she then did most effectively.

By this stage the youngest member of the party, athlete Brian, having acquitted himself very creditably all day long, including the consumption of a not insignificant number of energy bars, decided that food was an absolute and immediate must. Bristol having nothing to offer, the travelers set off for Middlebury.

Oh what joy, a drive-in restaurant with lights ablaze appeared! With great expectations the travelers drove in, full of anticipation of burgers, Philly steak subs and all the trimmings. Given the state of the travelers' hunger, the waitress appeared to have the attributes of Marilyn Monroe and Mother Theresa combined. And then the anti-climax: "We closed ten minutes ago".

But now the good news; said waitress directed the party to a bar and restaurant in Middlebury, which was reached in some ten minutes. Some members of the party, including the writer, having covered their attire with

mud during the day, there was nervousness as to whether such a group would be admitted. Nicola was delegated to use her charms and gain entrance. As a college town, with hikers frequently in the area, the staff showed great sympathy, readily admitted the group and rapidly responded to the pleas for something to eat *immediately* (fresh bread and oil) and then made available pasta and other good things. Crocodile tears were shed when the next would-be entrant was denied admission as the restaurant was closing.

End of story, apart from an uneventful drive to return home shortly before midnight.

### Appalachian Gap to Forest City Trail

25 August 2007, E2E Leg 15

By Allison Norton, leader

Allison Norton, Tom Copps, Steve Williams, Rich Brown, and Lindy Brown were present for this leg. Cindy Kirk could not join us but she'd already hiked this leg the week before. Not only did she hike it, she backpacked it out-and-back, spending the night near Camel's Hump.

Much of this leg was characterized by short, steep "puds" ("pointless ups and downs") through small notches and up and down rock faces, and through much of the hike I marveled at the thought of Cindy traveling the section alone, with a full backpack, in both directions!

From our particular experiences on this particular hike, several lessons can be learned. As a public service to the fine readers of *Smoke & Blazes*, the lessons will be pointed out in due course. First, we started out in several cars so that we'd be able to spot a car at the northern end, as usual. The first rendezvous point was the trailhead on Camel's Hump Road. The pair of us in my car had some difficulty locating the group in the other car, until we found them at the *other* trailhead on Camel's Hump Road. There are two. We found the others, consulted our maps as a group, and decided that the trailhead at



the end of Camel's Hump Road would be the best choice, resulting in the shortest side-trail hike at the end of the day if we hiked down the Forest City Trail but took the Connector to the Burrows Trail to end up at the spotted vehicle.

We are thrilled to be hiking the whole Long Trail, but we do whatever we can to shorten those side-trail hikes. So, Lesson 1: Take the time to figure out *exactly* which trailhead you'll be meeting at before you set out, especially if you're the one driving. But, when you get there, perusing the maps once more and checking the distances is still a good idea.

We drove around to Appalachian Gap (VT 17) and set out north on the Long Trail as planned. As we climbed over Baby Stark and Molly Stark Mountains, we met Pooh Bear and her dog Happy Tails who were hiking the LT southbound. Sound familiar? If you recall from Steve's write-up of the Glastenbury overnight, we ran into Pooh Bear and Happy Tails at Story Spring Shelter, and realized that we'd met them before. Well, this was our original meeting with them, a month earlier.

After the Starks, we passed Birch Glen and Cowles Cove shelter. Cowles Cove has an interesting feature – an outhouse that isn't an outhouse at all. It's an "out" with no house around it! Next was Burnt Rock Mountain, which has a huge outcropping of rock with the blazes going right up the rock face. If you like Deer Leap, this is more like Deer Leap's grandpa. We proceeded through Ladder ravine, which consists of an aluminum ladder bolted to the rock, and Paris Skidway, which has nothing to do with Paris Hilton.

The "puds" continued, with much scrambling and sliding to get up and down each rockface, and our pace was slowed considerably each time. We passed few hikers on this trip, but we did pass one or two backpackers and they mentioned that they were concerned about finding water, as it had been an extremely dry August. We scratched our heads and thought that maybe the last significant water we'd seen was near Cowles Cove, quite a few miles behind us. Lesson 2: Be prepared!

Around the time we reached Mounts. Ira and Ethan Allen, we heard thunder in the distance. As it was late afternoon and we still had several miles to go, we were concerned. Rushing to lower ground seemed to be the best option at the time, but most of us were simply too tired to go very fast. The sky darkened and it showered as we descended, but the brunt of the storm passed far to the south of us. We reached Montclair Glen and the turnoff to the Forest City Trail without anyone falling off a cliff or getting struck by lightning. The sky had cleared by this point and it was quite nice again. This leads us to Lesson 3: Don't panic if a thunderstorm is looming!

As we set down the Forest City Trail, we heard someone clapping. Nope, not a welcoming committee, it was a couple of people and their dog headed toward us. The man said that they were clapping to scare off bears. Looking around at the gathering dusk and dense shrubbery, I decided it wasn't the most foolish thing I'd heard all day. We asked why they were hiking UP Camel's Hump so late. They sheepishly reported that they'd gone up Camel's Hump as a day hike from the eastern side, had descended the wrong trail by mistake, and didn't realize it until they'd reached the trailhead and the parking lot was totally different. We offered our condolences but could offer little assistance as our car would be overstuffed as it was, but they seemed in good spirits and were prepared with headlamps, snacks, and jackets. This leads us to Lesson 4, a repeat of Lessons 1 and 2: Look at the map and be prepared!

We made it down the Forest City Trail and to our car as it was getting dark. On the drive home, as we got closer to Rutland we noticed downed trees, dark houses, and power company trucks out in force. It appeared that the storm had been much worse in Rutland than it had been in the area we'd hiked. I turned on my phone and found several frantic messages from home, saying, "Where are you? The weather is horrible!" Lesson 5: If you're returning after dark and the weather has been bad, call home to reassure your loved ones!

## Fox in Locks, Hudson Falls, NY

18 November 2007

By Allison Norton, leader

This trip started as an impromptu hunting season outing, and ended up as an adventure we'll be talking about for years. A small group of us met up at the Five Combines locks in the Hudson Falls/Fort Edward, NY area. We had planned on walking several miles of the trails and then adding on a road walk through the village to make a loop.

There are a total of five locks, each dropping around 10 feet. The walls of the channel are made of large bricks and it is roughly a 15 to 20 foot drop to the water's surface. When we arrived at the park, we went over to look down into the locks. Much to our surprise, a fox was looking up at us! He must have fallen into the water. With no way up or down the channel as he was hemmed in by a ten-foot lock on each end, he had made his way onto a little shelf in the wall.

He looked wet, tired, and scared, but otherwise in good health. It appeared that his little hiding space was due to a missing brick in the wall. Tom used his cell phone to call the police, stating that while it was not a medical emergency, assistance was definitely required to get the fox out and on his way. The individual on the other end of the phone stated that someone would be sent out. Our group chose to eat lunch and wait for the fox's rescue, rather than beginning our walk as planned.

Once we'd finished eating help still hadn't arrived. Tom and Larry decided to walk into the neighborhood and to try to borrow someone's phone book to make a more specific call for help, possibly to Fish and Wildlife or the SPCA. The rest of us started our hike.

Tom and Larry caught up to us after a while, stating that they'd had some trouble finding someone who'd let them use a phone book and a phone. If Tom and Larry came running up your front lawn going on about a trapped fox, would you let them in? They had contacted the DEC who had stated they'd try to send someone, but it might take awhile because most of their staff was dealing with deer hunters coming in to log their kills.



We completed our walk on the trails and then through the neighborhood, and on part of our road walk we happened upon a car accident that had happened moments before. What a day! When we got back to the lock area, a local man was at the scene, and was on his own phone trying for help. This gentleman seems to have been affiliated with the village somehow. He told us that in the past, a puppy and a fawn have been rescued from the same area.

Finally, about two hours after our initial call for help, an officer from the Hudson Falls Police Department arrived. About 20 minutes after that, two fire trucks arrived on the scene, along with an ambulance and a truck containing a Wildlife Rehabilitator. The arrival of this last vehicle resulted in a collective sigh of relief, as it was exactly what we wanted to see—it had a logo on the door indicating it was from the Wildlife Department, and the back was full of cages. Perfect!

The gate was unlocked and one of the fire trucks was backed down the road to the canal area. The firefighters opened a little door in the back of the truck and pulled out a long extension ladder. The Wildlife Rehabilitator was ready with his catchpole, a long pole with a loop of cable attached (just like you see on TV!). The ladder was lowered to the top of the lock just downstream from where the fox was sitting. The fox didn't like the ladder coming down at him for some reason. He jumped into the water and began swimming back and forth between the locks. When the ladder was pulled up again, the fox got back onto the shelf.

The ladder was lowered again, and when the fox jumped into the water again to swim upstream, one of the firemen went upstream of the fox and tapped the water with a pole. The fox swam back toward the ladder. The Wildlife Rehabilitator was ready on the ladder, and caught the fox around his middle with the catchpole. The fox was hoisted out of the water with his legs kicking, was quickly released, and had run halfway to the nearby woods before half the spectators even realized that he'd been rescued!

## Cook Mountain, NY

8 December 2007

By Allison Norton, leader

The Cook Mountain Preserve in Ticonderoga, NY is part of the Lake George Land Conservancy. We had 10 participants for this hike, and we were very enthusiastic as this was the first snowy hike of the season for most of us. Several inches of snow covered the ground in the woods.

The trail starts as an old woods road, with "Nature Conservancy" and "No Hunting" signs along the way. We followed the Red Trail. After climbing a small hill, the trail makes a sharp turn off the road and heads straight up the mountain. Just beyond the turnoff we could see signs intended for travelers on the woods road coming from the other direction. The signs indicated that it was a protected area, and hunting was not allowed. There were deer tracks everywhere, and I chuckled at the thought of deer running just over the boundary and going "Nyah, nyah" to hunters in pursuit.

We climbed for just over a mile, getting decent views along the way, until we reached the summit of Cook Mountain. At the top was a "Summit" sign, but it was hanging loosely in a tree as it had been detached from its signpost. I walked around with the sign for a bit, thinking that a "portable summit" could be useful in motivating weary hikers!

After reaching the summit, we went on for a few tenths of a mile to a great overlook, looking south over Lake George. The view was just beautiful with partial sun and a bluish glow over the mountains. We tried to pick out familiar mountains to the south, such as Black Mountain and Buck Mountain, but we had a hard time reaching a consensus because they all look less familiar when you are looking from a different direction than usual!

On the way down, we slipped and slid down the trail, and once we reached the woods road we chose to loop back via the Yellow Trail for variety. This trail goes through a wetland past remnants of a beaver lodge. We also passed remnants of local festivities, and everyone pitched in to help pack out the

cans and bottles that had been thoughtfully arranged in little piles around the area.

When we returned to the cars, several people crossed the road to check out a historical marker. The marker documented "Abercrombie's Landing." It states that in July 1758, 15,000 men landed in the area to attack Ticonderoga during the French and Indian War. They were defeated by Montcalm, luckily for us.

## Lake George, NY, Wild Forest

19 January 2008

By Allison Norton, leader

This hike began at the Pike Brook Road trailhead, which is also one of the trailheads typically used for Black Mountain. We'd received plenty of snow in the previous week or two, but we arrived to a freshly plowed trailhead lot courtesy of the Dresden Highway Department.

I had originally considered a hike all the way to Black Mountain Point for this trip, but it would have been almost twelve miles round trip, and that is just too far for a snowshoe outing. Out of our group, about half chose to use snowshoes and half chose to use stabilicers or something similar. Everyone seemed happy with his or her choice.

We headed south on the much-used Pike Brook Road trail toward Lapland Pond. We passed several junctions with trails leading to the Black Mountain summit, but because a) it hadn't been listed in the hike description and not everyone wanted to go up there and b) it might not have been safe due to possibly icy conditions, we decided to head to the ponds.

We stopped at the Lapland Pond lean-to for a snack, and then took the Lapland Pond trail to Millman Pond. This trail was much less traveled and had no tracks in the snow. We played "find the marker" to figure out our way. I must say that the bright yellow disks nailed to the trees were easy to follow in the snow—no offense to certain other trails that use white paint. Even though we had to search to follow the trail, this section was pretty easy, with little climbing or descending and some nice



wetland areas. We observed that this trail is probably very wet in warmer weather.

We reached the Millman Pond lean-to for lunch. The lean-to and privy are a sight to behold, maintained by an obviously dedicated caretaker. The lean-to was very clean and had lots of shelves, hooks, and cubbies for storage. The privy was even more impressive. It had poems and cartoons about outhouses tacked to the walls, a generous supply of toilet paper, and, most importantly, a bright red toilet seat! Lifting the lid, one finds a message scripted carefully in permanent marker: "Millman Pond Hot Seat."

After a long, sunny lunch break, we retraced our steps on the Lapland Pond and Pike Brook trails. Once again, we passed several turn-offs to the Black Mountain summit, but in addition to reasons a and b above, we now had c) we'd be descending in the dark. We stuck to the plan and arrived at the cars with plenty of time until dark. All in all, we'd done a little over 8 miles, and the hike was declared a success. I was one of the folks who chose to wear snowshoes, and I slept over eleven hours that night!

### Pharaoh Lake Wilderness, NY

29 March 2008

By Allison Norton, leader

For this hike, we began at the Putnam Pond Campground in Chilson, NY (just west of Ticonderoga). On the day of our hike, the road leading from NY 74 to the campground was plowed only to the last house. Beyond that, we followed deep ruts through slushy, wet snow downhill into the campground.

I was concerned about difficulties getting out, but figured I'd deal with that at the end of the hike! Rather than drive to the trailhead, we chose to park at the entry booth of the campground and walk the extra two tenths of a mile because of the snowy road. Larry was attired in several shades of yellow and green, causing several to comment on his ensemble.

The hike started just beyond the boat launch on Putnam Pond, and took us along the Grizzle Ocean Trail. There were several feet of snow in the woods,

and most of us wore snowshoes. As I'd warned in the hike description, we had several stream crossings. Some had actual bridges and some had snow bridges, but a few required leaps of faith. It was only about two miles to the Grizzle Ocean lean-to where we had our lunch.

After lunch, we walked out on the pond, roughly following the shoreline and making a nice loop. We returned on the trail back toward the campground. About halfway along, we encountered a side trail to the south shore of Putnam Pond. The views were absolutely beautiful, with clear blue sky and the pond (which is actually the size of a lake) covered in ice and snow.

A few brave souls ventured out onto the ice, and before we knew it, the entire group was on the ice. I had my reservations about this, as did several others, but groups often follow each other, and a "shortcut" (still about a mile) across the flat pond in the sun was just too tempting. So, most of us, including me, began to trek across the ice. Several group members held back and politely voiced their concerns about safety, and chose to head back through the woods.

It was a long trip across the middle of the pond, and as we walked I noticed that much of the ice along the shoreline was gone. As we got closer to the boat launch, I wondered what we'd do if the ice was thinner there or if it was gone altogether. We made it onto the pier without incident, and the hikers who'd chosen the woods route met up with us only a few minutes later.

Our drive out of the campground was also without incident, and we once again made it home in one piece. After the hike, I learned from the Longstreet Highroad Guide to the Adirondacks that the name Grizzle Ocean comes from a logger named Grizzle who "boasted so much about the fish he caught in this pond that his friends joked it must be an ocean."

#### First AT Thru Hiker Spotted

Swan Song reports the first AT thru hiker of the season passing Gov. Clement Shelter on 13 May. The hiker said he left Springer Mountain in January. Mad Hatter says he must like hiking in snow.

### Deer Leap? – Plan B

3 May 2008

By Steve Williams, leader

This hike was a reschedule of that of 27 October, which was rained out.

On Monday, in preparation for the Saturday hike, Tom Copps and Steve Williams hiked the route to check for any missing signs, none were found; but they did have three hours of rain, some gusts of wind up to thirty-five miles an hour and a few slabs of residual hard packed snow come ice to contend with. The view from the overlook to Sherburne Pass was intermittent, and it was hardly the spot for a relaxed lunch.).

Now to Saturday, when the 6:00 AM weather forecast indicated "showers" for the morning. From that time on there was continuous rain until Steve arrived at the Rutland meeting point to find Sue Thomas and Tom Copps. Sue's take on the day was "Not for me", and Steve and Tom's reaction was "Been there, done that", so they decided to sit in Steve's car and await further arrivals, if any. Surprise, surprise, there was one; Allison Norton, who had a strong disinclination to return home.

After some discussion an acceptable alternative to Deer Leap was agreed upon and the three enthusiasts were on their way, at which time the rain stopped, though the temperature remained on the low side. During their three-hour hike the group visited two ponds, could see where Pico and Killington would be seen if they were not hidden in clouds, descended into a fifty foot gorge, which hardly challenged Quechee, but which was picturesque nevertheless, observed some vicious orange reptiles, passed some recently charred stumps and timbers, found a piece of aged transportation equipment and an antique liquor holder, lunched overlooking one of the ponds, and ascended a peak known by its elevation.

Steve offers a Toblerone bar to the first correct identification (by telephone or e-mail) of the location of the hike. The opening date for this challenging competition is when the judge, aka Steve, receives his copy of this edition of *Smoke & Blazes*.



## Killington Section Annual Membership and Directors Meetings

By John Hale, Secretary

The Killington Section annual general membership meeting and a meeting of the board of directors were held on 5 April 2008 at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Rutland. About 26 people attended including the following board members:

Barbara Griffith, VP	Wayne Krevetski
Barry Griffith, Pres.	Andrea McQuade
John Hale, Sec. & Treas.	Roma Pulling
Lynda Hutchins	Steve Williams

Our pot luck supper began about 5:30 PM and was enjoyed by all.

President Barry Griffith brought the business meeting to order with the observation that this was probably the 97th annual meeting of the Killington Section, the presentation of the agenda for the evening, and the announcement that two new member of the Board of Directors would be elected this evening.

The meeting minutes of the 2007 annual meeting, as printed in *Smoke & Blazes* were approved as printed.

**Treasurer John Hale** presented the Treasurer's Annual Reports for the year ending 31 December 2007.

### ASSETS

Checking accounts	\$2,070.50
Certificates of deposit	<u>20,115.48</u>
Total Assets - 2007	\$22,185.98

### NO LIABILITIES

Total Assets - 2006*	<u>\$19,791.82</u>
Net Increase in Assets (2006 to 2007)	

\$2,394.16

### INCOME

Membership Dues	\$1,152.50
Interest Income	331.57
Donations	2,253.72
Other	<u>40.00</u>
Total Income	\$3,777.79

### EXPENSE

Postage & Printing	\$ 548.93
Trails and Shelters	587.75
Hall Rental (Two Annual Meetings.....)	150.00
Other	<u>96.95</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$1,383.63</u>

Net Increase in Assets (2006 to 2007*)	\$2,394.16
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\*Treasurer's Note: The 12/31/06 Financial Statements as originally presented, showed Total Assets of \$20,499.60. This figure was reduced by \$707.78 to reflect a more accurate balance as of that date: \$19,791.82. A full reconciliation of this revised statement is available on request of the Treasurer.

John pointed out that the Section is basically running at break-even with dues and interest covering expenses. This year's extraordinary donation from the estate of a former member caused the increase in assets.

The Treasurer's annual reports were accepted as presented.

**Trails and Shelters Chairperson Herb Ogden** spoke about Section accomplishments in 2007 and challenges for 2008.

- Minerva Hinchey is finished except for some more staining to be done.
- Governor Clement Shelter may yet be saved. The town has "thrown up" the road but has yet to pass the ordinance necessary to install the gate.
- Cooper Lodge is still scheduled for demolition but will not be torn down until a new tent platform is built to replace it. New signage is especially needed at this location and a volunteer with a router and skills is sought.
- A sign board is needed at the Bucklin trailhead because the existing one cannot be read from the road.
- Trail blazes are in need of refreshment and volunteers are sought.
- Thanks were offered to Dave Coppock and Larry Walter for extraordinary volunteer service.
- One project seeking a volunteer is that of reading, condensing and compiling the data in the trail registers: traffic volume, comments, etc.
- We have tools to loan to those who want to work outside the regular work parties.

**Main Club Director of Field Programs Dave Hardy** spoke about projects elsewhere in Vermont.

- The State of Vermont is proposing to allow mountain biking and horseback riding on some of the single path trails in specific sections of the state parks. The Main Club plans to object to this use. (The Long Trail is protected from these uses because it falls under national jurisdiction.)
- The Thundering Falls Bridge is scheduled to be dedicated on Saturday, 13 September this year.
- A developer has purchased the defunct ski resort, Snow Valley near Bromley. The plan is to build expensive homes and re-establish the ski resort for homeowners only. While it seems unlikely that the snowmobile trail (VAST 7) currently running through the property would be re-routed to share the Long Trail, still the Main Club will intercede to assure that the VAST 7 is not re-routed at all closer to the LT.
- Big Jay Mountain adjoins the Jay Peak ski area. Both mountains are on State property but the Green Mountain Club holds a conservation easement on Big Jay and the bowl in between the two mountains. The bowl has been traditionally and illegally used by back country skiers. Last year two men allegedly clear cut 800 trees in the bowl to facilitate their winter sport. The men have been identified and charged with the crime; they face up to five years in prison. The Main Club has closed the damaged area to allow re-generation and the back country skiing community is up in arms.
- The Main Club has agreed to further exploration of a connection with the North Country National Scenic Trail which now runs from North Dakota to Crown Point in New York. Any connection would likely run through Addison County to connect to the Long Trail in the Middlebury Gap area. These are



preliminary negotiations.

**GMC Board Representative Lynda Hutchens** presented her report of the 22 March 2008 Main Club board meeting.

- Financially, the Main Club has a current account deficit caused primarily by the Capital Campaign pulling donations away from the three appeals processed during a year. Next year's budget will be prepared without increase.
- The Vermont State allocations included \$25,000 for the Club.
- The Second Century Campaign is within \$50,000 of our goal to raise \$5.25 million, has been a big success, and will be completed shortly.
- Construction for the new headquarters building will begin shortly as all necessary permits have been obtained and the funds are at hand.

Lynda's full report is available from the Secretary.

**Smoke & Blazes editor Bob Perkins** was thanked for his tireless work. S&B appears to be 61 years old this season.

**Sue Thomas** announced a quilting bee project the product of which will be raffled off to the benefit of the GMC. Everyone is welcome to participate.

**Steve Williams** reported that the Long Trail in Bits and Pieces group is still hiking having completed 19 of 29 defined sections. There are four section members hiking and Tom Copps has completed all of the 19 sections.

**President Barry Griffith** set out some upcoming events:

- GMC Annual Meeting, Waterbury Center, 31 May 2008
- Second Annual Long Trail Festival, Rutland, 15-17 August 2008
- ATC Biennial Conference, Castleton, 17-20 July 2009
- Green Mountain Club Centennial Celebration, 2010
- Killington Section Centennial Celebration, 2011

**Board member Wayne Krevetski** reported on plans for this year's Long Trail Festival, the second annual, to be held on 15-17 August this year. "The Long Trail is not just a brewery."

The general membership nominated and elected Allison Norton, Barry Griffith, and Sue Thomas to the Killington Section board of Directors. The new board met and elected the following officers for the coming year:

- President, Barry Griffith
- Vice President, Wayne Krevetski
- Secretary and Treasurer, John Hale
- GMC Board Representative, Lynda Hutchins
- Alternate GMC Board Representative, Steve Williams

The next board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 3 June at 6:00 PM at the Back Home Again Café.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:30 PM

## Feeling Lucky? – Win a Quilt!

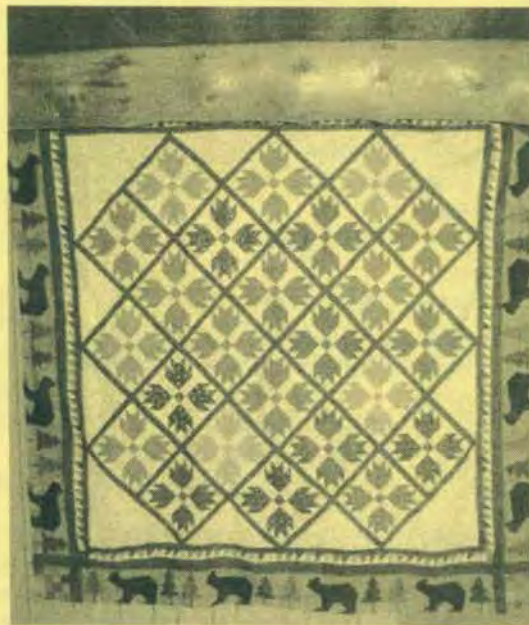
By Sue Thomas

The Killington Section is selling raffle tickets for this beautiful queen-size quilt. The top squares in the "bear paw" pattern were made by Karen Bowles, Joan Davidson, Ruth Gibbud, Barb Griffith, Carol Hare, Cindy Oas-Kirk, Cindy Taylor-Miller, and Sue Thomas. The whole thing was put together by Barb, Cindy, and Sue in a marathon week of sewing (and ripping out and re-sewing!). It was a fun co-operative project, and we're all proud of what we accomplished together.

Proceeds will go to the Green Mountain Club, earmarked for trails and shelters. Tickets are \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00 and will be available on Killington Section hikes throughout the summer and at the Long Trail Festival in August. The drawing will be held on 27 September at the Green Mountain Club Volunteer Appreciation Picnic in Londonderry.

If you're interested in buying (or selling) tickets, call Sue Thomas, 773-2185.

*[Smoke & Blazes regrets that our monochrome printing cannot do justice to the beautiful and bright quilt of many colors. Ed.]*





## Killington Section Low Elevation Trail Ready for Summer Hikers

By Herb Ogden, Trails & Shelters Chair

Thanks to work done by Sector Checkers Bob Shanahan, Cindy Taylor-Miller, Barb and Barry Griffith, Connie Youngstrom, and Steve Williams, nine of us were pretty much able to do the work necessary to put the Long Trail from Wallingford Gulf to Gov. Clement Shelter in good to excellent shape.

Four of us cleaned out the long ditches on the Long Trail north of Patch Hollow, made a start at repairing a bridge, and clipped back what was growing into the trail. Three more worked between Route 103 and the Lottery Road. Two of us pruned from the Gov. Clement Road to Gov. Clement Shelter and spent most of our time building up a walkway through a wet place on the side hill north of the former Haley farm.

Some work is left. We did not cure the perennial nuisance of wet trail in the cow pastures on both sides of the Lottery Road. That would take either a lot of volunteers with

pick axes and shovels, or a small backhoe, to dig a ditch just uphill from the trail. This may be the only remaining place on the LT where the presence of cows complicates the drainage.

Minerva Hinchey Shelter needs stain on the extended rafters, needs its privy moved to a new hole by fall, and could stand a little other work.

Another remaining task is to finish repainting the blazes from Bear Mountain to Minerva Hinchey Shelter and from Clarendon Lookout to the Lower Cold River Road. I've found blazing to be a pleasant one mile per hour task, not bad even for a hot day. The chief requirements are that you need to paint a neat, square cornered two-inch by six-inch blaze, exercise good sense about what to blaze (for example, don't repaint a blaze on a dead tree that may soon fall), and either be at least five and a half feet tall or be able to levitate to reach the higher blazes.



Kyle Halligan, Wayne Krevetski & Kayak



Steve Williams & Friends at Cooley Glen

## Volunteers Needed for ATC Conference Next Year in Castleton

The GMC will host the 2009 Appalachian Trail Conservancy Biennial Conference at Castleton State College. We need hundreds of volunteers to plan and run the conference, which will host 800-1000 outdoor enthusiasts. *(The last time the GMC hosted the ATC Biennial Conference was in 1985 at Green Mountain College.)*

July 17-24, 2009 will be a week of celebrating and learning about the 2,170-mile Appalachian Trail. Hikers will come to Vermont from all over the U.S. Many will be AT thru-hikers or section hikers still working to complete the trail. Anyone coming to the conference can enjoy the following activities:

### Indoors

ATC General Membership Meeting  
Trail and Shelter Discussion Panels  
Hiking and Backpacking Workshops  
Exhibits, Vendors, Food & Friends  
Evening Entertainment  
Time to Talk and Meet Other Outdoor People

### Outdoors

Appalachian Trail Hikes in Vermont  
Long Trail Adventures  
Family Programs  
Bicycle Tours  
Paddling Expeditions  
Vermont History & Cultural Excursions  
A Chance to Breathe Fresh Vermont Air

We need volunteers to lead hikes and excursions; register and greet guests; sell T-shirts; staff workshop information centers; manage logistics including signs, parking and camping; and much, much more. We need you NOW and for the event itself.

It is not too early to add your name to the growing list of potential volunteers. If you have a particular interest, let us know and we will be happy to accommodate you. Our greatest need for volunteers will be Friday, July 17 – Monday, July 20. To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Jean Anderson at: [jeanoutdoors@aol.com](mailto:jeanoutdoors@aol.com)



Your Invitation to Join  
**Killington Section, Green Mountain Club**

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

**ANNUAL DUES:**

Individual.....\$35  
Family.....\$45  
Senior/Student/Volunteer.....\$20

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_publications, \_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677

Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



**KILLINGTON SECTION**



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 61, Number 3

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

August 2008

## Killington Section Member Summits Kilimanjaro

By Cindy Oas-Kirk

I had put my name on a waiting list and made a deposit two years ago. Passport – check, inoculations – check, forms in at Pack Paddle Ski – check, airline reservation confirmed – check. The day of my vacation was drawing near. Finally gear – the most thought-requiring item in spite of a basic list that had been sent. I think I'm ready!

On 8 February I headed to Rochester, NY, caught a plane the next day, and the day after that arrived in Moshi, Tanzania, Africa via Detroit, Amsterdam, and Kilimanjaro. There were eleven of us, three from Vermont and eight from New York, plus Rick and Yusaf, our guide/leaders. Our base was the Springland Hotel in Moshi.

Early next morning we were up and headed out on a three-day safari to Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Crater where we saw all the Big Five except the jaguar. On our fourth day we began our climb of Mt. Kilimanjaro via the Machame Route, which is a five-day ascent allowing for acclimatization. The route was via Machame Hut, Shira Hut, Barranco Valley, Karangua Barafu Hut, to Uhuru Peak at 19,340 feet.

We started the summit climb at 11:30 PM, arriving at Uhuru Peak at 6:30 AM to watch the daylight arrive. Most of the group made the hike with a couple people getting altitude sickness and unable to make the summit. On summit night (and throughout our trek) we were well tended with one porter to about every two hikers in case someone needed help. The porters would burst into song now and again along the trail. Heading up the mountain our headlights were on, and soft, beautiful, melodic music began, here and then there, from the porters along our rank and file. To me the overall effect was that of a pilgrimage. Ahead and behind us were other similar groupings of light.

We descended via the Mwiki Trail, which is more direct and took two days.



Mount Kilimanjaro

In our travels we carried a day pack with water, snacks, and gear for any weather condition. The porters pampered us by carrying everything else up the mountain as well as by cooking our meals. The effects of altitude were the most unpredictable factors. The weather was changeable with the clouds, and the temperatures dropped as the elevation increased. Once we were back at the hotel, *Thank Yous* and gifts were given to the porters. We were a changed group. Our strides were proud. We had climbed Kilimanjaro!

P.S. A surprising coincidence occurred on the trip. One of the couples and their 16 year old daughter mentioned being on the Long Trail last summer. In a river in the Shrewsbury area they came upon a stash of soda that was cold and heaven-sent. I quickly mentioned that I knew of the stash and the gentleman who kept it supplied for hikers. A big *Thank you* to Jerry Parker from Debbie, Joe, and Liz!

How about that! I travel halfway around the world to hear about the trail magic from Jerry Parker. (I actually met a couple of men on the Long Trail on Camel's Hump last summer who also spoke highly of finding Jerry's stash.) It's a small world. Your deeds do not go unnoticed.



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2009 .....	Wayne Krevetski
" .....	*Andrea McQuade
" .....	*Roma Pulling
2010 .....	*John Hale
" .....	*Lynda Hutchins
" .....	*Cindy Taylor-Miller
2011 .....	*Barry Griffith
" .....	Allison Henry
" .....	Sue Thomas

\*Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President .....	Barry Griffith
Vice President .....	Wayne Krevetski
Secretary/Treasurer .....	John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History .....	Bob Perkins
Outings .....	Susan Thomas
Trails & Shelters .....	Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director .....	Lynda Hutchins
Alternate .....	Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor .....	Bob Perkins
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### Web Site

Web master .....	Deborah Waggett
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## Killington Section Treasure Hunt

In our May issue Herb Ogden posed a Killington Section virtual treasurer hunt. Here it is with the clues and solution revealed.

- Start at the site of the southernmost shelter, camp, or lodge that ever existed in the Killington Section. **Buffum Lodge**
- Go north on what was the LT until the 1997 relocation, to the top of the first hill. **Button Hill**
- Go west until you hit the present LT.
- Note the first letter in the first word of the name of the place where you now are. **"P" Patch Hollow**
- Go to the former camp complex developed by a man whose last name began with the same letter as the first word in the name of the place where you just hit the present LT. It is on a blue blazed trail maintained by the Killington Section. **Perkins (Craigie) Tall Timber Camp**
- Go as far north as you can on this blue blazed trail.
- Note the first letter in the second word of the name of the place where you now are. **"R" Blue Ridge Mountain**
- Go to the shelter whose name used to begin with the next letter in the alphabet. **"S" Sunnyside Camp**
- Hike 13.8 miles on the LT while remaining in the Killington Section.

Where are you now? **Cooper Lodge**

Sue Thomas was first to locate the virtual treasurer and, as promised, Herb presented her with a 1960s Long Trail Guide and has donated \$100 to the Kirk Fund in Sue's name.

### Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Barry Griffith 68 Griffith Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-3573, [Griff2VT@Vermontel.net](mailto:Griff2VT@Vermontel.net)  
 John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, [john@lighters.com](mailto:john@lighters.com)  
 Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, [allisonnorton1@gmail.com](mailto:allisonnorton1@gmail.com)  
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 Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 [wkrevetski@hotmail.com](mailto:wkrevetski@hotmail.com)  
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 Roma Pulling, 883 US Route 4 East, Rutland, VT 05701, 773-6997, [pullingra137@aol.com](mailto:pullingra137@aol.com)  
 Susan Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
 Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, [purplejeep99@hotmail.com](mailto:purplejeep99@hotmail.com)  
 Stephen Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, [voorburg00@comcast.net](mailto:voorburg00@comcast.net)



## Killington Section, GMC – Outing Schedule: Sept. – Nov. 2008

Visit our web site: <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

- 6 September, Saturday, 10:00 AM**      **Deer Leap Overlook, Killington**      **Steve Williams, 645-9529**  
Climb to a rocky overlook with beautiful views. A few steep pitches on this loop hike via the Long/Appalachian Trail.  
Moderate, 4 miles, 800-foot elevation gain.
- 13 September, Saturday, 8:30 AM**      **Pico Loop, Killington**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Hike south on the LT/AT to Churchill Scott Shelter, then to the summit of Pico for lunch with a view. Descend via the Sherburne Pass Trail past Pico Camp and the Sink Hole.  
Moderate, 7 miles, with some steep climbing.
- 21 September, Sunday, 6:00 AM**      **Mt. Greylock, Adams, MA**      **Dorothy Sullivan, 436-2019**  
The highest peak in Massachusetts at 3491 feet. Call leader for alternative meeting place.  
Difficult, 10.5 miles, 2000-foot elevation gain. A steady pace will be required.
- 27 September, Saturday, 10:00 AM**      **Greendale Trail, Weston**      **Barry & Barb Griffith, 492-3573**  
Walk on old roads bordered by stone walls and abandoned orchards. We'll go on to the GMC Volunteer Appreciation Picnic in Londonderry in the afternoon, where the Killington Section quilt will be raffled off, food will be served, and volunteer awards will be presented. Come join the fun!  
Easy, 4-mile road walk.
- 4 October, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Old Baldy, Bridgewater**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
A gradual ascent with a few steep spots leads to the 2409-foot summit, with sweeping views of the Connecticut River Valley and the White Mountains.  
Moderate, 4 miles.
- 11 October, Saturday**      **Equinox Trails, Manchester**      **Diane Bargiel, 413-687-1109**  
Explore the preserve featuring views and a pond.  
Call leader for meeting time and place.  
Easy to moderate.
- 18 October, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Goshen Mountain, Goshen**      **Tom Copps, 770-9394**  
Bushwhack to the 3293-foot summit for views of the cliffs of Mount Horrid.  
Difficult, 4 miles.
- 25 October, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Skylight Pond, Ripton**      **Viv & Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Climb to a remote beaver pond via the Skylight Pond Trail for lunch at the Long Trail's Skyline Lodge shelter.  
Moderate, 5 miles.
- 30 October, Thursday, Midnight**      **Deadline for Winter Hike Schedule**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**



### !!! Attention All Hike Leaders !!!

The next schedule will include outings for December, January, and February.

Claim your dates for ski, snowshoe, skate, slip, or slide trips.

Call Sue before Halloween.

Schedule continued on next page.





## Killington Section, GMC – Outing Schedule: ~~June~~ August 2008

Schedule continued from previous page

- 1 November, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Smith Peak, Shrewsbury**      **Barry & Barb Griffith, 492-3573**  
We'll start up the Black Swamp Trail, then bushwhack to the 3200-foot summit to sign our names in the log book. Difficult, 6 miles.
- 8 November, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Trail Work Party**      **Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
Our major project will be work on the puncheon north of Governor Clement Shelter in Shrewsbury. Possibly other projects, depending on participation. Bring work gloves, lunch, and sturdy shoes; tools provided  
Rain date: 11/9.
- 16 November, Sunday**      **Great Hawk Colony, Rochester**      **Gordon & Helen Cawood, 352-4310**  
A safe walk for hunting season, partly paved and partly smooth dirt. A joint trip with the Breadloaf Section.  
Call leaders for meeting time and place.  
Easy road walk, 4.4 miles.
- 22 November, Saturday, 6:00 PM**      **Annual Fall Potluck Supper**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Join us for our annual fall potluck and a slide presentation by Cindy Taylor-Miller on her recent cross-country bike trek. Bring plates, utensils, and a dish to share. Meet at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Hillside Avenue in Rutland. Nonmembers welcome.
- 6 December, Saturday, 9:30 AM**      **Prospect Mountain, Lake George, NY**      **Steve Williams, 645-9529**  
A steep climb near the route of an old funicular railway, once the world's longest cable railway, to the site of the former summit hotel. Some steep climbing.  
Meet at the Fair Haven Welcome Center on Route 4.  
Moderate, 3 miles.
- 13 December, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Cook Mountain, Lake George, NY**      **Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
Our second annual Cook Mountain expedition. Views of Lake George and the Champlain Valley from the top of the Tongue Mountain Range. Some steep spots. Snowshoes may be needed depending on conditions.  
Moderate, 4 miles.

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## Turtle Walks Schedule

The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of "Turtle" hikes for seniors and others who wish to enjoy their outings at a somewhat slow and easy pace. The outings typically cover two to four miles, involve limited elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9 AM** at the Godnick Adult Center on Deer Street off Woodstock Avenue. We return in early to mid-afternoon. Call leaders listed at the right below if you have questions. All are welcome.

- |              |                                                                                                     |                           |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4 September  | <b>Tinmouth Pond, Tinmouth</b><br>An easy road walk by the pond in Rutland's original county seat   | Roma Pulling<br>773-6997  |
| 18 September | <b>Trail Around Middlebury</b><br>Not all the way around. Leader will select an interesting section | Edith Kellogg<br>775-1246 |
| 2 October    | <b>Hawk Mountain, Brandon</b><br>Hike past the original, now abandoned, Brandon town center         | Roma Pulling<br>773-6997  |
| 16 October   | <b>Fall Foliage Hike</b><br>Leader will try to find the best color in our area                      | Jean Davies<br>483-6623   |
| 30 October   | <b>Back of Blue Ridge, Mendon/Chittenden</b><br>Walk up Old Turnpike Road and down Wildcat Road     | Bob Perkins<br>773-0184   |



## Outing Reports

### County Road to Vt. Route 9

20 May 2007, E2E Leg 10

By Cindy Oas-Kirk

I was asked to recapture this hike, whose write-up had been overlooked. Let me see – the hikers were Rich and Lindy Brown, Tom Copps, Allison Norton, Cindy Oas-Kirk and Tom Shanahan. I recall meeting on Route 9 east of Bennington. We left a car there and drove to the trailhead on County Road. This route affords a view of the power generating windmills at Searsburg to the south although very few windmills were in motion that morning.

This was the hike on which I learned what a puncheon was. There seemed to be miles of puncheons, both above and below the water line. A number of us thought we would see how waterproof our boots were. Others – smarter than us – took their boots off and went barefoot. Several aerial acts demonstrated how slippery puncheons can be.

There was an outstanding phenomenon at a point where the trail bordered a pond. As we came around a bend we encountered a five-to-six-foot wall of branches, a beaver dam, which sealed off a river to create the pond whose surface was eye-level above us. This was a little disconcerting, but there were no leaks. What an engineering marvel!

After seven miles of up and down Harmon Hill offers an expansive view of Bennington. The thought of Lindy's cookies and lemonade at the car was a perfect carrot for us over the 1.8-mile steep, descending, rocky staircase to Route 9.

Great hike!

### Merck Forest Overnight, Rupert

19/20 April 2008

By Larry Walter, leader

We had a near-record turnout for the day hike portion of this trip with 18 heads counted at the trail head. After a brief visit with the Merck kitty cat we headed up the hill towards the barn and sugar house. The first real grade is a bit steep in places so we re-grouped at the first trail intersection and watered up. Tom, Peter, and crew took out some small windfalls along the way with the arborist saw.

A quick sidestep onto the Lourie Trail put us at Ned's Cabin where we had lunch and conducted a brief inspection. There are several places in need of attention, including some rotting deck boards on the front porch, a sticking rear door and deteriorating insulation material on the floor. We decided the dead mouse hanging from the rafters was an acceptable ornament, especially since we couldn't reach it. All in all though, the cabin is still a very nice place to stay. The whole group had lunch at and around the picnic table. The black flies were out and biting, but we managed to bat them away.

Part B of the hike involved a steep pitch up the Beebe Trail (next time we'll take the Buechner-Lookout route) where the group got stretched out a bit. Some of us ran out of water (it was HOT!) but some sharing of bottles helped. Included in this section was a detailed recitation of a past Merck hike near-catastrophe when a 12-inch beech snag nearly clobbered Steve, Connie, her doggie (Phoebe?) and Tom. Said log is still laying there along some stone steps.

After we hit the saddle, another ten minutes up the ridge landed us at Mt. Antone for some nice, although

somewhat hazy views. Some patches of snow afforded some relief from the heat. On the way back down Antone Road, the group split up at the Wade Lot Road intersection where six of us returned to Ned's for the overnight stay. There were several windfalls along this section as well, some too big for our little saw to handle.

Upon arrival at the cabin, Tom and I hiked up to the small culvert to the southwest of Ned's to filter some water for dinner. I discovered my little MSR was missing a small check ball, but Tom came to the rescue with his filter and we soon had enough to get us through two meals. I stuffed a quart of milk up the culvert for cold storage purposes. Dinner was simple, but satisfying. We rigged up a nylon suspended, twin candle-lantern over the top of the table. Tom and I attempted to read amid flying debris while Sue, Viv, Allison and Peter waged an increasingly aggressive card game. I can't remember the name – Pummel? Annihilate? Crush? Something like that.

Next morning we were up at 0600 to pick up several spindled and/or burnt playing cards, cheap cigar butts and a couple pink-handled throwing knives (!) embedded in the rafters above the table. A brief hike found the milk still safely hidden away in the culvert. We had breakfast and strolled back down Antone Road with a detour down Clark's Clearing Trail to Birch Pond. Some of us paused to visit the barn animals and the crosscut saw collection before we rendezvoused at the visitor center. The house cat was feeling better, even getting lured into a brief game of swat the paper. Seems they said she was 18 years old.



## **Vermont Route 15 to Coddington Hollow Road & on to Davis Neighborhood Trail Jct.**

25/26 May 2008, E2E Legs 19 & 20  
By Cindy Oas-Kirk

Participants: Tom Copps, Cindy Oas-Kirk, and Steve Williams.

This two-day excursion was our first of the 2008 End-to-End in Bits and Pieces season. We will complete the Long Trail this year if all goes as scheduled.

We switched our hikes for this weekend because reports from headquarters state there is snow on Bolton Mountain. We will begin at a lower elevation. The travel time and mileage are adding up as we head north and I feel like a tourist on the holiday weekend as we traveled the beautiful Vermont countryside. We left Rutland at 8:45 AM, stopped at GMC Headquarters and dropped off some gear, spotted cars, and set out from the Route 15 West Settlement Road trailhead at noon.

We went a short distance and gee – it was lunch time. We found a large rock beside the impressive, new, Lamoille River suspension bridge and had lunch and then continued our Long Trail journey on this beautiful day. Prospect Rock Lookout overlooking the Lamoille River valley was definitely the highlight of this section. We emerged at Coddington Hollow Road at 5:00 PM.

Back at GMC Headquarters we settled into one of the enclosed shelters and then headed for the Back 40 building with kitchen and showers. Sleep came easily after Steve's lasagna and Cindy's dessert. The next morning started off correctly with Tom's bagels and cream cheese. (Note the accent on food.) We packed, spotted cars, and returned to the Long Trail at Coddington Hollow Road at 8:00 AM.

Mt. Laraway and the Laraway Lookout offered fabulous views of

Mt. Mansfield and of the area of our previous day's ramblings. Atop the mountains, alas, we came into snow – just a small stretch beneath the puncheons.

The prediction of rain came true when we were a mile from Corliss Camp. We lunched at the shelter and proceeded to Davis Neighborhood Road, exiting at 12:45 PM.

Two days of moderate hikes was a gentle introduction to our third year on the Long Trail. We are in good hands with Tom tracking our routes and mileage with his GPS and Steve, with his new altimeter, offering an encouraging expletive every 1,000 feet of elevation gain!

## **Bolton Notch Road to Lake Mansfield Trail Junction**

8 June 2008, E2E Leg 21

By Lindy Brown

Cindy Oas-Kirk, Allison Norton, Tom Copps, Steve Williams, Dorothy Sullivan, and Rich and Lindy Brown started this hike at 7:45 AM with the temperatures in the 90s! We had our first lunch at Harrington's View, which was beautiful with a great view. This was my favorite view as the others along the way were grown in or hazy.

Along the way we visited Buchanan and Puffer Shelters and Taylor Lodge. Taylor Lodge was named for James P. Taylor, founder of the GMC. It was really picturesque sitting on the porch. We climbed three mountains: Bolton, Mayo, and Clark.

The black flies were relentless. They seemed to thrive on bug spray! We were covered in bites by the end of the hike. When a porcupine crossed our trail we gave him the right of way. We hiked near beaver ponds, climbed down a ladder, and followed the trail of a constipated moose!

Allison won the time out contest so we each had to give her a quarter. She surprised us with brownies at the end of the day.

## **Chipman Lake, Tinmouth**

8 June 2008

By Roma Pulling, leader

In three cars our seven hikers made their way onto Tinmouth Pond Road and parked our vehicles, with permission from the owner, at what is known as The Pavilion. Returning westward on foot, we made our way north on West Shore Road, crossing the pond outlet on a makeshift footbridge and onto West Birch Road. We followed this eastward along the north shore until we came to East Shore Road and took that south to Tinmouth Pond Road and the start of our hike.

I wanted to tie this part of our trip in with a visit to the grave of Nathaniel Chipman so drove to the cemetery next. It being lunchtime by then, we stopped in the shade of a line of shrubbery and ate before continuing with our exploration. Nathaniel was a very important individual in the Tinmouth community, which is why some people call the lake by his name; others call it Tinmouth Pond. By this time our group had dwindled to three. One person was more or less captive as she was riding in our car! Knowing Chipman's status in the town, we looked for the tallest monument on the highest point in the cemetery and found what we were looking for. Nathaniel arrived in Tinmouth from Salisbury, CN, having been born there 15 November 1752. He graduated from Yale, served in the Revolutionary War, was Chief Justice of Vermont, U. S. District Judge, U. S. Senator, and was one of the commissioners who negotiated the admission of Vermont into the Union in 1791.

Later Rutland replaced Tinmouth as the county seat, and



Nathaniel along with other VIPs moved here to live.

### **Lake Mansfield Trail Junction to Smugglers Notch**

28 June 2008, E2E Leg 22

By Steve Williams, leader

This was the fifth leg north of I-89, with the group comprising Tom Copps, Allison Norton, Cindy Oas-Kirk and Steve Williams. The group again camped at Golden Brook Campground at the south end of Stowe; a good site by a brook.

There was an early departure to spot a car in Smugglers' Notch and drive the 45 minutes back to Lake Mansfield for a 7.00 AM. start; an easy 1.5-mile stretch up the Lake Mansfield Trail to Taylor Lodge and shortly thereafter to join the LT at an elevation of 1850 feet. Subsequently there is a 3.5-mile climb to 3080 feet at the "Eye of The Needle" (where the trail passes through a cleft between two boulders), but with a lot of ups and downs on the way. (The "ups and downs" add about a 1000 feet of elevation gain in excess of a straightforward ascent to the Mount Mansfield peak).

The group lunched at Butler Lodge, where, it was speculated, there would be a good view to the west if not surrounded by mist. Of three different routes to the so-called "Forehead", the group chose what seemed to be the original, and most difficult. The most fascinating spot was where the only way forward is to lie on your stomach on a sloping rock with 20 ft drop behind you, hold on with both hands as you inch across to the far side, where a firm foothold is available and where you can return to the vertical position. Once above this challenge it was a fine scramble over ledges to the so called "Forehead" at 3940 feet, followed by a "walk in the park" to the top of the Mansfield Toll Road, and then on the actual summit, the "Chin", 1.4 miles away.

And now we come to the Trail Magic in the form of Phil Henry, Allison's then fiancée, now husband, with a backpack of goodies; very encouraging, highly appreciated, and a good excuse to sit for half an hour. There were a few good views to the west, before the mist settled in once and for all as the group headed for the Chin. This was not the place to hang around with the weather giving every appearance of deteriorating rapidly, with rain commencing shortly, and then continuing until the end of the hike.

The descent was steep for the first half-mile; no massive exposure, but considerable care was called for to avoid moving in the wrong direction too fast. The group stopped at Taft Lodge; where some drowned looking, but remarkably equable, scouts had just arrived for the night.

Then came the long, long steep slog down to Smugglers Notch. There was a debate about when a vehicle from Smugglers Notch could first be heard; some claimed an hour before reaching it (aural mirage?), some, including the writer, not until they were within twenty-five yards of the road.

The sweepstake on the end time, 5.50 PM. was again won by Allison. For the record, our average speed was, again, about a mile an hour.

### **Mount Ascutney, Windsor**

19 July 2008

By Herb Ogden, leader

Trail work has taken so much of my scarce spare time since I became Trails & Shelters Chair that I have been on few hikes, so perhaps the low attendance was because not many people know me any more. Or perhaps some were daunted by the notice that this was a "difficult" hike. Or maybe some actually believed the forecast for a hot day with a chance of thundershowers. For whatever reason, nobody showed up at the

meeting point in Rutland. One person from South Burlington had, however, arranged to meet me at the bottom of the Brownsville Trail, so I had to go. We had fun anyway. We decided to save time by not spotting cars and to hike up and down the Weathersfield Trail. I think this is the most scenic of the four trails up Ascutney, though the Windsor Trail has a special place in my heart because it was the first one my late father and I reopened in 1966 after the 1938 hurricane had closed it. Dad and I then founded the Ascutney Trails Association, which maintains all four trails and publishes an excellent guidebook.

When we arrived, the Weathersfield Trail parking lot was nearly full. People on the trail ranged from the very young to the pretty old. Despite this wet summer, the small cascade and the flume were nearly dry, and the 70-foot Crystal Cascade was pretty feeble. Water flow on this granite monadnock is strange. Apparently it takes so long for water to percolate through the rock that the water table lags a year or two behind the rainfall. Luckily, we had brought plenty of water and kept sipping as we chugged up the trail and enjoyed the sights. My guest especially liked the level stretch south of the Crystal Cascade with views to the south, and the east views from Gus's Lookout. By the time we reached the top, thunder and dark clouds lay to the north, whence the wind was blowing, so we did not tarry long on the observation tower. We did, however, succeed in getting most of the way down before it rained, and we arrived back at our cars with our clothes only slightly dampened and our enthusiasm not dampened at all.

### **Davis Neighborhood Trail to Vermont Route 118**

2 August 2008, E2E Leg 24

By Allison Henry

The participants for this hike were Allison Henry, Tom Copps,



Steve Williams, Cindy Oas-Kirk, and Dorothy Sullivan. A few of us camped at the Lakeview Campground in Eden the night before. The proprietor warned us of the difficulty of the trail ahead, and we wondered whether to feel worried or amused.

After a very uneventful night we got an early start on the Davis Neighborhood trail. The walking was easy and we got to Corliss Camp very quickly. As usual, I must comment on the shelters. Corliss Camp is a very cozy looking enclosed cabin with bunks, a porch, and an open loft above the main cabin.

On the official Long Trail map, the next section of our hike is marked off as a 6.7-mile hike with no viewpoints, major peaks, side trails, or any other landmarks indicated on the map other than a few smallish peaks noted by black triangles. I was very concerned about this, thinking we'd be walking through a monotonous green tunnel for hours, choosing our breaks arbitrarily and wondering when, if ever, we'd reach ANYTHING of note. However, there were in fact several viewpoints with decent lookouts. Even better, the Laraway Section of the GMC did not disappoint—each smallish peak and even each stream was marked with a sign indicating exactly where we were.

The "6.7 miles of nothing" flew by with a few snack breaks and we were at Spruce Ledge Camp in time for a lovely lunch. Spruce Ledge is another well-maintained enclosed cabin with bunks and a porch, and even a sliding front door. At Spruce Ledge Camp there is a lookout (LOOKOUT!) toward Belvidere Mountain, which will be on our next leg. On the side of Belvidere there is a grayish thing sticking out. The consensus was that it is remnants of some sort of asbestos mine, if I got that right. To me, it looked like a UFO. Believe what you want!

Our next adventure was Devil's Gulch. Devil's Gulch is a notch that one must navigate by going over, between, and around boulders of various sizes, mostly big. The Long Trail Guide describes Devil's Gulch as a "challenging route." The shelter logs made it sound even worse, with the southbound authors insinuating that they'd thought they'd never get out alive. One comment in a shelter log called it "Tolkien-esque," and another called it a "mini-Mahoosic Notch."

With a little bit of trepidation we headed north and before we knew it, rocks were beginning to appear around us. Just when we were asking, "Are we in the Gulch yet?" there was another fine Laraway section sign stating that we were there! After all that buildup, Devil's

Gulch was great and not at all difficult compared to say, The Forehead. There was one boulder shelf that I sat down on and said, "Hmm, now what," wondering whether I wanted to jump, fall, or slide onto a very pointy rock down in a crevasse, but Cindy looked ahead and saw there was terra firma just to my left for a landing point.

After we got through the Gulch, wiping our brows and saying, "Whew, that was nothin'!" we found ourselves headed down toward distant Ritterbush pond. We were so far ahead of our usual schedule that I thought "oh boy, time for a swim!" Unfortunately, the trail went up again and not toward the pond, so there was no swimming for Landshark today! We went up some more (of course) to Ritterbush lookout, and then had a nice, rolling walk down toward the car on Route 118.

We were out of there by three o'clock or so, setting a new land-speed record. I believe Steve won the "time out" contest. Two more excellent things happened after that. First, it started raining about ten minutes after we got in the car (translation: a victory, we beat the rain!). Second, we FINALLY made it to Ben and Jerry's in Waterbury before they closed!

## Killington Section Directors Meeting

By John Hale, Secretary

A regular meeting of the Killington Section Board of Directors was held on 10 June 2008 at the Back Home Again Café in Rutland. Attending Board Members:

- Barry Griffith, President
- Wayne Krevetski, Vice President
- Sue Thomas
- Cynthia Taylor-Miller

Roma Pulling  
Allison Norton  
Lynda Hutchins  
John Hale, Secretary & Treasurer.  
Absent:

Andrea McQuade  
Guests:  
Bob and Thelma Perkins

President Barry G. called the meeting to order at about 6:00 PM

The minutes for the Annual Meeting of 31 March 2008 and the Board Meeting of 5 April 2008 were approved as presented.

The Treasurer's Report (\$23,300.73 assets, no liabilities, net income \$1,114.75) for the period 1 January 2008 to 6 June 2008 was approved as presented. Treasurer John H. committed to having Section



membership numbers at the next Board meeting.

Lynda H. reported on the Main Club's Board meeting of 31 May 2008. (A full report is available on request of the Secretary.)

The Governor Clement Road gate is now installed. The State of Vermont provided the gate itself; signage is expected to be erected by the Town of Shrewsbury; and the vehicle turn-around area is to be expanded. No supporting funds will be requested of us.

Keys to the gate will be provided: the snowmobile club president will have one, and the Killington Section President will have one.

President Barry G. recommended that log-in stations be installed both at Governor Clement and Clarendon shelters. These devices provide valuable information about traffic volume and hiker feedback. Barry G. offered to take charge of implementation after consultation with Killington Section Trails and Shelters Chairperson, Herb Ogden and Main Club contact, Dave Hardy. Barry G. also recommended that signs be installed one mile before and after each shelter, which plan he will also coordinate.

Barry G. spoke about signs the Killington Section will post on the Trail welcoming hikers to the section of the Long Trail under our protection. After a discussion, it was decided not to include Section Board members' names and contact information on the signs, but rather one single contact name, that of President Barry G., should be provided.

Hikers may use the contact to request emergency assistance or to

request transportation. The signs are to be printed on especially durable and waterproof paper by the Main Club.

Sue T. led a discussion about advertisements posted along the Long Trail. The first reaction was that all advertisements should be taken down when discovered. A discussion revealed that some advertisements (public bus schedules for example) might be appropriate and the line became less clear. Lynda H. offered to query the Main Club to see if there may be an official policy on this issue.

Sue T. reported that this year's Trails Day was successful. There were two groups on the Killington section clipping, clearing, and digging. One group transported puncheon lumber for later placement. Three blow-downs were cleared and there was a picnic afterwards.

Herb Ogden's request for funding of \$405.20 for puncheon lumber was approved; the funds will be expended from the Kirk Fund balances. The Board also authorized Herb to spend up to \$500 for new roof shingles for the Governor Clement Shelter.

Cindy T-M. presented a bill for \$32.84 for stain for the Minerva Hinchey Shelter and asked whether the Killington Section or the Main Club should make the reimbursement. She reasoned that since the Main Club has received a \$15,000 endowment for the maintenance of the MH Shelter, they should pay. It was agreed that Cindy will contact Dave Hardy at the Main Club to determine any policy or procedure in regards this type of expenditure.

The EMS kayak raffle might have generated more for the Section

if we had had slightly more notice, but everyone agreed it to have been a generous gift from EMS that earned the Section \$274.

Sue T. and other kind souls have sewn a quilt on the theme of four bears and will raffle the quilt for the benefit of the Main Club as a contribution of the Killington Section. Tickets are priced at \$2 each or three tickets for \$5 and the winning ticket will be drawn on 27 September this year at the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic in Londonderry.

Sue T. mentioned that, often enough, she has problems getting hike leaders to commit to specific dates in a timely manner. This delays her input to the *Smoke and Blazes* newsletter and delays the newsletter's publication. A general discussion of this issue ensued. Two things became clear: 1) Sue does a great job that cannot be improved upon; and 2) a special notice to hike leaders should be placed in the next newsletter, asking for compliance with deadlines and calling a Hike Leaders Meeting where the issue can be explored.

The Long Trail in Bits and Pieces is still going strong. The participants are now camping overnight through the more distant and longer sections.

The Second Annual Long Trail Festival will be held this year on 15 to 17 August at the Fair Grounds in Rutland. A wonderful event is expected again this year.

After setting the next Board meeting for Tuesday, 7 October at 6:00 PM at a Rutland restaurant to be announced; the meeting was adjourned at about 8:20 PM.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual.....\$40  
Family.....\$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer.....\$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_publications, \_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677





Volume 61, Number 4

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

November 2008

## The Top Ten Things I've Learned On Our Bits and Pieces Hikes

By Allison Henry

10. At the first lunch break, the food is delicious. At the second break, you are grateful to have some food left. By the third break, you figure you should be grateful that at least you have half an old granola bar and some pulverized chips.

9. You can amuse yourself for long periods of time by talking about your favorite recipes, favorite restaurants, and what type of take-out you're going to order when you get home.

8. There are many possible ways to get past a blowdown. Bushwhacking around it, walking carefully over it, climbing over it, and taking a flying leap and yelling, "Geronimo!" are all acceptable alternatives.

7. There are many possible ways to get down a big slab of bedrock. Bushwhacking around it, walking carefully down it, climbing down it, and taking a flying leap and yelling, "Geronimo!" are all acceptable alternatives.

6. No matter what time you get going in the morning, you always start walking around 7:20 AM and always finish just before dark, with only a few exceptions.

5. We are never truly sure exactly where we are on the trail, even after consulting ourselves, different maps, the Long Trail Guide, the GPS, and hikers coming from the other way.

4. You fall down so often, get swarmed by so many clouds of bugs, and push through so much thick brush that you never recall each individual incident, but you spend the next day wondering where that odd-shaped bruise, humongous bug bite, and suspicious rash came from.

3. No matter how religiously you wash and air out your gear, you will find that your house, your car, your pack, and your self will smell like a foot for days afterward.

2. Long day-hikes on a Saturday take the whole weekend—you spend Friday packing and driving, Saturday hiking and driving, and Sunday resting, inspecting wounds (refer to number 4), and dealing with all your gear (refer to number 3).

1. On hike day, by eleven in the morning you are counting down the miles and hours until the hike will be over, but 24 hours later, when you are sitting around at home, you will be counting down the days or weeks until the next hike!

## Killington Section Alert

The Killington Section has inaugurated an email service called **KS Alert** to augment our quarterly newsletter, *Smoke & Blazes*. Subscribers to the free service, occasionally and irregularly, will receive emails with items of timely interest between *Smoke & Blazes* publication dates.

To subscribe just send an email to **KS Alert@aol.com** with **Join** in the subject line.

You can cancel your subscription at any time by sending an email to **KS Alert@aol.com** with **Cancel** in the subject line.

The email address that you provide to KS Alert will not be used for any other purpose nor will we share it with anyone.

Please don't use the KS Alert email address for any other communications. See page 2 for contact information for other section business.

## LT End-to-End in Bits and Pieces LT Miles Hiked: 272.7 LT Miles to Go: 0.0

Starting at the Massachusetts State Line on 19 August 2006, an eager group from the Killington Section resolved to earn their Long Trail End-to-End awards by hiking the trail in bits and pieces. Twenty-eight day-hikes later, on 12 October 2008, most of the group arrived at mile post 592 on the Canadian border. Congratulations to you all.



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2009 ..... Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... \*Andrea McQuade  
" ..... \*Roma Pulling  
2010 ..... \*John Hale  
" ..... \*Lynda Hutchins  
" ..... \*Cindy Taylor-Miller  
2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas

\*Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Susan Thomas  
Trails & Shelters..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## Our Second Favorite Activity Scenes from Our Annual Fall Potluck



### Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

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Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, [allisonnorton1@gmail.com](mailto:allisonnorton1@gmail.com)  
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Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, [purplejeep99@hotmail.com](mailto:purplejeep99@hotmail.com)  
Stephen Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, [voorburg00@comcast.net](mailto:voorburg00@comcast.net)



# Outing Reports

## Hadley Mountain, Hadley, NY

9 August 2008

By Allison Henry, leader

For most of the week before the hike, the forecast called for rain (big surprise!) but by Thursday night, *weatherchannel.com* indicated that the town of Hadley would have sunny weather on Saturday with only a 20 percent chance of rain! The weather held and we had a gorgeous clear day.

With rendezvous points at the park in Rutland and at the welcome center in Fair Haven, a group of seven set out for the long drive to Hadley. Even though it is far, it is a neat area for a road trip if you like tourist traps. We passed a lot of mini golf courses, ice cream stands, and rafting outfitters along the way. The lot was full when we got there; it's a popular place.

Hadley Mountain is "only" about 2675 feet high but the hike involves a 1500 foot elevation gain in less than two miles. Most of the trail is worn down to bare bedrock. According to the *Longstreet Highroad Guide to the Adirondacks*, the area had several forest fires, accounting for not only the thin soil but also lots of paper birch. I think of this trail's difficulty as being the opposite of most other mountain trails. Rather than winding up the mountain gradually and ending in a steep scramble to the summit, the trail goes straight up the side of the mountain for the first two thirds or so, then levels off and winds around to the summit.

We made it to the top without too much difficulty and joined the hordes of other tourists already there. Hadley Mountain has an open, rocky summit with 360-degree views. We had a leisurely lunch in the sun and

debated with the caretaker and each other about the geological features in the distance. Here's the rundown: we could see Great Sacandaga Lake, various Adirondack peaks (but probably not Marcy), the Catskills (faintly), and various Green Mountain peaks, even including, you guessed it, our own Killington.

By the way, Hadley Mountain has a fire tower, too. Most of our group ascended the tower, although I personally made it only to the highest landing and couldn't bring myself to go up the rickety ladder into the box.

On the way back down to the trailhead, Sue found a hat that Steve's friend Barbara had lost on the way up. Not quite understanding who had lost the hat, Sue triumphantly placed it on the head of Barb Griffith, resulting in lots of laughter from the rest of us as we said, "Wrong Barb!"

At the trailhead there is a sign noting the difficulty of the hike, and it says that "expert" hikers can make the trip up in an hour, "moderate" hikers should take an hour and a half, and "novices" (or something like that) would need several hours. Steve reported that it had taken us about an hour and fifteen minutes to get to the summit, placing us between average and "expert." Not bad at all!

We had a great time and we don't need a sign to tell us that we're awesome hikers. Despite the very long drive and short-ish hike, I strongly recommend this trip especially if the weather is clear!

## Deer Leap. Plan A

6 September 2008

Leader: Steve Williams

This hike was the successor hike to the rained-out 27 October 2007

hike and the equally rained-out 3 May 2008, hike. Again, the forecast was less than favorable with rain falling early morning and forecast as being intermittent during the day. In spite of expressions of interest from locales as far removed as Killington and Hanover, N.H., only one participant, Tom Copps, turned out to join the leader and his friend Barbara, daughter Nicola and grandson Brian. Sue Thomas was kind enough to arrive at the starting point to advise that she was not coming, but also to advise that the hike had been advertised as being at 10.00 AM rather than 9.00 AM as both Steve and Tom had thought. Sue then left for the Route 4 trailhead, just in case the Killington and Hanover potentials arrived, which they did not, and those waiting looked for useful occupation until 10.00 AM just in case anyone else showed up, which they did not. The leader, having slipped up on the timing, felt that the least he could do was offer breakfast all round, which was duly obtained at the Midway Diner. The good news was that by 10.00 AM the rain had stopped, and in fact held off during the entire hike.

The route was up the AT/LT from Route 4 to Maine Junction, the AT for a few hundred yards, and then the Deer Leap Mountain trail over Deer Leap Mountain to its junction with the Deer Leap overlook trail and thence to the overlook which, surprise, surprise, was dry enough to be sat on for lunch. The return trip was the shorter return to the AT and thence to Maine Junction again and back down to Route 4.

The leader thanks all those willing to join him on such a dubious day.



**Hazen's Notch to VT Route 118  
and Jay Pass to Hazen's Notch**

13/14 Sept. 2008, E2E Legs 26 &amp; 27

By Rich &amp; Lindy Brown

The hiking family is reunited after a few weeks of hiking separately! These two legs were done by Steve Williams, Tom Copps, Cindy Oas-Kirk, Allison (Norton) Henry, and Richard and Lindy Brown. On Friday night we camped at Lakeview Campground on Eden Lake. The next morning we hit the trail at Haven's Notch (VT Route 58) at 7:30 AM. We made it to the Tillotson Camp at 11:40 AM for lunch but circled the place trying to find a way in! Aha- finally found the door and enjoyed our break.

Now on to Belvidere Saddle. We took the Foresters Trail up to the tower. Some of the group braved the tower but not all of us. Some of us were just resting and eating chocolate when we discovered we had company – a snake. So much for relaxing. We ended our very hot day at VT Route 118 at 5:15 PM. We enjoyed a family dinner in Morrisville, then back to the campground.

Sunday morning we were packed, even the tents, by 6:00 AM. After picking up egg breakfast sandwiches and coffee-to-go at the general store we started on the trail at VT Route 242 in the pouring rain at 7:15 AM. We had a good climb at first and then it was minor ups and downs all day. We had a snack at Chet's Lookout, which is a huge rounded boulder with a ladder leading to it. Only the males climbed onto the boulder as it was raining and slippery. Most of the day was a nice walk in the woods. It stopped raining before we got to lunch at Hazen's Notch Camp at noon. We ended the hike at the road under the cliffs at Hazen's Notch at 1:40 PM.

**Jay Pass to Vermont Route 105**

11 October 2008, E2E Leg 28

By Allison Henry

This leg included Allison Henry, Tom Copps, Steve Williams, Cindy Oas-Kirk, Sue Thomas, Linda Hutchinson, and Gene Nelson. Our levels of alertness varied due to our different accommodations the night before; some had had restful nights at home or in a lovely B&B; the rest of us spent the night at the impressively clean, impressively inexpensive, and impressively noisy Snow Shoe Lodge in Montgomery Center. But, the price was right and the location perfect for our travels. No car spotting was needed for this hike because Steve had made arrangements with his friend Barbara O'Connor to pick us up at 3:30 PM at the northern end of the leg. Was that Steve's bet for our time out contest?

We set out just before 7:30 AM from Jay Pass, and at the start of the hike I couldn't resist starting a discussion about whether or not certain side trails are acceptable alternatives when doing the whole Trail. There really was no conflict—we all agreed (or at least, I think we did) that the blue-blazed "Jay Loop" which circumvents a section of the LT is perfectly allowable. We checked out Jay Camp, which is an enclosed camp being renovated. It was a steep climb from the shelter and up, up, UP Jay Peak. We had been warned (we're always being warned!) that Jay Peak would be very difficult, but I would say it is easier than the Bucklin Trail. We finally came out on a ski run, walked up the rocky slabs on the summit, and walked past the ski area buildings.

We were headed down a ski run in search of the LT north when someone said, "Wait, aren't we going to stop here for a snack and enjoy the view?" In our haste to keep walking we forgot the whole point. We

allowed ourselves some time taking pictures and huddling with snacks, and then it was a scavenger hunt north down the mountain to find the next blaze. After some ups and downs we had another lunch at Laura Woodward Shelter, including some delicious raspberry bars (you're welcome!). Sue was excited about the privy decor. Instead of a moon-shaped window, the outhouse door was carved with a horse. Shelter description: lean-to!

After some more ups and downs, including an up over Doll Peak and lots of downs from there, we were at Shooting Star Shelter. Another lean-to! Lindy and Rich had a very interesting moose incident there on their hike a few weeks earlier (you'll have to ask them), but all the wildlife we saw were a backpacker and his unfriendly, barking Labrador. The pooch was well-controlled on a leash, however, unlike Lindy's moose. The privy was one of the highlights of the whole, entire Trail for me. This one had a rabbit-shaped window in the door. We then had one minor bump in our way, Burnt Mountain, and Steve led the way out onto VT 105 at exactly 3:30 to meet Barbara!

After the hike, we returned to our respective accommodations to get cleaned up, and Steve and Barbara hosted us at their B&B for a little champagne in anticipatory celebration. We had dinner in Montgomery Center and retired early. Those of us at the Snow Shoe worried about getting a good night's sleep, as a band, the Funky Crustaceans, would be performing in the bar right below our rooms. A few members of our party did spend some of the night reluctantly listening to the music. "Yours truly" conked out within ten minutes of hitting the pillow and woke up when the alarm went off on Sunday morning.



# Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      Dec. 2008 – Feb. 2009

Schedule continued from previous page

31 January, Sunday

**Deadline For Spring Hike Schedule**

**Sue Thomas, 773-2185**



**!!! Attention All Hike Leaders !!!**

*The next schedule will include outings for March, April, and May.*

*Claim your dates for spring – call Sue by 31 January.*

*[A note from Sue: Thanks to everyone who called ahead for the last schedule. It helped to streamline the process and eliminated a lot of follow-up calling.]*

7 February, Saturday

**Ski the Northam Trails, Shrewsbury**

**Connie Youngstrom, 492-3502**

A moderate cross-country ski outing on the Northam Trails in the Plymbury Recreation Area.

Call leader for starting time and place.

[Rain date: 8 February.]

14 February, Saturday, 10:00 AM

**Hot Dog Roast, Shrewsbury**

**Roma Pulling, 773-6997**

Join us for what has become a popular annual tradition, this year at Minerva Hinchey Shelter on the Long Trail. Bring your own hot dogs (or whatever you want to roast over our campfire). Hot drinks will be provided. Snowshoes may be required for the short walk in, and we'll work up an appetite with a pre-roast jaunt to Patch Hollow.

Easy, 0.25 miles, plus optional 1 mile.

22 February, Sunday, 10:00 AM

**High Pond, Sudbury**

**Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**

Washington may not have slept here but we'll snowshoe in to celebrate his birthday by exploring the winter wildlife habitat at this pretty Nature Conservancy preserve.

Moderate, 4 to 5 miles.

28 February, Saturday, 9:00 AM

**Mystery Snowshoe**

**Larry Walter & Viv Beebe, 775-3855**

Leaders will choose location to suit weather conditions.

Moderate 5 to 6 miles.

7 March, Saturday, 9:00 AM

**Pharaoh Lake Wilderness, Chilson, NY**

**Allison Henry, 775-1627**

Explore backwoods trails and ponds. Snowshoes may be necessary and it could be very wet.

Difficult, 7 to 8 miles.

14 March, Saturday, 10:00 AM

**Woodland Trek, Shrewsbury**

**Jerry Parker, 775-6208**

Look for animal tracks and maybe a few signs of spring. Snowshoes may be needed.

Moderate, 2 to 3 miles.

**To be determined**

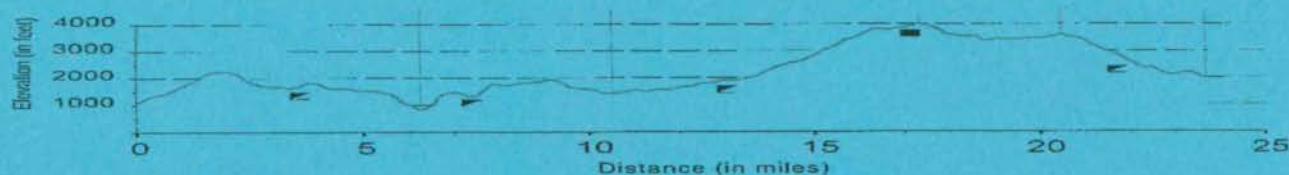
**Valcour Island Lighthouse, Plattsburgh, NY**

**Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

It's time again for the fourth annual cancellation of the Valcour Island Lighthouse hike! Maybe, because 2009 is the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's exploration of the lake, the gods will smile on us this year and freeze the channel. If it's safe enough for the Historical Society to open the lighthouse we'll go spur-of-the-moment, probable on a Sunday early in March.

Call the leader if you'd like to be placed on her to-be-called list.

Easy, 1.5 miles; more optional.





## **Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      Dec. 2008 – Feb. 2009**

Visit our web site: <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

### **6 December, Saturday, 9:30 AM   Prospect Mountain, Lake George, NY      Steve Williams, 645-9529**

A steep climb near the route of an old funicular railway, once the world's longest cable railway, to the site of the former summit hotel. Some steep climbing.

Meet at the Fair Haven Welcome Center on Route 4.

Moderate, 3 miles.

### **13 December, Saturday, 9:00 AM   Cook Mountain, Lake George, NY      Allison Henry, 775-1627**

Our second annual Cook Mountain expedition. Views of Lake George and the Champlain Valley from the top of the Tongue Mountain Range. Some steep spots. Snowshoes may be needed depending on conditions.

Moderate, 4 miles.

### **20 December, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Old County Road, Mendon      Ton Copps, 770-9394**

Follow an old road from Tamarack Notch to the Brown Covered Bridge in Shrewsbury. Snowshoes may be needed.

Moderate, 4 miles...

### **21 December, Sunday      Winter Solstice on the Long Trail, Shrewsbury      Dorothy Sullivan, 436-2019**

Joint hike with Ottauquechee Section. Snowshoe or hike on the Long Trail from Route 103 to Lower Cold River Road. Initial steep climb through boulder filled ravine.

Difficult, 3.9 miles, 1200-foot elevation gain.

Call leader for starting time and place.

### **3 January, Saturday 9:00 AM      Herrick Mountain, Ira      Larry Walter, 775-3855**

A strenuous climb to enjoy the view. Snowshoes may be needed.

Difficult, 8 miles.

### **10 January, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Emerald Lake, Dorset      Allison Henry, 775-1627**

Celebrate Allison and Phil's 6-month anniversary with a snowshoe around Emerald Lake.

Moderate, 3.4 miles.

### **17 January, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Shrewsbury Ramble      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**

Leaders will select the route.

Moderate, 4 to 5 miles.

### **24 January, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Long Trail, Shrewsbury      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**

Snowshoe or hike south from the Lower Cold River Road to Clarendon Shelter and back, with stops at the Bullard Cemetery.

Moderate, 5.8 miles, 1000-foot elevation gain.

### **31 January, Saturday,      Appalachian Trail, Killington      Dorothy Sullivan, 436-2019**

Joint hike with Ottauquechee Section. Snowshoe with some steep spots.

Moderate, 3.4 miles, 1500-foot elevation gain.

Call leader for starting time and place.

Schedule continued on next page.



**VT Route 105 to Canadian Line**

12 October 2008, E2E Leg 28

By Steve Williams

This final hike brought the "Steady Six" (Rich and Lindy Brown, Tom Copps, Allison Henry, Cindy Oas-Kirk and Steve Williams) together for the final thrust. They were accompanied by Sue Thomas, completing her Long Trail quest started in 1982, Linda Hutchins, also working on the Long Trail in bits and pieces, and Steve's friend Barbara O'Connor, who has been supporting Steve this year in doing "make-ups".

First of all, some car shuffling was required to place two cars at each end of the hike and to accommodate Linda traveling that morning from Essex, the Browns from Orwell, and the remaining six coming from Montgomery Center. This done, the party set off on a bright sunny fall morning at 8:30 AM. In 1.2 miles and 500 feet up we reached Carlton Mountain, a truly modest final peak, and with no objections from those who had traversed Jay Peak the day before, we continued the 1.4 miles to the northern terminus of the Long Trail at the US-Canadian Border Line Post 592.

Journey's End provides a rocky outcrop straddling the international border and, at 2100 feet, a fine view into Quebec, including Owl's Head and some adjacent peaks. Rather to the writer's surprise no Homeland Security personnel were in evidence at the border to check out identities, particularly of those bold enough to stand with one foot in each country, or even with two feet in Canada, though there are stories which indicate that they were not far away. Indeed an excellent place to sit around and contemplate the 272 miles traversed over the previous two and a half years, with a great stretch of Canada and the boundary swath before our eyes to prove it. A

sparkling beverage, cookies and chocolate bars were on hand for celebration.

Then a half mile to Jay Camp, a snug starting or ending overnight possibility, where Rich and Lindy Brown suddenly took off on the final eight-tenths of a mile to the trailhead. All became clear when the rest of the party arrived at the trailhead; where they had a portable table set up, with table cloth no less, champagne and glasses, and an extraordinary "Death by Chocolate" dessert, sufficient to satisfy any raging chocoholic and which undoubtedly replaced the calories burnt off on the two days' efforts. Thank you Rich and Lindy; a truly fitting finish!

**Skylight Pond, Ripton**

25 October 2008

By: Viv Bebee &amp; Larry Walter

The weather reports spawned a couple phone calls the night before. A big rain storm with high winds was swooping in, and every time we checked NOAA, the start-time had been moved up. I stuck with my usual "we're going no matter what" blather in the background while Viv tried to calm nerves over the phone. We were surprised when we ended up with a good turnout (11) at the trail head including a couple of 18-year-old college freshmen (Peter and Sara).

Out guide text was *50 Hikes in Vermont, Fifth Edition*, by Bob Lindemann and Mary Deaett. It's a good resource. We did notice a small mistake in the directions from Route 125. After turning north on Forest Road 59, you travel the reported mileage of 3.6 miles to a fork (instead of to the trail head) and continue on said right fork another mile to the parking area.

The trail follows a brook for a good mile along old logging roads. There are very few trail-blazes in this section, but the path is well

maintained. There's one stream crossing that wouldn't be too much fun after a hard rain or in the spring. Eventually you ascend more steeply on single track with some switchbacks thrown in to the upper sections. There are some nice views off to the northeast in this section. Peter packed the Griffith's trusty 3-foot Disston (a vintage crosscut saw) all the way up with the anticipation of showing off our sawing prowess, only to find our well scouted obstruction had been sawed off by some glory hog (who did a fine, non-motorized job, by the way).

After cresting over the ridge and crossing the Long Trail, Skyline Lodge is only another five minutes down the east side. A little pumpkin witnessed our passage down the hill. The lodge is in great shape, with well chinked cracks, real windows with screens and a solid door. It must have been really nice to stay there in the colder months when there was still a stove, drying your socks and reading a good novel. The covered front porch overlooks a pleasant pond, just down the hill. Word has it, there's a trail that runs around the shore. We had lunch and tried not to talk politics too much. An interesting feature is what appears to be the mummified remains of a weasel that managed to get his (I'm assuming this was a guy-weasel-inspired, unplanned event) head stuck in the framework along the lower left edge of the north wall. He'll be waiting for you. Don't forget to say hi.

We beat the odds and made it all the way back to the cars before the rain hit, and hit it did. Viv's splinter-party continued over to Dead Creek to watch a couple soggy geese hanging out in the sanctuary. Evidently it was still a little early for the main party of honkers. Peter chauffeured us old folks safely back to Rutland.



## Killington Section Directors Meeting

By John Hale, Secretary

A regular meeting of the Killington Section Board of Directors was held on 7 October 2008 at the Midway Diner in Rutland.

Board Members Attending:

Barry Griffith, Pres.  
Wayne Krevetski, VP  
Sue Thomas  
Cynthia Taylor-Miller  
Allison Henry  
Lynda Hutchins  
Andrea McQuade  
John Hale, Sec. & Treas.

Absent: Roma Pulling

Guest: Bob Perkins

President Barry G. called the meeting to order at about 6:00 PM.

The **Minutes** for the 10 June 2008 Board Meeting were approved as presented.

The **Treasurer's Report** (\$23,930.88 assets, no liabilities, net income \$1,744.90) for the period 1/1/2008 to 10/7/2008 was approved as presented.

Lynda H. reported on the **Main Club's Board meeting** of 27 September 2008. (A full report is available on request of the Secretary.)

Sue T. reported on the very successful **Four Bears quilt raffle**: \$750 was raised and donated to the Main Club as a contribution of the Killington Section. Killington Section member Tom Copps held the winning ticket at the drawing on 27 September at the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic in Londonderry.

There was a discussion about whether the \$750 donation should be absolutely restricted to the Little Killington Shelter project as originally specified, or whether the funds could be unrestricted and

offered to the Main Club for current operating expenses. Ben Rose asked the Section to consider unrestricting the funds since the Little Killington Shelter project will be delayed. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to unrestrict the donation allowing the Main Club to use the funds for general expenses.

Winner Tom C. has offered to donate the quilt back to the Club and Sue T. will speak with him to discover the specifics of his intention. Various ideas were briefly discussed as to how the quilt could be best utilized after a re-donation.

All the quilters who worked on this project and especially Sue T. were thanked for their initiative, dedication, administration, and nimble fingers. It was a huge effort with a wonderful result.

Wayne K. reported that this year's **Long Trail Festival** (15 to 17 August) enjoyed another successful year with about twenty percent increased attendance, more campers and more vendors. Next year's Festival is already being planned.

The **Governor Clement Shelter road gate** strategy seems to be successful. While ATV riders cannot be completely deterred, monitoring of attempts to defeat the gate has generated immediate counter-measures and the gate itself has not been vandalized. Miscreants in street vehicles have been kept out.

The gate has been opened for the fall and winter seasons as agreed with the Town of Shrewsbury. The Section is monitoring post-opening activity.

Allison H. spoke about the **trail sign at Jungle Junction's** being significantly deteriorated and wondered whether it should be removed entirely as the purpose for

which it was originally placed is no longer germane. After discussion, Allison agreed to seek Dave Hardy of the Main Club's opinion about whether to refurbish or remove the sign.

The Section will attend the **Rutland Regional Medical Center's Wellness Fair** on Wednesday 22 October from noon to 4:00 PM. with the Section's sign board, publications, newsletters and membership registration cards. Wayne K. will represent the Club.

Eastern Mountain Sports in Rutland has offered **another kayak** for the Section to **raffle** during EMS' Fall Club Days event, subject this time to the Section's taking an advertisement in the Rutland Herald announcing the raffle at the store which will generate more store traffic in addition to larger raffle sales. Wayne K. said that a two inch by two column advertisement run in the Herald for three days would cost \$213.

A general discussion ensued about whether the Section should, even in this indirect way, advertise for a private business. The consensus was that since the advertisement would only be an announcement for the Section, incidentally thanking EMS for their donation; and since the advertisement would serve the additional purpose of general public exposure for the Section and the Club, that the advertisement should be placed. The motion to spend \$213 for the advertisement was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. Wayne K. will manage raffle ticket sales on Friday night and Saturday, 17 and 18 October and run the drawing on Saturday night.

A suggestion was made to establish an E-List for the



dissemination of notices, alerts and other communications on a more immediate basis than the quarterly Newsletter. It is envisioned that a special email address will be set up to which interested parties can direct their request to be enrolled on the **Killington Section E-List**. The Board thought the suggestion a good one and Bob P. offered to set up and manage this list.

Bob P. also agreed to provide copies of the Newsletters in .pdf file format to Deb Waggett, the Section's webmaster, going forward so that interested persons can retrieve past copies of the Newsletter.

Allison N. reported that the **Long Trail End to End in Bits and Pieces** campaign will hike its last stage shortly. Seven people have finished the Trail in this way and one person is lacking only one section. All participants were congratulated on their accomplishment.

The Section's **Fall Pot Luck Dinner** meeting will be held at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Rutland on 22 November from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. The evening's program will be a presentation by Board member Cindy Taylor-Miller of her cross-country bicycle trip.

Barry G. suggested that the Board consider hosting a third pot luck dinner meeting some time during the winter to compliment the spring and fall dinners. He will broach the subject and determine interest at the November dinner.

Sue T. asked the Board to think about how to properly recognize **Ray Catozzi** for his lifelong involvement with the Club and the Section.

The next Board meeting was set for Tuesday 10 February 2009 at the Midway Diner.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:20 PM.

## Thoughts on a Long Trail End – to – End Hike

By Mad Hatter (Wayne Krevetski)

Where does one start in writing about an End-to-End Hike? Maybe with some basic statistics: Started on 30 August 2008, finished 26 days later (including one zero day) on 24 September. The weather was good; the first week had no rain at all and then only three separate days of rain afterward. Of course one of those days was when I was hiking between Mt. Abraham and Stark's Nest, and another was going over Camel's Hump, but you can't have everything.

Before I started I had heard that "if you can hike the Long Trail you can thru-hike the Appalachian Trail", but I was surprised at how true that statement proved to be. The Long Trail was not only the inspiration for the AT but in the end seems to have served as a model as well. The parallels between the two are amazing. Whether it's boulder filled gulches, rocky ascents, high ridgelines, or soft forest paths, the Long Trail has them all, a real gem of a trail.

As I am at a loss for words to describe my trip, I would like to

share with you two entries from my Journal.

*September 17, 2008; Wednesday  
Butler Lodge  
Miles Today 10.9 Total 202.5*

*Over two hundred miles and I am going to sleep under the shadow of Mount Mansfield. Hopefully with good weather, I will be crossing the summits of Mansfield and moving on to Spruce Peak tomorrow.*

*I caught up with "The Duke" at the lodge and he has his "Duchess" with him, they got engaged to be married today on top of Mansfield (He told me of his plans a week ago. Said that he could later call it the high point of their relationship). The Caretaker here is named Jeff; yes a real caretaker, first of the trip. This is his second day assigned to this site.*

*The hiking is much more difficult up at this end. Lots of steep ascents and descents, and lots of mud. Reminds me of the Whites in NH. Without so much exposure.*

*Well, I'm hoping for good weather tomorrow, as there were lots*

*of clouds coming in at sunset. It would be nice to be on a summit and have a view for a change.*

*September 18, 2008; Thursday  
Sterling Pond Shelter  
Miles Today 9 Total 211.5*

*60.7 miles left, almost over, Good Thing! Climbing over Mansfield today was the most frightening hiking I have ever done. Between the "Steep and rough climb over rocks and ledges, using ladders in some places" to get up the Forehead, to the "Drop steeply from the Chin on precipitous ledges" to get back down, they fail to mention the Class 4 and 5 rock climbing that you have to do and the nice flight into open air that you would have if you slipped off one of those ledges, and this wearing a backpack*

*WHAT A RUSH!!!!!!!!!!!!*

*Tired, time for sleep.*

*Mad Hatter*

In closing it was a wonderful trip and we are lucky to have such a wonderful Trail in our backyards to play on.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and  
Shelters Fund supporting the  
Killington Section's maintenance and  
preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on  
volunteering for:

☐ trail work, ☐ shelter work,  
☐ sign making, ☐ publications,  
☐ leading outings, ☐ publicity,  
☐ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and  
mail with this application to:  
Green Mountain Club, 4711  
Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury  
Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 62, Number 1

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

February 2009

## Some Coming Events

### Killington Section Potluck

Everyone's welcome to join Killington Section members for our short annual business meeting and spring pot luck supper. Bring a dish to share and your own place setting. No reservations needed. Just show up at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Hillside Avenue in Rutland at 6:00 PM on Saturday, 28 March.

### GMC Main Club Meeting

Plan to attend the annual meeting of the statewide Green Mountain Club at our new Visitor Center in Waterbury Center. You can attend the main events, business meeting and over a dozen outings to choose from, on Saturday, 30 May, or make it a weekend by including Friday evening and/or Sunday. It's a great opportunity to meet club leaders and other like-minded folks from around the state. See your *Long Trail News* for more details.

### Appalachian Trail Conference

The Green Mountain Club is hosting the Biennial Conference of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy from 17-24 July this year at Castleton State College. Hikers and enthusiasts from Maine to Georgia are expected. Volunteers familiar with the Rutland area are needed to greet visitors and staff an information desk. (You don't need to be an active hiker.) If you would like to help call Jean Anderson at 802-657-3540, or email at [jeanoutdoors@aol.com](mailto:jeanoutdoors@aol.com).

## Killington Section Snowshoers on Deer Leap



### Long Trail Festival

The third annual (and growing every year) Long Trail Festival returns to the Vermont State Fairgrounds in Rutland on Saturday, 8 August. The Festival is:

*"A Celebratory Gathering to Inspire Individuals to Participate in the Outdoors"*

*"An Annual Festival of Outdoor Activities and Educational Presentations & Exhibits and Lots of Fun in Beautiful Vermont."*

*"Featuring Music by the Best of Vermont Musicians!"*

### GMC Centennial

Coming next year – the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Green Mountain Club in 1910 with the goal "to make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the lives of the people" and a vision of a Long Trail from Massachusetts to Canada. Plans are under way for the celebration. Stay tuned.

### Killington Section Centennial

We think the Killington Section was born in 1911. More research is required. Send us your ideas as to how we should recognize this milestone.



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2009 ..... Wayne Krevetski  
"..... \*Andrea McQuade  
"..... \*Roma Pulling  
2010 ..... \*John Hale  
"..... \*Lynda Hutchins  
"..... \*Cindy Taylor-Miller  
2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
"..... Allison Henry  
"..... Sue Thomas

\*Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Susan Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## Killington Section Treasurer Hunt II

By Herb Ogden

I will give a Long Trail Guide from the 1960s to the first person who sends me the correct answer to this paper treasure hunt – and I will give the Kirk Trails & Shelters Fund \$100 in that person's name, too.

1. Start at the top of southern Vermont's highest mountain.
2. Go downhill on the only blue blazed trail until you reach a structure named after a former GMC president.
3. Go south on the Long Trail as it existed when that person was GMC president until you strike a presently blue blazed trail.
4. Turn right on the presently blue blazed trail.
5. Continue on the blue blazed trail until you are at or near a former landmark with a two word name.
6. Hike on the most direct route of the present or former Long Trail to the site of a structure whose name began with the last letter of the second word in the former landmark's name.
7. From that site, go north on a former blue blazed loop trail, now nearly or totally obscure, until you reach a former white blazed trail.
8. Turn left on the former white blazed trail until you reach a presently white blazed trail.
9. Turn left on the white blazed trail.
10. Follow the white blazed trail until you reach a blue blazed trail to the right.
11. Follow the blue blazed trail until you come to a shelter.
12. Not counting the shelter you have just arrived at, name the **present** lodges, camps and shelters **built by the GMC** (including our Section) that you have passed.

Hint: At some point, you will pass by or very near the site of a former structure named for a deciduous conifer.

Send your answer to:

Herb Ogden, 214 South End Road, Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756

802-293-2510

hogden@vermontel.net

[I rate this one as "difficult". Ed.]

## Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

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Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, allisonnorton1@gmail.com  
Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, lmhutch@shoreham.net  
Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 wkrevetski@hotmail.com  
Andrea McQuade, 2 Jan Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 775-5104, andreamcquade@comcast.net  
Cindy Taylor-Miller, 337 East St., Wallingford, VT 05773, 446-2288, ctmiller@vermontel.net  
Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, hogden@vermontel.net  
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Roma Pulling, 883 US Route 4 East, Rutland, VT 05701, 773-6997, pullingral37@aol.com  
Susan Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com  
Stephen Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



**Old Baldy, Bridgewater**

4 October 2008

By Sue Thomas, leader

When we saw the bird hunters with their 4-wheel-drive pickup truck parked at the bottom of the hill we should have taken the hint. But intrepid Bob-the-Car soldiered on and, after a few nerve-wracking scraping noises from his nethermost regions, arrived triumphant at the trailhead. (Apparently none of the miscellaneous parts left behind were essential. We made it safely home to Rutland as well.) In fact, old Bob looked a bit smug as the jeep carrying the rest of our party limped in, wheezing and spewing smoke.

Fortunately, the hike to the summit was a good deal less exciting. But it was a nice fall day and a pretty trail, which winds gradually up the mountain on old woodroad, only becoming steep near the top causing some of us to wheeze a bit too. We had our lunch on the summit and, on noticing that the view improved considerably when we stood up, we decided that to rename Old Baldy "Old Rogaine" seemed appropriate. In spite of encroaching bushes, mountains could be seen in all directions – the Greens, the Whites, the Taconics, and close by Mount Ascutney. I hope a full head of hair will not someday obscure the view completely. Sometimes "bald is beautiful".

**Smith Peak, Shrewsbury**

1 November 2008

By Barry &amp; Barb Griffith, leaders

While we have ascended Shrewsbury Peak countless times, we had never climbed Smith Peak, its 3200-foot neighbor to the east – until this year. It was about time! Smith Peak is in the northeastern corner of the Town of Shrewsbury. When New Hampshire Governor Benning

## Outing Reports

Wentworth chartered Shrewsbury in 1761, this corner lot was set aside for the Church of England. In theory, the acreage in such a "glebe lot" would be leased to settlers, with the rents going to the Church. In practice, we doubt this remote mountain lot was ever so settled or used. We don't know who Smith was – more research needed!

The fall outing schedule is assembled in the summer, and we gambled that the CCC Road would still be open and passable on November 1. A late October snowfall had us wondering. Undaunted, ten of us assembled and consolidated into 4-wheel-drive vehicles in Northam. There was snow and ice on the CCC Road, but we made it safely to our trailhead. We packed up and proceeded up the Black Swamp Trail, on the east side of Shrewsbury Peak. Happily, the temperature was (slightly) above freezing. So, while there was snow on the mountain, the footing was good. There were abundant fresh deer and moose tracks to be found.

Just below the Black Swamp trail shelter, we took the side trail to the east. It eventually descends to the Farm & Wilderness Camps. With snow on the ground the trail was not always easy to pick up, but the intermittent blazes kept us on course until we reached the south side of Smith Peak. Here, with a reminder that the hike description included the words "difficult" and "bushwhack", we struck out for the summit. We located the canister and signed in. Over lunch there was discussion of the background noise – was it wind, or a stream? One of our group correctly identified the source – the snow guns on Killington Peak, a few miles to the north. 'Tis the season!

After lunch, we retraced our steps to the Black Swamp Trail.

While two returned to their vehicle, the rest voted for a bonus ascent of Shrewsbury Peak – two summits for the price of one! While Smith Peak affords only obstructed views, on Shrewsbury Peak we were able to enjoy its unobstructed panorama. We then descended, tired but pleased with our day. A good time was had by all.

**Fall Work Party**

8 November 2008

By Herb Ogden, Trails/Shelters Ch.

Considering that there was no announcement in the *Rutland Herald* and the weather forecast was for morning showers and afternoon rain, I was pleased that eight of us showed up for this work party.

One group of five went up to Gov. Clement Shelter. First they rearranged the bog-bridging lumber that had been trucked in during the spring so that it can be hauled the rest of the way to where it is needed once the ground freezes. Had it been left as it was, some of it would have frozen into the ground. Then they dug a new hole for the privy, moved the privy onto it, decommissioned the old hole with appropriate ceremony, and were done by early afternoon.

The other group spent the whole day clearing the over fifty waterbars and side ditches on the Sherburne Pass Trail between Sherburne Pass and Pico Camp and building a half dozen or more new waterbars. Lacking an adequate supply of supple young backs, we didn't build them to ideal GMC standards, which call for using rocks so large that it takes two people to move them into place and burying them deeply in the trail. Like many of our other waterbars, these will require a little more maintenance than the Stonehenge variety. But we need to



clear debris out of them at least once a year anyway, so it doesn't make a big difference.

The second group had what is a unique experience, at least in my fifty years of hiking the Long Trail. Descending above the Sinkhole, we heard a strange noise down the trail. It sounded like music, but not like a radio. As we got closer, it appeared to be a choir singing gospel music. Larry Walter said he thought he'd gone to heaven. We thought, "A choir in the woods on a rainy afternoon? No way!" But it turned out to be ten Tufts University students, apparently members of an *a capella* group, singing happily in the drizzly forest. They turned around soon after we passed them, and we could hear them singing behind us all the way back down even though they were also hiking along at a decent pace. Sometimes trail work has unexpected rewards. Join us next time, and who knows what you'll hear or see.

## Hot Dog Roast, Cuttingsville

14 February 2009

By Roma Pulling, leader

Over the years, when my husband and I were leading hikes to remote areas for wintertime barbecues, we tried various locations, among them Half Moon and Bomoseen State Parks, Gifford Woods and Minerva Hinchey Shelter on the Long Trail. Gifford and Minerva Hinchey were our favorites. For two years my son Steve has been my helper assisted by our friend, Jerry Parker, and this year our Valentine's Day event was at Minerva Hinchey.

The weather was favorable this time--sunshine and comfortable temperatures. While Steve started the fire and I laid out the food and supplies on the table in the shelter, Jerry led the group of eight hikers south of the shelter on the Long Trail through an area called Patch's Hollow. Barry regaled the group with tales of scandalous happenings in

years past. (If you want the details, call Barry.)



## President Barry Recounts the Tragedy at Patch Hollow

When the hungry returned, we were ready for them. Each one brought their item for grilling while condiments, chips, cookies and hot drinks awaited them. Two of our good cooks furnished homemade cookies and muffins.

What fun! It made winter seem just a little shorter.

## Thank You, Trail Volunteers, For An Hour Each Day Of The Year!

By Herb Ogden,

Trails & Shelters Chair

About twenty Killington Section members and friends spent enough time on trail work in 2008 so that, for each day of the year, there was one hour of volunteer work. Scheduled work parties accounted for 217 hours. Individual work or work parties assembled on short notice accounted for another 149, for a total of 366 hours spent either on trail work or getting to the work site. Actually, that total is low, because I know of others who have put in many hours clearing or repairing trails but did not bother to report them.

Most of the work was done on the Long Trail between Wallingford Gulf and Clarendon Gorge, on the Sherburne Pass Trail south of

Sherburne Pass, and at Minerva Hinchey Shelter, but almost all of the over 34 miles of Killington Section trail saw at least minimal maintenance. In the last two years, all blazes have been renewed on the Long Trail from Wallingford Gulf to about a mile north of Gov. Clement Shelter and on the Sherburne Pass Trail south of US 4.

There is plenty left to do. Unfortunately, some of the Long Trail that was moved west of Pico Peak ten years ago is seriously eroding. It needs rock steps and ditches. Elsewhere, some waterbars have not been cleared for a couple years. Brush is growing up in front of our newest shelter, Churchill Scott Shelter. The Killington Spur from Cooper Lodge to Killington summit and the Pico Link from Pico Camp to Pico summit need rock steps. The

Long Trail on both sides of the Lottery Road and the Keiffer Road needs bog bridging and ditching to reduce the mud. Rotten bog bridging on the south slope of Killington Peak needs replacing. Pico Camp needs an entry porch. The northern half of our section of the Long Trail needs reblazing. This is a sampling of what needs doing. For a full list, contact me at [hogden@vermontel.net](mailto:hogden@vermontel.net).

To keep up our Section's good work, please join us in the two work parties on the schedule in this issue of *Smoke & Blazes*. Especially if your schedule does not allow that, please tell me if you are available for occasional last-minute work parties or would like to take on a special project.



## **Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule**

**March – May 2009**

Visit our web site: <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**7 March, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Pharaoh Lake Wilderness, Chilson, NY      Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
Explore backwoods trails and ponds. Snowshoes may be necessary and it could be very wet.  
Difficult, 7 to 8 miles.

**14 March, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Woodland Trek, Shrewsbury      Jerry Parker, 775-6208**  
Look for animal tracks and maybe a few signs of spring. Snowshoes may be needed.  
Moderate, 2 to 3 miles.

**21 March, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Hunt for Spring      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
The calendar says spring has arrive, so we'll go wherever we need to go to hunt it down. (Have passports ready!)  
Moderate, 3 to 5 miles.

**28 March, Saturday, 6:00 PM Killington Section Annual Meeting, Rutland      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Bring a dish to share and you own place setting for a pot luck supper followed by a short business meeting and election of officers. All are welcome!  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Hillside Avenue in Rutland.

**5 April, Sunday, 10:00 AM      Grandpa's Knob, Castleton      Tom Copps, 770-9394**  
Climb to the site of the first municipal wind turbine (1940s). Views in all directions of the Greens, the Adirondacks, and the Taconics, and some very silly rocks.  
Moderate, 3 miles, 1000-foot elevation gain.

**18 April, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Mt. Zion, Hubbardton      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Visit a Japanese garden and see waterfalls, rolling meadows, and mountain views at this unique site, home to Moot Point.  
Moderate, 3 miles, with some steep spots.  
Rain date: 19 April.

**25 April, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Cook Mountain, Ticonderoga, NY      Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
View Lake George and the Champlain Valley from the top of the Tongue Mountain Range.  
Moderate, 4 miles, 900-foot elevation gain.

**2 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Bald Top Mountain, Fairlee      Viv & Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Sweeping views of the White and Green Mountains from the 1776-foot summit alongside Lake Morey.  
Moderate, 6.5 miles, 1375-foot elevation gain.

**9 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Wild Flower Hike      Connie Youngstrom, 492-3502**  
A slow-paced hike to identify early spring wildflowers and birds. Location to be determined.

**16 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Long Trail Spring Cleaning      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
All are welcome to help prepare the trail for the summer hiking season. We'll clear water bars, trim brush, and cut blowdowns on the lower elevation stretches. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and lunch. Tools will be provided. Have fun while doing a good deed.

**Schedule continued on next page.**



## Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule

March – May 2009

Schedule continued from previous page.

- 23 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Bird Mountain (aka Birdseye), Castleton      Tom Copps, 770-9394**  
Climb to a sweeping view atop a spectacular cliff.  
Moderate, 3 to 4 miles with some steep pitches and a little bush-whacking.
- 29-31 May, Fri. – Sun. Green Mountain Club Annual Meeting, Waterbury Center      GMC, 244-7037**  
Choose from over a dozen outings (hike, bike, or paddle) on Saturday and a work party on Sunday. See your *Long Trail News* for details or visit the club web site at [www.greenmountainclub.org](http://www.greenmountainclub.org).
- 6 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Upper Elevation Trail Maintenance, Killington      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
On National Trails Day volunteers from all over the country will be out readying the trails for the summer hiking season by clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns, and painting blazes. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, bug repellent and lunch. Tools will be provided.
- 13 June, Saturday, 1:00 PM      Mystery Hike, Shrewsbury      Jerry Parker, 775-6208**  
Easy 2-mile hike with great views.

### What It's All About – A Winter Day atop Mount Herrick





# Killington Section Directors Meeting

By Cynthia Taylor-Miller,  
Acting Secretary

A regular meeting of the Killington Section Board of Directors was held on 10 February 2009 at the Midway Diner in Rutland.

#### Board Members Attending:

Barry Griffith, President  
Wayne Krevetski, VP  
Allison Henry  
Susan Thomas  
Roma Pulling  
Andrea McQuade  
Lynda Hutchins  
Cynthia Taylor-Miller

#### Absent: Guests:

John Hale Bob Perkins  
Herb Ogden

President Barry Griffith called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Due to the absence of John Hale, President Griffith asked for a volunteer to record the minutes of this evening's meeting. Cynthia Taylor-Miller volunteered.

The minutes for the 7 October 2008 KS Directors meeting were approved as presented in Volume 61, Number 4 of *Smoke and Blazes*.

Due to the absence of John Hale, a current Treasurer's Report was not submitted.

Lynda Hutchins reported on the Main Club's Directors meeting of 24 January 2009 held at Vermont Law School. (A full report is available on request of the Secretary). The GMC Annual Meeting will be on 30 May 2009, hosted by the Montpelier section at the new building in Waterbury Center. The GMC has a new Membership and Volunteer Coordinator, Mari Zagarins.

The Killington Section Annual Meeting will be on 28 March 2009 at

the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Hillside Road in Rutland.

Trails and Shelters Chairperson, Herb Ogden, lead a discussion on recruiting boy scouts, high school and college students, GE volunteers, Rutland Recreation Department, and EMS staff members as KS volunteer trail maintainers. A goal for this year is to double the number of volunteers to assist with the spring and fall trail maintenance work trips.

Herb will obtain a repair quote from a stone mason for the exterior walls and fireplace at Governor Clement Shelter. Shelter adopter Roy Arthur will replace the roof this spring.

The bog bridging delivered to Clement Shelter Road is still there and needs to be moved to the trail work site.

The GMC Trail Management Committee has taken the new Killington Shelter "off the radar" for two reasons: the current financial situation of the club, and the hope that Governor Clement Shelter may be holding its own now that the access road is seasonally gated. However, the new Killington Shelter is in the ATC 5-year plan for 2011.

Dismantling of Cooper Lodge may begin this summer leaving the tent platforms and privy in tact.

Recently, a list of KS property was given to both the current Treasurer and President.

Volunteer hours spent on trail maintenance as well as trail related matters, i.e. Newsletter, recruitment of trip leaders, and section meeting hours should be collected and reported.

Volunteers are needed to build and install the Gould Brook Bridge. Coordination of this project will

begin this summer and may become one of the Long Trail Festival Hardcore work trips.

Sometime this spring, the Sherburne Pass Trail will be relocated west of the new sink hole.

President Griffith expressed the club's appreciation to Herb Ogden for his commitment over two decades of dedicated service.

Bob Perkins reported that approximately 190 *Smoke and Blazes* are mailed each quarter.

Four people have signed up to receive the Killington Section E-mail alert notices. In order to make this work as planned more members need to sign up. Continued sign-up notices will appear in future issues of *Smoke and Blazes*.

Outing Chair Sue Thomas expressed her concerns regarding a Greenwich, New York newspaper [Greenwich Journal & Salem Press] where a recent outing to Emerald Lake was listed with omissions of critical contact and meeting time/place information. Many unanswered questions remain as to how this paper received the KS outing information. Allison Henry will research this further.

The ATC Biennial Conference, "Vermont Forever Green", 17-24 July 2009 at Castleton State College and hosted by the GMC continues to solicit hike leaders, local residents familiar with the area and services to assist with the hospitality booth, silent auction donations and an Exhibits Chairperson. Contact information will be provided in the next issue of *Smoke and Blazes*.

Wayne Krevetski made a motion to provide Eastern Mountain Sports of Rutland, upon request, with Killington Section member mailing labels for the semi-annual spring



Club Day Sale/Kayak Raffle in April. Motion seconded by Lynda Hutchins. Motion passed.

The new dates for the Long Trail Festival are 7, 8, and 9 August 2009. The focus of activities will on Saturday the eighth with vendors, music, and presentations. Work trips

and hikes will take place on Sunday the ninth. There will be more children's entertainment at this year's festival. Camping will be available on the Fairgrounds from Friday evening to Monday morning.

Sue Thomas reported that the Four Bears Quilt received an

additional \$250 bringing the total donations to the main club of \$1,000.

The next KS Directors meeting will be held after the section Annual Meeting on 28 March 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

### Members Continued from Page 7

Paul J. Renfro, Cuttingsville  
 Wally Rogers, Castleton  
 F. John & Moira Romeo, Homosassa, FL  
 Rebecca Roy, Rochester  
 Jim & Ellen Schlagel, Rutland  
 Debbie Schoch, Shrewsbury  
 Robert Schulhafer, Mahopac, NY  
 Charlotte S. Schwartz, Manchester, NH  
 Sarah Shanahan, Wallingford  
 Heather Shay, Cuttingsville  
 Joan Sibley, Cuttingsville  
 Mark Skakel, Center Rutland  
 Joan F. Smith, Killington  
 Carlene P. Smith, Proctor  
 J. Ross & Nancy Stevenson, Poultney  
 John Suddarth, Mendon  
 Joseph F. Taylor, Long Beach, NY  
 Cynthia Taylor-Miller, Wallingford  
 Catherine L. Thomas, Mt. Tabor  
 Sue Thomas, Rutland  
 Craig H. & Dot Tomkinson, Belmont  
 Leslie Tucker, Rutland  
 Albert L. Tufano, Cuttingsville  
 Deborah L. Waggett, Fair Haven  
 Seve Walsh, Shrewsbury  
 Larry Walter, Rutland  
 Alan H. Wayler, Ludlow  
 Mary Lou Webster, Brandon  
 George R. Wilbanks, Westport, CT  
 Stephen Williams, West Pawlet  
 Terri Wilson, Rutland  
 Joyce K. & R. Lee Wilson, Shrewsbury  
 David P. Wright, Middletown Springs  
 Carol J. Wright, Rutland  
 Connie & Mark Youngstrom, Shrewsbury  
 Joan Zardus, Amesbury MA  
 Randal B. & Marilyn Zimmerman, Rutland  
 Arlene Zivitz, Rutland



Bluff Point Lighthouse on Valcour Island in Lake Champlain

### Elevation Gain: Zero

In each of the last several years outing coordinator Sue Thomas has optimistically scheduled a walk across the ice of Lake Champlain to the historic Bluff Point Lighthouse. Each time, on the appointed day, the ice was dangerously thin (Global warming?) and the outing was cancelled. This year the date was left floating (there's a joke here somewhere) and as we go to press it's reported that on 1 March a persistent group of Killington Section members, joined by Clinton County, NY Historical Society guides successfully made the crossing.

### Going Once; -- Going Twice; . . .

The Killington Section, as our contribution to the Green Mountain Club, plans to auction off two baskets at the Appalachian Trail Conservancy gathering at Castleton in June. We will assemble two baskets: one containing Vermont products such as maple syrup, Green Mountain Coffee, pancake mix, and Champlain Chocolates; the other hike-related items such as socks, guidebooks, compasses, flashlights, and trail snacks. Anyone wishing to contribute an item for the baskets should contact Sue Thomas at 773-2185 by the end of June.



## Killington Section Members as of February 2009

Timothy J. Abraham, Rutland	Lorraine Hawley, Rutland
Bob Amelang, Rutland	Chuck & Gail Helfer, Poultney
William P. Anderson, Rutland	Jean A. Hinson, Rutland
Robert L. Badger, Potsdam, NY	Rick Hollenbaugh, Pittsford
Diane Bargiel, Whitehall, NY	Robert Horton, Sudbury
Karen Barnouw, Rutland	Lynda M. Hutchins, Orwell
Thomas Bartholomew, Benson	Michael Ilyichenko, Yaphank, NY
Vivian Bebee, Rutland	Tom & Kathy Johnson, Ludlow
Richard Biziak, Cuttingsville	Lindsey Johnson, Mendon
Joel Blumenthal, Proctor	Betty P. Johnson, West Rutland
Abigail Boone, Hebron, CT	Wayne Jones, West Rutland
Karen Bourque, Sudbury	Robert & Sue Kancir, Fiarfield, CT
Rev. Robert B. Boutwell, Rutland	Joseph M. Karus, Rutland
Karen Bowles, Killington	Shawn Kershaw, Chalfont, PA
Melbourne & Lynn Boynton, Rutland	Paul Kraby, Pittsford
Michael J. Brayton, Monkton, MD	Wayne & Kathy Krevetski, Rutland
Lyle J. Breitkopf, Teaneck, NJ	Joyce M. Krevetski, Toms River, NJ
Linda & Richard Brown, Orwell	Ruth & Sandy Lamb, Queensbury, NY
Anne C. Brown, Plymouth	Jill Lauren, New York, NY
Bruno Brzoza, Ludlow	John & Betty Little, Rutland
Ralph & Nancy Cameron, Castleton	Tammy Loomis, Wells
Steve Carbine, Rutland	Shelley Lutz, Center Rutland
Andrew & Jenny Carter, Brandon	Joseph F. Lyons, Cos Cob, CT
Raymond Catozzi, Rutland	Sam Malkus, Stowe
Rachel W. Charland, Franklin, NH	David S. Martin, McLean, VA
Ronna G. Charlton, Rutland	John & Janet Martin, Rutland
David Charnock, Rutland	Gerry D. & Chryl Y. Martin, Shrewsbury
Dale Christie, Proctor	Jon & Kimberly Mathewson, Middletown Springs
Dave & Clare Coppock, Rutland	Sandra McCall, Rutland
Tom Cops, Rutland	Dennis S. & Amy C. McLaughlin, Rutland
Michelle Cordeiro-Breault, Proctor	Andrea McQuade, Rutland
Susan Corrigan, Rehoboth, MA	Mic Metz, West Rutland
Lee A. Crawford, Plymouth	Jasmine Metzger, Brooklyn, NY
Pamela M. Copley, Bolton, CT	Matthew S. & Tarra Mitchell, Newton, MA
Jack Crowther, Rutland	Richard C. Mitchell, Oswego, NY
Nathan Dansereau, Pittsford	Kelly & Brice Moreton, Cuttingsville
Dr. & Mrs. Robert P. Darrow, Mendon	Gene Munger, Roslyn, NY
Kit Davidson, Castleton	Nancy L. Murphy, Rutland
Bill Holt & Joan Davidson, Orwell	Gene C. Nelson, Orwell
Theresa L. Davis, Pittsford	Martin Nitka, Ludlow
Bernard G. Donahue, Rutland	Allison Norton, Rutland
Bill & Marilyn Edgerton, Gaysville	Cindy Oas-Kirk, Rutland
Kathy Ehlers, Ludlow	Okie O'Brien, Killington
Ann E. Flocken, Westport, CT	Barbara O'Connor, Pawlet
Lin Garrepy, Syracuse, NY	Herbert G. Ogden, Mt. Tabor
Ruth Gibbud, Rutland	MJ O'Hara, Ludlow
Frances Ginsberg, Rye, NY	William L. Oppenheimer, Manalapan, NJ
Ronald Grande, Rutland	Gerald Parker, Shrewsbury
Molly Griffith, Longmont, CO	Robert & Thelma Perkins, Rutland
Barry & Barbara Griffith, Shrewsbury	Mark J. Pettrone, Averill Park, NY
Thomas Grillo, Proctor	Kem & Svetlana Phillips, Ringoes, NJ
William & Karen Gwozdz, Pawlet	Paul Pilcher, Proctor
John M. & Til Hale, Castleton	Chuck Piotroski, Rutland
Anne M. Hamilton, West Hartford, CT	Stephen Prentiss, Killington
Patricia K. Hannegan, Rutland	Ronald & Sarah Pulcer, Rutland Town
Ruth Hare, Montpelier	Roma Pulling, Rutland
Jim Harrison, Killington	Jeremy & Anna Rayner, Mendon



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual ..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 62, Number 2

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

May 2009

## Annual Meeting of Section Members and Directors

By Chryl Martin, Recorder

The Killington Section annual general membership meeting and directors meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM on 28 March following a pot luck dinner at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Approximately 25 people were in attendance including board members Andrea McQuade, Barry Griffith, Wayne Krevetski, Lynda Hutchens, Allison Henry, and Sue Thomas.

President Barry Griffith called the meeting to order and minutes from the last annual meeting were approved.

In John Hale's absence copies of his Treasurer's report were distributed. After a brief clarification of items related to the Kirk Funds the report was approved as presented. Barry is to confer with John regarding the General Fund CD which comes up for renewal on 5 April 2009.

### ASSETS

Bank Accounts ..... 5,320.42

Certificates of Deposit..... 19,358.10

2008 Total Assets:..... \$24,678.52

### NO LIABILITIES

[Asset increase over 2007: \$2,492.54]

### INCOME:

Membership Dues ..... 2,286.00

Interest Income..... 661.88

Donations ..... 1,125.00

Other..... 293.00

2008 Total Income: ..... \$4,632.88

### EXPENSES:

Postage & Printing ..... 857.47

Trails and Shelters..... 377.54

Hall Rental ..... 150.00

Quilt Donation..... 750.00

Other..... 5.33

2008 Total Expenses: ..... \$2,140.34

## Garry Martin Elected New Killington Section Director Wayne Krevetski Reelected; Herb Ogden Returned to Board



Herb Ogden, Wayne Krevetski, and Garry Martin

**GMC:** Lynda Hutchins reported that the GMC is in good shape financially and that there is much excitement about the Grand Opening of the new facility to occur at the annual meeting on 29-31 May. She reported that publication of books and maps has become a money-making venture; that the Herrick Building disposition will be addressed in the future; that GMC Executive Director Ben Rose has agreed to a pay cut, and all other staff have agreed to a pay freeze; that they look forward to receiving stimulus funds to hire people to work in the field; and that the phonathon is coming up if anyone wants to assist.

**Field Program:** In the absence of Dave Hardy, Herb Ogden related that Cooper Lodge will be torn down. Sue Thomas suggested that some sort of recognition of the Coopers and Lambs be considered. A new shelter may be built to replace Cooper.

Governor Clement shelter is to receive a new roof by the adopter who is affiliated with the Snowmobile Club, and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy may grant \$3,000 for a stone mason to work on the shelter per town ordinance. Herb doubts if it will be that expensive. The

See **Meeting** page 3



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2010 ..... \*John Hale  
" ..... \*Lynda Hutchins  
" ..... \*Cindy Taylor-Miller  
2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... Gerry Martin  
" ..... Herb Ogden  
\* Second consecutive 3-year term.  
Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## Killington Section Treasurer Hunt II

By Herb Ogden

Because no one reported "finding the treasure" from the February issue, I'm repeating the challenge with **Hints** added for legs 3 and 4. I will give a Long Trail Guide from the 1960s to the first person who sends me the correct answer to this paper treasure hunt – and I will give the Kirk Trails & Shelters Fund \$100 in that person's name, too

1. Start at the top of southern Vermont's highest mountain.
2. Go downhill on the only blue blazed trail until you reach a structure named after a former GMC president.
3. Go south on the Long Trail as it existed when that person was GMC president until you strike a presently blue blazed trail.  
**Hint: This version of the LT was in use till the very late 20th century.**
4. Turn right on the presently blue blazed trail.  
**Hint: The blue blazed trail is the only one in the Coolidge Range connecting with the Long Trail that is NOT maintained by our Section.**
5. Continue on the blue blazed trail until you are at or near a former landmark with a two word name.
6. Hike on the most direct route of the present or former Long Trail to the site of a structure whose name began with the last letter of the second word in the former landmark's name.
7. From that site, go north on a former blue blazed loop trail, now nearly or totally obscure, until you reach a former white blazed trail.
8. Turn left on the former white blazed trail until you reach a presently white blazed trail.
9. Turn left on the white blazed trail.
10. Follow the white blazed trail until you reach a blue blazed trail to the right.
11. Follow the blue blazed trail until you come to a shelter.
12. Not counting the shelter you have just arrived at, name the **present** lodges, camps and shelters **built by the GMC** (including our Section) that you have passed.

Hint: At some point, you will pass by or very near the site of a former structure named for a deciduous conifer.

Send your answer to:

Herb Ogden, 214 South End Road, Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756  
802-293-2510      hogden@vermontel.net

## Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Barry Griffith 68 Griffith Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-3573, Griff2VT@Vermontel.net  
John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, john@sudokuvt.com  
Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, allisonnorton1@gmail.com  
Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, lmhutch@shoreham.net  
Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 wkrevetski@hotmail.com  
Gerry Martin 998 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-2244, gdmartin2020@yahooo.com  
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Cindy Taylor-Miller, 337 East St., Wallingford, VT 05773, 446-2288, ctmiller@vermontel.net  
Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, hogden@vermontel.net  
Bob Perkins, 6 Rachel Dr., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu  
Sus Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com  
Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



**Meeting** *continued from page 1*

gate will be locked on 15 April for the summer. Herb enumerated the upcoming meetings and conferences.

**Trails & Shelters:** Herb Ogden reported on the areas where assistance will be needed to maintain the 34 miles of trails that we oversee. He said he should be researching other groups who might be able to assist also but lacks the time and hopes Wayne Krevetski can transition into leadership and help with this. Barry thanked Herb for all his work on the Trails.

**Smoke & Blazes:** Bob Perkins requested that leaders call Sue earlier with dates for their outings and that they send in hike reports at anytime. He also requested that reports or editorials on other trips of interest be sent as well. Barry thanked Bob for his good work.

Barry noted the websites listed on the agenda for those who are interested.

**ATC Biennial Conference:** Trina Perkins reported on the conference to be held at Castleton State College in July. She passed a sign up sheet for hike leaders and encouraged members particularly to assist with hospitality at the conference. Donations were requested for our silent auction whose proceeds will go to GMC. Sue requested items to fill a basket of Vermont made products as our contribution. Trina noted that the recent Killington Section endeavor inspired her Ottauquechee Section to also hike the Long Trail in "bits and pieces."

**Long Trail Festival:** This year the festival will have expanded children's activities and entertainment. In addition, it will

showcase other forms of outdoor recreation. They are hoping to include caving, climbing, cycling, and kayak/canoeing as well as hiking. They will continue to have camping at the fairgrounds from Friday evening through Sunday with the major fairgrounds program on Saturday. Hikes and a work trip will be on Sunday.

**Volunteer Coordination:** Forms were passed out for people to record hours worked on trails.

Joan Smith noted a concern regarding the garbage accumulating at the Clarendon Gorge parking area, and it was agreed that the Board would try to determine who has the responsibility for this area before becoming involved.

**Election of Board Members:** Board members Andrea McQuade and Roma Pulling who have completed two terms of service and Wayne Krevetski whose first term has ended were recognized for their good service. After nominations from the floor, three directors were elected to terms to run from 2009 to 2012: Wayne Krevetski for a second 3-year term, Herb Ogden and Gerry Martin each for a 3-year term.

The Directors adjourned to elect officers and after a brief business meeting reported that officers elected were:

President ..... Barry Griffith;  
Vice President..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary-Treasurer..... John Hale;  
GMC Board Rep..... Lynda Hutchins

The Directors also approved an amount up to \$2,000 to be used toward repairs on Governor Clement Shelter at the discretion of Herb Ogden. The next Board meeting date was set for June 9, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

**Name That Hill**

By Bob Perkins

Among the Outings reported on in this issue of *Smoke & Blazes* are trips to Bald Mountain in Mendon and to Bald Top in Fairlee. A coincidence? What are the chances?

This led me to one of my favorite references: Ester Munroe Swift's *Vermont Place Names*. A winter evening browsing this book is almost as good as one perusing my map collection.

Lumping together 8 Bald Hills, 8 Bald Mountains, and 1 Bald Top we have Bald (17). It appears that "Bald" is Vermont's favorite mountain name. (Swift counts our Mendon prominence as a "Hill").

The runners-up include West (14), Round (13) East (11), and Burnt (11). In the next tier we have Prospect (9), Cobble (9), Hogback (8), Pinnacle (8), Cow (7), Haystack (6), Hedgehog (6), and Hurricane (5).

For the record, our 17 Balds are in Bridgewater, Fairlee, Fletcher, Hinesburg, Huntington, Jericho, Leicester, Maidstone, Mendon, Pawlet, Townshend, Waitsfield, West Haven, Westminster, Westmore, and Woodford.

None of the "Balds" are on or near the Long Trail and none are listed in the recent GMC book *Place Names on Vermont's Long Trail*, but 3 of the "Burnts" are listed there.

I wonder if many of our "Balds" were named in the days of Vermont's sheep craze when perhaps they were indeed as bald as their southern cousins are today.



## Outing Reports

### **Cook Mt., Lake George, NY**

13 December 2008

By Allison Henry, leader

Hike canceled due to an ice storm the previous day. Tom and I went to Pine Hill Park and took pictures of ice-coated trees with my new camera.

### **Emerald Lake, Dorset**

10 January 2009

By Allison Henry, leader

My husband Phil and I were married at Emerald Lake State Park in July 2008 and, in the schedule, I promoted this hike by calling it a celebration of our 6-month anniversary. The groom did not appear on this hike, however – he owns no winter gear!

We still had plenty of people for our hike including some new folks from New York State. When the NYers called to plan a rendezvous with me for the trip, a potential problem was revealed—their local paper had picked up the schedule, but it only said the date, the leader's name and number, and "Emerald Lake, 9:00 AM." The schedule did not specify that we were meeting in Rutland at 9.

Luckily this little detail came up in our phone conversation so our guests were able to arrange to meet us a little later than 9. Additionally, my area code was not included. We talked about these issues at a board meeting soon after, and I believe I was assigned the task of contacting the newspaper directly to ask them to include more information. I guess I'd better get on top of that.

All went well with the rendezvous and we had 17 people, which made a nice long line of hikers marching on the trail! There was only a little snow so snowshoes were

not really needed, but I advised ice grippers or even snowshoes for traction due to a few steep spots including a slippery sidehill right over a culvert full of water.

The trail around Emerald Lake has some interesting features...those of us who like to be in total wilderness were not impressed, but I like to see things other than trees once in a while! We first went up over the culvert (no one fell in!), then UNDER route 7, and then over a train track. We went up the embankment on the east side of Route 7 to a few overlooks only partially obscured by trees. We then climbed and slid back down to Route 7 on the south end of this part of the trail. Some of us purposely slid right down the trail, which must have been quite a sight to oncoming traffic!

After crossing the highway, the trail goes over the guardrail and along the south shore of Emerald Lake, past a swampy area. This area is also the headwaters of our Otter Creek! We had a nice, rambling hike up to the campground and found ourselves a lunch spot at one of the campground's lean-tos.

We saw lots of animal tracks including foxes, bobcats, deer, and bunnies. We then followed a side trail back down to Emerald Lake, and followed the west shore around the lake to the beach area. I saw a fox with very bright orange fur. No one believed me at first, but we were at least able to confirm that I'd seen a fox, if not the actual color, by checking out his tracks.

At the beach, we fine, cultured, mature hikers spent some time on the swings and slides at the kiddies' playground. It was then a short walk back to the cars where we had a fine

post-hike snack of delicious Jones donuts.

### **Shrewsbury Ramble**

17 January 2009

By Barb Griffith, co-leader

One thing we had plenty of last winter was snow! Barry and I had planned on hiking from the "Tin Shanty" in Shrewsbury over to the Governor Clement Shelter. This is a favorite hike for us as it follows the Catamount Trail and a snowmobile trail. The distance is about 4 miles with a slow, uphill climb. We were willing to go but we cancelled due to snow. People didn't want to drive up to Shrewsbury. Perhaps next year.

### **Long Trail in Shrewsbury**

24 January 2009

By Barry Griffith, co-leader

We inherited this hike from Herb Ogden. Since our two scheduled outings this winter had to be cancelled, we were glad we could step in. We convened with old friends and new at the AT/LT parking lot on Route 103. The group climbed up the steep ravine to the north, managing to slip and slide to the top, where snowshoes were adorned. We continued along the trail to the top of the ridge, where all enjoyed the view from the lookout to the south and west. Continuing our journey we kept climbing and stopped at the Clarendon Shelter for lunch. It was cold, so we didn't linger long after we fueled our bodies.

From there we diverged from the Long Trail, and proceeded north up the Gaynor Road. We crossed the Great Roaring Brook at the old bridge site that washed out in 1927 and later was abandoned as a town



## Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      June – August 2009

Visit our web site: <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

### **6 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM    Upper Elevation Trail Maintenance, Killington      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**

On National Trails Day volunteers from all over the country will be out readying the trails for the summer hiking season by clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns, and painting blazes. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, bug repellent and lunch. Tools will be provided.

### **13 June, Saturday, 1:00 PM      Mystery Hike, Shrewsbury      Jerry Parker, 775-6208**

Easy 2-mile hike with great views.

### **20 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Boiling Springs, Chittenden      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**

After several years of searching this elusive site has been rediscovered!  
Moderate, 4 to 6 miles; with some bushwhacking.

### **27 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Paddle Otter Creek, Pittsford      Jerry Parker, 775-6208**

Canoe or kayak past farms and covered bridges from Proctor to Florence.  
Easy, 5 miles.

### **5 July, Sunday, 8:30 AM      Stratton Pond, Stratton      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

Follow the Stratton Pond Trail. Bring swimsuits.  
Easy to moderate, 8 miles.

### **11 July, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Griffith Lake, Mount Tabor      Tom Copps, 770-9394**

A gentle climb on the Old Job Trail, meeting the AT/Long Trail at Griffith Lake.  
Moderate, 7 miles.

### **18 July, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Mad Tom Notch Bushwhack, Peru      Larry Walter, 775-3855**

Follow the brook and old forest roads as well as some bushwhacking.  
Difficult, 8 to 10 miles. May involve a brook crossing.

### **25 July, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Paddle the Poultney, Poultney      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**

A peaceful cruise (canoes or kayaks) along the Vermont/New York border on the Poultney River.  
**Note: Meet at Sears parking lot in the Diamond Run Mall.**

### **31 July, Friday, Midnight      Deadline for Fall Hike Schedule      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**



### **!!! Attention All Outing Leaders !!!**

The next schedule, to be published in August, will include outings for  
September, October, and November.

It's time to contact our Outing Coordinator to claim your dates.

Please call Sue Thomas, 773-2185 now.



**Schedule continued on next page.**



## Killington Section, GMC Outing Schedule

March – May 2009

Schedule continued from previous page.

- 2 August, Sunday, 10:00 AM**      **Thundering Brook Falls, Killington**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
We'll head east on the Appalachian Trail, through Gifford Woods State Park, around Kent Pond, and end at spectacular Thundering Brook Falls.  
Easy to moderate, 4 miles.
- 9 August, Sunday, 9:00 AM**      **Little Rock Pond, Mt. Tabor**      **Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
Hike the Green Mountain Trail to ledges overlooking the pond, then lunch at the water's edge and return via the Long/Appalachian Trail.  
Moderate, 7 miles.
- 15 August, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Prospect Mountain, Lake George, NY**      **Steve Williams, 645-9529**  
A steep climb near the route of an old funicular railway to the site of the former summit hotel.  
Outstanding views.  
Difficult, 3 miles.  
**Note: Meet at the Fair Haven Welcome Center on Route 4.**
- 23 August, Sunday, 9:00 AM**      **Winona Lake Paddle, Bristol**      **Viv & Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
A leisurely paddle in an area rich with bird life. Bring binoculars.
- 30 August, Sunday, 9:00 AM**      **Otter Creek Paddle, Clarendon**      **Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Easy paddle from the Creek Road in Wallingford to Alfrecha Road in Clarendon on the Otter.  
**Note: Meet at Sears parking lot in the Diamond Run Mall.**

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## Turtle Walks Schedule

The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of "Turtle" hikes for seniors and others who wish to enjoy their outings at a somewhat slow and easy pace. The outings typically cover two to four miles, involve limited elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9:00 AM** at the **Godnick Adult Center** on Deer Street off Woodstock Avenue. We return in early to mid-afternoon. Call leaders listed at the right below if you have questions. All are welcome.

- 11 June**      **Hawk Hill, Brandon**      **Roma Pulling, 773-6997**  
Hike past the original, now abandoned, Brandon town center.
- 25 June**      **Pine Hill Park, Rutland**      **Ann Perry, 236-1780**  
Hike some of the new trails in our new park.
- 9 July**      **Mount Independence, Orwell**      **George Butts, 483-2891**  
A Revolutionary War historic site. Views of Fort Ticonderoga and Lake Champlain.
- 23 July**      **Grandpa's Knob, Castleton**      **Tom Cops, 770-9394**  
Climb to the site of the first municipal wind turbine (1940).
- 6 August**      **Lake St. Catherine State Park, Poultney**      **Bob Perkins, 773-0184**  
Bring something to cook; we'll supply the fire. Hike, swim, or just relax.  
Nominal park admission fee. Fee waived with Green Mountain Passport available from town/city clerks.
- 20 August**      **Glen Lake Overlook, Castleton**      **Edith Kellogg, 775-1246**  
Walk along the shore of Glen Lake, then climb to a great view of the lake below.



highway. The foundations of the Bullard family home and barn were observed. Barbara then led us up the rise to the Bullard Cemetery, where we paid our respects to Lucy and John Bullard, who had settled here in 1789.

Continuing our ascent through the overgrown fields, we eventually came out on the Lottery Road, where we inspected the old Town Poor Farm cellar hole. Turning back down hill, we snagged a snowmobile trail, which eventually led us back to the Gaynor Road. We then followed the old town highway down to Route 103 and our vehicles. This was a day to keep moving as it was chilly! However, a good time was had by all.

### High Pond, Sudbury

22 February 2009

By Barry Griffith, co-leader

Alas, this hike to a pond in Sudbury was cancelled due to one of those weekend snowstorms. We had been cautioned not to park in the "parking area" when it was snowing because this was also the snow plow turn around area. For those who wish to do this some time you will find the location and description in the *Day Hiker's Guide to Vermont*.

### Bald Mountain, Mendon

28 February 2009

By Viv & Larry Walter, leaders

We broke a long tradition of experiencing perfect weather for the practice hike in trade for something off the set for Scorsese's *Cape Fear*. We chose to run our loop counterclockwise up the icy skid path from some recent logging. The weather was crisp and clear. That coupled with a pretty stiff wind on the north vista chased us off the top and down to Red Rocks overlook. It was much nicer down there so we broke out lunch and enjoyed a nice view over the airport and south along Route 7.

### Pharaoh Lake, Chilson, NY

7 March 2009

By Allison Henry, leader

For this hike in the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness I chose the Tubmill Marsh Trail, which starts on Route 74 about 10 miles west of Ticonderoga, NY. This trailhead is directly on the highway, which was a good choice because last year the road into the Putnam Pond Campground was not plowed and the driving was hairy.

We debated at length about whether or not snowshoes were needed—there was at least two feet of snow but the trail was extremely well packed. We discussed and hemmed and hawed, and then we made the official decision to go without snowshoes with the understanding that we might return to the car for them. One person did carry snowshoes—I am not naming names. Sure enough, after we'd walked for less than ten minutes and at least two people had fallen off the trail into snow up to their thighs, back to the cars we went. The person who was carrying snowshoes said "I told you so"—I am still not naming names but here's a hint, he has a dog who looks like Toto.

Once in snowshoes, we were able to proceed as planned. The trail goes across a nice dam on Eagle Lake, up an old road, and along a valley floor. We stopped at some interesting icicles that made an excellent backdrop for photos. Barb Griffith posed first, and was the first to fall off a log into the snow, to the delight of those of us with cameras ready. I went next, and sure enough, I fell too. One of the photos that was taken looks like Cindy Kirk pushed me!

After the photo fiasco, we did some climbing around what the map calls Ragged Mountain. On the far side as we descended, we encountered a strange weather

phenomenon. The snow was melted down to bare earth, a warm breeze was blowing, and the weather felt about 10 degrees warmer. An ADK El Nino? Bear breath? A localized area of global warming?

We took a side trail to the Tubmill Marsh lean-to for a leisurely lunch. After lunch it was still relatively early, and we discussed whether to hike further or return to the cars. We ended up splitting up. A few people chose to proceed at a slow pace back to the cars, and the rest of us went on to Honey Pond. After looking at the pond and saying, "Well, there's Honey Pond," we turned around and went back the way we came, and eventually caught up with our other group members who had been enjoying their stroll. They spent the time investigating interesting things like icicles and ferns. We made it back to the cars safely, of course. The drive home felt very long but I think everyone had a nice day.

I've probably walked or jogged this trail a hundred times, but never seem to tire of it. The remaining section included nice views to the west, though an old grove of plantation red pines. The trail eventually circles around for a nice view of Pico, Killington, Shrewsbury, etc. I'm reasonably sure that all 10 humans and Burdock (Jerry's Cairn terrier) enjoyed the day. I'd highly recommend this path to those who haven't walked it. It's only 10 minutes from Rutland to the trail head. Call us if you want directions, or better yet, a guide.

### "Hunt for Spring" on Snake Mt.

29 March 2009

By Sue Thomas, leader

Our hardy band of explorers set out for Snake Mountain in Addison, determined to track down some encouraging early signs of spring. Our findings were as follows:



- 1) frozen mud.
- 2) mud.

But what a view!

### **Mt Zion, Hubbardton**

18 April 2009

By Barbara & Barry Griffith,  
Leaders

April is early to hike the Greens, so the Taconics beckoned. Kit and Mickey Davidson's trails are a delight in any season. Our group included many old friends, but also some new folks who had not been to Kit's before. We were happy to introduce them to this wonderful place. The house was closed and driveway gated when we pre-hiked, so we parked at the Battlefield and walked to the trailheads. We found the drive open, and Kit at his house to welcome us! This gave us a chance to personally thank Kit for welcoming hikers to his well-marked trail system.

To get our blood pumping, we elected to ascend Mt. Zion Major via Mickey's Trail. From the summit we enjoyed the view of the Battlefield and beyond to the north, although to the west Adirondacks stayed concealed by distant clouds. We then descended to the Japanese Gardens, for a repast and a moment of Zen.

After lunch we re-ascended Mt. Zion Minor, where we viewed Kit's gardens below and the Taconic Range to our east and south. No hike here would be complete without a trip to Moot Point, so we proceeded to the trail's southern terminus, where we enjoyed the landscape and took a group picture. After returning to Kit's house we strolled through his fields to the north, for one last view south down the Brittain Brook valley.

While this was the first visit to this spot by some in the group, we are assured they will return and share Kit's special place with friends.

### **Bald Top Hill, Fairlee**

02 May 2009

By Viv & Larry Walter, leaders

We had a good turn out for this trip, despite the drive. Ten people joined us for a trip up the gorge, by some nice waterfalls. It was a bit steep in places, but everyone managed to get through OK. Tom and Larry walked right by a cool, outdoor chime built by a third-grade school class.

The bugs weren't out in force yet, so we could enjoy the steady climb to the summit. You have to walk around some to catch most of the view, mainly to the north, east and west. About the final half-mile is along the ridge which is frequented by ATV's, but none went by on our outing.

Someone had cut out some windfalls on the final climb, so I didn't get to drag Barb and Barry's nice little crosscut over anything. There will be other storms. There's a decent view of Lake Morey off the top of the ridge that Viv and I had not noticed before.

### **Low Elevation Trail Work**

16 May 2009

By Allison Henry, worker

I was in leader Herb's group. Here's a quick run down. First we fixed the sign at the Route 140 parking lot. (Well, Herb fixed it; I provided verbal consultation and moral support). Does anyone know why the railroad spikes at the bottom of the sign post are called "deadmen"? We had some theories but no true conclusions. {Note from

Wayne Krevetski: Allison, they're called deadmen because they're buried in the ground.}

Barb and Dave dug waterbars for the trail going up from the lot while I created a wireless internet for the Village of Wallingford. Don't ask.

Then we drove around to Spring Lake Ranch and dug out the ditches and culverts on the trail between Minerva Hinchey and Patch Hollow. I did some very important investigations on the apple tree in Patch Hollow. Then we returned to the Ranch and Barb sweet-talked a vicious wildebeest so he came over for a photo shoot.

Finally, we drove around to the swinging bridge, and dug out the cables so they won't rust as fast. At least, I think that is why we were doing it. Good news – almost no trash in the Clarendon Gorge area! Someone must've cleaned it up on green up day.

### **Bird Mountain, Castleton**

23 May 2009

By Tom Copps, leader

In spite of threatening skies five of us made the trip up Birdseye on Saturday. Although it was drizzling as we started up and I blindly led us into a patch of virtual rainforest bush, we soon broke out onto a recently proscribed burn area. Jeff, Larry's hiking buddy from the Forest Service in Rochester, said that he had read about it in the Rutland Herald a couple of weeks ago. This is the Bird Mountain Wildlife Management Area and they are trying to improve wildlife habitat. The rest of the trip was top-rate under cloudy but dry skies.



## Photos from some Recent Outings



**Bird Mountain from the Trail Head**



**Hoeing Out a Water Bar**



**Enjoying the View from Snake Mountain**



**View of Lake George from Cook Mountain**



**Lunch Stop at Clarendon Shelter**



**Clarendon Gorge Suspension Bridge**



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 62, Number 3

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

August 2009

## A New Lease on Life for Governor Clement Shelter

Historic Governor Clement Shelter in Shrewsbury, believed to be the oldest shelter still in use on the Long Trail, came perilously close to decommissioning and destruction. Located on a public town road, the shelter had become an attraction for too many drive-up groups who chose to party, often with alcohol and sometimes with firearms. It had become unpleasant, if not actually unsafe, for hikers. The *Long Trail Guide* advised hikers to avoid staying there.



**Governor Clement Shelter, built in 1929**

For over a decade the club, working with our partners including the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the Town of Shrewsbury, the Rutland County Sheriff, and Vermont Department of Forests and Parks, tried various strategies to curtail the undesirable use. Last year the Town Select Board agreed to permit a gate on the road to the shelter. The gate is to be locked during the hiking season but unlocked in winter to allow snowmobile access.

### Eastern Mountain Sports Trail Clean-up Day

Tuesday 15 September 2009

EMS personnel will be working to clean up the area at the Clarendon Gorge Suspension Bridge off 103.

Anyone willing to help should meet at the EMS store in Diamond Run Mall at 9:00 AM



**Clement Shelter Road gate. Note boulders on right.**

So far, the gate has been successful. We have, therefore, tabled plans to abandon and to demolish the shelter and have resumed major maintenance projects, which had been postponed while the future of the shelter was in serious doubt.

The bunks have been removed temporarily and the unique stone walls of the shelter have been repointed. Planning is underway for new interior furnishings and replacement of rotting rafters.



**Unique stonework of Governor Clement Shelter**



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2010 ..... \*John Hale  
" ..... \*Lynda Hutchins  
" ..... \*Cindy Taylor-Miller  
2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... Gerry Martin  
" ..... Herb Ogden

\* Second consecutive 3-year term.  
Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## A Photo from the Past



Do you recognize this young fellow who's testing a new stream-crossing structure on the Bucklin Trail in the late 1960s?

### Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Barry Griffith 68 Griffith Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-3573, [Griff2VT@Vermontel.net](mailto:Griff2VT@Vermontel.net)  
John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, [john@sudokuvt.com](mailto:john@sudokuvt.com)  
Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, [allisonnorton1@gmail.com](mailto:allisonnorton1@gmail.com)  
Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, [lmhutch@shoreham.net](mailto:lmhutch@shoreham.net)  
Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 [wkrevetski@hotmail.com](mailto:wkrevetski@hotmail.com)  
Gerry Martin 998 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-2244, [gdmartin2020@yahooo.com](mailto:gdmartin2020@yahooo.com)  
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Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, [hogden@vermontel.net](mailto:hogden@vermontel.net)  
Bob Perkins, 6 Rachel Dr., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, [RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu](mailto:RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu)  
Sus Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, [purplejeep99@hotmail.com](mailto:purplejeep99@hotmail.com)  
Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, [voorburg00@comcast.net](mailto:voorburg00@comcast.net)



# Outing Reports

## Cook Mt., Ticonderoga, NY

24 April 2009

By Allison Henry, leader

This hike was a reschedule from December. Cook Mountain is a small peak in Ticonderoga – part of the Lake George Land Conservancy. The first time I was there, five or six years ago, it was summer time and the peak was grown in. It is best to go when the trees are still bare. This particular day was very hot, the hottest it has been so far this year. I was pleased to have a good-sized group and, as a good leader, I warned everyone about staying hydrated and wearing sunscreen.

The hike starts off on an old road but then turns off the road and becomes a steep climb. Climb we did, with no switchbacks. A few of us had forgotten, but then were reminded, how hot it can be in the woods when there are no leaves on the trees for shade! We agreed that these were better conditions than we would have encountered following the ice storm in December.

After the steep climb, we reached a saddle, and then a less strenuous climb to the peak. The trail winds around most of the rocky summit area, with nice views in all directions, before reaching an overlook, from which we were able to see Lake George and part of Lake Champlain, as well as many of our favorite peaks but from a different angle. We took lots of photos at the summit, including some of People Sitting on Big Rocks, People in

Trees, and Man Who Fell from Tree.



The man who fell from tree --



posing for a photo op.

On the way down, we enjoyed the views of the Lakes and of the town of Ticonderoga even more – we hadn't noticed the views behind us on the way up.

The best part of the hike was our side trip to the Wind Chill Factory on Route 9N in Ticonderoga, which was only a little out of the way on our drive home. Very generous serving sizes. I had a small cone and the soft serve was about 10 inches high, I swear! We also admired some motorcycles parked in the lot. As we were leaving, we saw an interesting teal-colored beetle (the insect, not the car). A little kid then walked by with a giant cone covered in rainbow sprinkles. A member of our party quietly commented that the

sprinkles are made of beetle eggs. Luckily the kid did not hear him.

## Stratton Pond

5 July 2009

By Sue Thomas, leader

Looking back on the summer of '09 it may seem that the sun never shown and hip-waders were more the footgear of choice than hiking boots . . . gallons of water-proofing were purchased, mold grew on our socks while we were still wearing them, and we all wished EMS would have a sale on zip-off pants in a nice mud-brown color.

So eyebrows were raised when I, the hike scheduler, was blessed with a rare sunny day for my trek to Stratton Pond. Hmm . . . most suspicious! However, it happened, (and I'm not talking) we all benefited and enjoyed our lunch on the sunny shore where one intrepid member even took a dip. A mighty quick one, accompanied by squeals and shrieks, but we who remained on shore are unfit to judge.



Intrepid member in Stratton Pond

After lunch we inspected the work of the resident beavers, who have made the north side of the shore trail their own, cutting off access to their housing complex



with a very effective moat to discourage undesirables like ourselves. It worked.

All in all a great hike. If anyone is interested in learning my secret for ensuring a sunny day, I accept cash, checks, and most major credit cards.

### **Mad Tom Notch, Peru**

18 July 2009

By Larry Walter, leader

This version of the usual Walter hike up Mad Tom included a more faithful retracement of the old carriage route, including three fords of the brook near the ruins of the old bridges. As usual, Tom Cops (with his trusty GPS unit) and I recon'd this hike the weekend before, with the aim of getting on top of the main ridge to the south of the brook for a return loop back to the trail head.

The day of the hike brought a good turnout including Burdock, our official trail dog. We parked at the town office and hoofed it up to the trail head from there. The route was a retracement of where we had hiked in January of '08, except we now had the welcome option of crossing at the first bridge site, about one-half mile from the trail head.

Tom and I had previously busied ourselves with cutting out some of the more obstructive stems of trail debris in this next section, while completely missing the ruins of an old boiler off the north side of the trail. The boiler site has a pretty impressive complex of old diversion channels and such, all within easy view of

the trail. When you hit the boggy nettle patch, just look left.

After wading though crossing number two, to the north side of the brook, we walked along the remains of several impressive stone retaining walls, complete with hand-forged iron support cradles. These improvements and the road were purportedly established by the Equinox Hotel for a tourist buggy route up the creek. Our final crossing to the middle branch brought us to the remnants of an old picnic area where we broke for lunch. There's a decomposing Forest Service sign here with mileage (2 miles?) to Mad Tom Notch.

The trail improves at this point, although it hasn't had any vehicular traffic for quite some time – a good thing. We continued northeasterly up the road about another 2000 feet and then bushwhacked southeasterly to Mad Tom Notch Road, the later a well maintained way. From there we walked the road southerly about a mile, crossing the southerly branch of Mad Tom Brook to where we could bushwhack due west to pick up the top of a said ridge that runs west-southwesterly, paralleling the brook. There are some places where old logging roads provided a pretty good path. Again, no sign of vehicles of any kind.

Jerry managed to find a pretty good overlook from the final high spot before we cut northwesterly down an increasingly sharp spur, working our way past some impressive cliffs. There are some very nice stands of hemlock in this area. Thanks to Tom's GPS, it was

easy to retrace our steps until I led us astray at the bottom of the hill, blundering into someone's back yard. Some stealthy side steps brought us back to the bridge over the brook and a quick hike back to the car.

Aside from a minor abrasion up on the ridge, everyone came out pretty much unscathed. Mission accomplished. It was nice to have an RN along (Terri) to bandage up our temporarily hobbled GMC'er.

Tom and I have already schemed on extending our hike further south along Mad Tom Notch road, eventually tying in with a "4wd" road/trail that runs parallel with and southerly of Little Mad Tom Brook. The big problem will be how to get across the Brook to the railroad bed. Stay tuned for more madness (and fun).

### **Thundering Brook Falls, Killington**

2 August 2009

By Sue Thomas, leader

We actually considered an alternative hike, seeing as days of rain had turned this steep, mostly downhill section of the Appalachian Trail north from Sherburne Pass to slime. We decided that we were up to the challenge, though I had a few flashbacks along the way – who remembers the "year of the monsoon" Annual Meeting in Bridgewater several years ago?

I led this same hike in the deluge, with the added anxiety of having a very pregnant woman along. We decided that day that if you have a baby on the trail you



## **Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      Sept. – November 2009**

Visit our web site: <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

### **7 September, Monday, 9:30 AM      Black Mountain, Dresden, NY      Gerry & Chryl Martin, 492-2244**

Gorgeous views of Lake George, the Adirondacks, and the Green Mountains from the summit. Return via several scenic ponds.

Moderate, 5.6 miles. Some steep climbing.

### **12 September, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Shrewsbury Peak, Shrewsbury      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**

A long loop up Shrewsbury Peak via the Black Swamp Trail to the Long/Appalachian Trail, then down to the Governor Clement Shelter.

Difficult, 8.2 miles.

### **19/20 September, Saturday/Sunday      Silver Lake Overnight, Leicester**

**Allison Henry, 775-1627**

Hike up to the lakeside campground, or join us just for the day.

Call leader for details.

### **26 September, Saturday, 3:00 PM      GMC Headquarters, Waterbury**

GMC Volunteer Appreciation Picnic.

See your Long Trail News for details.

### **27 September, Sunday, 9:00 AM      Winona Lake Paddle, Bristol**

**Viv & Larry Walter, 775-3855**

Rained out in August. We'll try again

### **3 October, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Lost Pond Shelter, Mt. Tabor**

**Allison Henry, 775-1627**

Hike south from Big Branch on the Long/Appalachian Trail to see the newly reconstructed shelter.

Moderate, 6 miles.

### **10 October, Saturday, 8:30 AM      Saratoga Battlefield, Stillwater, NY**

**Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

We'll stop for a tour of the home of General Schuyler, which was burned by Burgoyne and rebuilt in 1777, then go to the battlefield to hike the Wilkinson National Recreation Trail and view exhibits at the visitors center of this important Revolutionary War site.

Easy to moderate, 5 miles. Shorter options available.

### **17 October, Saturday, 8:30 AM      Cardigan Mountain, Canaan, NH**

**Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

Beautiful views from this bald, 3121-foot summit and fire tower. Possible longer hike on to a second summit at Firescrew.

Moderate, 3 to 4.5 miles, 1220-foot elevation gain.

### **25 October, Sunday, 9:00 AM      Mystery Climb**

**Tom Copps, 770-9394**

Leader will choose a summit in the Rutland area.

Call leader for details.

### **31 October, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Fall Trail Maintenance Day**

**Herb Ogden, 293-2510**

Help us get the Long/Appalachian Trail "put to bed" for the winter by clearing out waterbars, removing downed trees, and repairing shelters. Bring sturdy shoes, work gloves, and lunch. Tools provided.

Hallowe'en costumes optional!

**Schedule continued on next page.**



## Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      Sept. – November 2009

Schedule continued from previous page.

31 October, Saturday, Midnight      Deadline for winter hike schedule

Sue Thomas, 773-2185



### !!! Attention All Outing Leaders !!!

The next schedule, to be published in November, will include outings for

December, January, and February.

It's time to contact our Outing Coordinator to claim your dates.

Please call Sue Thomas, 773-2185 now



**1 November, Sunday, 8:30 AM      Haystack Mountain, Wilmington      Viv & Larry Walter, 775-3855**

View from the 3445-foot summit includes Monadnock (NH), Greylock (MA), and Glastonbury (VT).  
Moderate, 4 miles, 1025-foot elevation gain.

**7 November, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Fall Trail Maintenance Day, II      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**

Another fall work day. We'll finish up our trail maintenance for the year. It's a fun way to contribute to a great local resource. Tools provided.

**14 November, Saturday, 8:30 MA      Path of Life, Windsor      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

Our annual hunting season ""safe"" hike this year will be a visit to this unique and interesting trail on the shores of the Connecticut River built by Buddhist monks and now maintained as a public garden. We'll also get to explore one of the canoe trail campsites, a challenging hedge maze, and some teepees. Bring lunch for a picnic at river's edge, or buy it at the Harpoon Brewery.

**21 November, Saturday, 6:00 PM      Annual Fall Potluck Supper      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

Bring a dish to share and your own plate and utensils and join us for our annual event. Slide program on the Himalayas. All welcome.

## Turtle Walks Schedule

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**3 September      Lye Brook Falls, Manchester      Bob Perkins, 773-0184**

One of Vermont's higher waterfalls, on the edge of the wilderness. Moderate

**17 September      Governor Clement Shelter, Shrewsbury      Roma Pulling, 773-6997**

Hike to what is reputed to be the oldest shelter on the Long Trail. Easy

**1 October      Mount Tom Trails, Woodstock      Edith Kellogg, 775-1246**

Hike to the Pogue and enjoy some of Mount Tom's carriage roads. Easy.

**15 October      Greendale Trail, Weston      Bob Perkins, 773-0184**

Travel along Greendale and Jenny Coolidge Brooks on gravel roads and wooded trails. Easy

**29 October      Lefferts Pond, Chittenden      Tom Capps, 770-9394**

A pleasant, leisurely walk around the pond. Moderate



are obligated to name it after the nearest shelter. Therefore the areas around Caughnawaga and Melville Nauheim are particularly to be avoided.

This year's discussion was equally interesting. Over lunch at Gifford Woods we compared notes on the many colorful terms we'd heard over the years for . . . "a call to nature", "a separation", "see a man about a dog", "communing with nature", "find a pink (or blue, depending on the gender) tree". I wouldn't be surprised to find whole websites devoted to the subject. My favorite came from a friend who went on an organized trip where they each took their turn with "Mr. Trowel".

Raising the tone a bit, we continued on past the beautiful series of waterfalls and Kent Pond, and ended on the new boardwalk at Thundering Brook Falls, reaching the car just in time to escape the inevitable rain.

### **Lincoln Gap - Appalachian Gap**

#### **A Bitts and Pieces Make-up**

6 August 2009

By Steve Williams Leader

As readers of these columns may recall, on 12 October 2008 the Gang of Six (Rich and Lindy Brown, Tom Copps, Alison Henry, Cindy Oas-Kirk and Steve Williams) completed the final 2.6 miles of the Long Trail from North Jay Pass to "Journey's End" at the Canadian Border, having started their quest for the Long Trail two years previously. However, the writer had missed one leg, the 11.3 miles from Lincoln Gap to Appalachian Gap

and it was not until 6 August that he managed to accomplish this. In company with his friend and fellow Killington Section member Barbara O'Connor, daughters Nicola Culmo and Sara Jones, grandsons Brian Culmo and William Jones and son-in-law Pete Culmo, Steve left the Lincoln Gap trailhead at 7:50 AM, the group having left home in Pawlet at 5.30 that morning.

The 11.3 mile stretch is typical Long Trail, sometimes smooth, sometimes rocky, periodically steep, sometimes muddy, sometimes dry, and frequently "rooty". The section is notable for having seven peaks, Mount Abraham, Little Abe, Lincoln Peak, Nancy Hanks Peak, Cutts Peak, Mount Ellen and General Stark Mountain (a minimal peak which was passed over without recognition). The section is also notable for having five chairlifts come up to the ridge, two ladders on the descent to simplify tricky pitches, great views over Lake Champlain, across to the White Mountains and north and south over much of the Long Trail territory. Even if not generally agreed to be the best of the 29 legs, it certainly has a claim to be so. The weather was great, some clearing fog in the morning, then periodic sunshine all day long with temperatures in the mid sixties. While everyone else enjoyed the views provided by the clearings at the lift sites the two grandsons enjoyed sitting in ski-lift chairs on every possible occasion. They also introduced some new elements to hiking; Brian by tree climbing and later, after descending the two ladders, ascending the pitches via rocks,

roots and trees as a challenge. William by transporting a toad for four miles in his pocket and then claiming its new environment to be superior to its starting point.

The \$1 per head sweepstake on the completion time was won by Nicola with an estimated arrival time of 6:29 PM, versus our actual arrival at 6:46 PM.

The completion was celebrated at Appalachian Gap with champagne, followed by dinner at the Bobcat Restaurant in Bristol. The dinner was just fine, though conversation did lag somewhat as a result of the day's efforts.

Steve extends his heartfelt thanks to the other five of the Gang of Six and to all those who joined him on this his final leg.

### **Prospect Mountain (NY)**

#### **Deer Leap (NY)**

15 August 2009

By Steve Williams, leader.

This proposed attempt at Prospect Mountain (adjacent to Lake George Village) was a replacement for a scheduled hike last December, which was postponed because the planned date was found to be still within the New York hunting season. Accordingly, Barbara O'Connor and Steve Williams arrived at the advertised meeting place (the Fair Haven Welcome Center) at 8:55 AM expecting one or more cars of cheery Killington Section hikers to join us. Not a one; a situation which still prevailed at 9:35 AM. So, what to do? Repeat our trial run by ourselves? (A bit tedious). Go to Aviation Mall for a retail experience? (Hardly in a true



hiking spirit). Visit Starbucks? (Hardly sustainable all day long). Eat an ice cream? (Yes). Hike somewhere else? (Yes).

The ice cream was selected as the first order of business, at Bolton Landing on the way to the selected hike: Deer Leap, an overlook towards the northern end of the lake. However, surprise, surprise. Acquiring an ice cream in Bolton Landing at 10:45 on a sunny Saturday morning in August was by no means easy. The first potential source was

only serving breakfast, Ben & Jerry's next door was still closed, and the restaurant next to that only opened at noon. But trusty Stewarts came through, even if short on the style one would have hoped for in Bolton Landing.

The Deer Leap trail is a one-mile spur off the Tongue Mountain Range Trail, starting about half a mile in from the trailhead on route 9N. An easy enough trail through open woodlands with an elevation gain of a few hundred feet. The end

point was some slabs at about 400 feet above the lake, opposite Hulett's Landing on the Lake George eastern shore, and within sight of some of the lake's northern islands. In other words, an easy Saturday afternoon ramble with some worthwhile views.

The day concluded with a search for kayak launching spots at the northern end of the lake; four were found, two on the east, two on the west.

## Killington Section Directors Meeting

By John Hale, Secretary

The Board of Directors of the Killington Section met on at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, 16 June 2009 at the Midway Diner in Rutland, President Barry Griffith presiding.

Board members present were President Barry Griffith, Vice President Wayne Krevetski, Secretary/Treasurer John Hale, Lynda Hutchins, Gerry Martin, Allison Henry, Herb Ogden, Cynthia Taylor-Miller, and Sue Thomas. Also present was guest Bob Perkins.

The **Minutes for the 28 March 2009 Annual Meeting** as presented in the May 2009 *Smoke & Blazes* newsletter, were considered. Bob P. and John H. corrected the Treasurer's Report as presented in the newsletter: 2008 Total Income is correctly stated as \$4,632.88 but one income item was left out of the presentation, namely \$267.00 received from the EMS Kayak Raffle. In all other respects, the

Minutes for the 28 March Annual Meeting were correct and it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the amended Minutes.

John H. presented the **Financial Statements** for the period 31 December 2008 to 15 June 2009. Total assets were \$25,071.97 including \$19,292.36 in certificates of deposit and \$5,679.61 in checking accounts. Total income for the period was \$1,061.01 consisting primarily of membership dues of \$935.75; and total expenditure for the period was \$666.56 consisting primarily of newsletter printing and postage. The Financial Statements were approved as presented.

Lynda H. presented reports of the **Main Club's Annual Meeting** and the most recent Club Director's Meeting. The Annual Meeting was held on 30 May at the new headquarters building, one of the "greenest" buildings in Vermont.

Lynda indicated that departing GMC President Richard Windish reported on the new HQ building completion and the fact that the Club ended the year with a \$150,000 profit, the first in five years. Senator Leahy was instrumental in our receiving a \$270,000 HUD grant.

Lynda's full reports are available from the Secretary by request.

### Herb O. presented the **Trails and Shelters Report**:

- This summer, the Governor Clement Shelter will have a new roof; and the stonework will be re-pointed/repared (see below). In preparation for the re-pointing, the KS will remove the existing old bunks. There was a general discussion of the configuration of any new bunks.

- Herb requested anyone with KS tools to report them to his inventory efforts.



- Herb reported that the trails in our Section are in the best shape we have seen in five or even ten years, owing primarily to the large number of volunteers in action.

- Herb floated the idea that since Wayne K. is also on the Main Club's Trail Management Committee, he (Herb) be allowed to step down. There was a general murmur of discomfort and the idea was dropped.

- Herb suggested that KS research archives and generate a local trail/club history to be placed on the Club web-site and/or to serve as a part of the KS centenary in 2011 (the Killington Section was formed in 1911.)

Bob P. and Sue T. reported solid, good, and unchanged situations from the **Smoke & Blazes Editor and the Outings Director** positions respectively.

A proposal for **stonework repair at Governor Clement Shelter** was discussed. Wayne K. has personally used Steve Morris of Sudbury in a number of stone projects and recommends him. Steve's proposal is for \$6,760 for 13 day's work (\$520 per day) less four donated days for \$2,080, for total labor of \$4,680 plus estimated material costs of \$353. The overall total cost to us could be as much as \$5,033, or less if the job takes less than 13 days.

Considering that the Appalachian Trail Conservancy grant of \$3,000 for use on the Clement Shelter has been confirmed, the out-of-pocket cost of this project could approach \$2,033. Practically, the

stonemason's bill would be presented to the Main Club along with KS's check for any balance over \$3,000 and Waterbury would pay the mason, sending also an acknowledgment of the donation.

A general discussion ensued: whether to get a second quote, who should sign the proposal document, the terms of any dollar advance, etc.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to authorize the expenditure of up to \$2,033 at Wayne K.'s decision about which contractor to use of those bidding, to repoint and repair the existing stone wall at the Governor Clement Shelter; the choice of contractor to be made within two weeks.

Gerry M. offered Charles Austin of West Rutland as possible contractor and Herb O. offered the name of George Smith. Gerry and Herb will make the original contacts and direct any interest to Wayne K. who will interview and follow through on the estimate process. It was recognized that the "best" contractor might not be the lowest dollar bidder. In any contract, the only money's advanced will be for the invoiced cost of materials.

In order to save the Section money, Wayne K. offered to cut out the existing bunks with a chain saw and he will also be responsible to posting notices on the trail at significant distances from the shelter to alert hikers to its closing for repairs.

Wayne K. also accepted responsibility for contacting Roy Arthur about replacing the

**Governor Clement Shelter roof**, the expected cost for which is \$460. The authorization for this expenditure was approved by the Board at the 10 June 2008 meeting.

It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that Herb O. should have Section member Larry Walter reset the Section's **crosscut saw** for a cost of up to \$100.

Wayne K. reported on this year's **Long Trail Festival** to be held at the Vermont State Fairgrounds on 7, 8, and 9 August. Plans are progressing well: this year children's programs will be expanded. Wayne seeks hike leaders for the Sunday and both Allison H. and Herb O. offered their services.

Sue T. reminded everyone that she needs donations for the **KS raffle basket** for the ATC Conference this summer.

Sue also brought the **Cooper Lodge's demolition** to mind. She would like to arrange a get-together at the Lodge before it is to be demolished, for Section and Club members, Cooper relatives, etc. with donated food and little cost to the Section. She suggested that the Section might contribute funds in support of those who would find the cost of the \$15 round-trip gondola ride onerous. We will discuss this further when a demolition date has been set by the Main Club.

Barry G. set **Tuesday 29 September as the next Board meeting** date and adjourned the meeting at about 8:30 PM.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual.....\$40  
Family.....\$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer.....\$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_\_publications, \_\_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 62, Number 4

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

November 2009

## Section Workers Put Trail to Bed for Winter and Address the "Foot Bath in the Wilderness" Syndrome

by Herb Ogden, Trails & Shelters Chair

On 31 October and 7 November, ten and eleven people respectively turned out to get our trails ready for winter. Waterbars and side ditches were cleared between Patch Hollow and Minerva Hinchey Shelter and between Jungle Junction and Tucker-Johnson Shelter on the Long Trail, between Jungle Junction and the Sinkholes on the Sherburne Pass Trail, and on the entire Bucklin Trail.

With another dozen people or so, we could have completed the job by clearing the waterbars and side ditches between Governor Clement Shelter and Cooper Lodge on the Long Trail, on the lower mile of the Sherburne Pass Trail, and on the Cauty Trail up Blue Ridge Mountain. Even so, this is a better cleanup job than we usually manage.

The crew of Larry Walter, Dave Coppock, and Wayne Flewellig cleared some 70 waterbars and ditches on the Long Trail and the upper Sherburne Pass Trail, besides crosscut sawing out several blowdowns. We also crosscut sawed blowdowns on the Long Trail north of Jungle Junction and on the Bucklin Trail, and we brushed the Bucklin Trail and the Long Trail from Keiffer Rd. to Gould Brook and from US Route 4 to Tucker-Johnson Shelter.

Many bog bridges (sometimes called puncheon) were added. Cindy Miller, Steve Williams, Dave Coppock, and Tom Coppock installed 28 feet of puncheon south of Minerva Hinchey Shelter; Sue Thomas, Tom Copps, Ruth Hare, and Barb Griffith installed 40 feet north of Keiffer Road; and Larry Walter, Ted Molnar and Herb Ogden installed 24 feet north of Cold River Road. That represents twenty green hemlock planks each two and a half inches thick by eight inches wide and between eight and ten

feet long and twenty sills to hold them up, each six inches square and three feet long. Thanks to Barb Griffith and Dave Coppock for transporting the lumber and to Spring Lake Ranch for letting us use their road! Except for one plank south of Jungle Junction and two bog bridges not far north of US Route 4, this completes our plan for bog bridging.



Killington Section members installing puncheon

As recently as 2003, there was no bog bridging that was installed by the Section except a few rotten puncheons in the Coolidge Range. Since then, the Section's work parties have installed about 140 feet on the Long Trail, 60 feet on the Cauty Trail, 30 feet on the Sherburne Pass Trail, and 20 feet on the Bucklin Trail. Add to that a substantial length added by the Long Trail Patrol during relocations on Bear Mountain and in the Coolidge Range in 1998, plus later work, and the result is a lot less mud and happier feet.

Thanks to all who made this possible.



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2010 ..... \*John Hale  
" ..... \*Lynda Hutchins  
" ..... \*Cindy Taylor-Miller  
2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... Gerry Martin  
" ..... Herb Ogden  
\* Second consecutive 3-year term.  
Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## A Photo from the Past



Killington Section members Bob and Thelma Perkins, 1949

## Herb's Treasurer Hunt III

OK, folks, you couldn't solve the last one, so I'll make this one easier by referring only to present trails and shelters. Begin at the structure named for a long-time secretary of the Club. Hike in the direction of the only aircraft beacon that is right on our section of the Long Trail. After passing the first old foundation that lies just right of the trail, turn left on the next highway. Take your next left, on an abandoned highway. Cross the Appalachian Trail and continue on the abandoned highway until you reach a paved road. Where the Long Trail crosses the paved road, go south to the next shelter. What river have you crossed?

A prize for first correct answer sent to Herb Ogden (contact info below),

### Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

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John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, john@sudokuvt.com  
Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, allisonnorton1@gmail.com  
Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, lmhutch@shoreham.net  
Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 wkrevetski@hotmail.com  
Gerry Martin 998 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-2244, gdmartin2020@yahooo.com  
Cindy Taylor-Miller, 337 East St., Wallingford, VT 05773, 446-2288, ctmiller@vermontel.net  
Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, hogden@vermontel.net  
Bob Perkins, 6 Rachel Dr., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu  
Sus Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com  
Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



# Outing Reports

## Green Mountain Trail to Little Rock Pond

9 August 2009

by Allison Henry, leader

A week before the hike, two hiking buddies and I scoped out this trail and had a lovely time. Gorgeous weather, only a little mud, and a nice swim. For some reason I thought this would also lead to a lovely time on the actual date. Not so much. The weather was grey and threatening rain, but a small group still showed up, raring to go. A rendezvous with a newcomer/nonmember in the Mt. Tabor area went as planned, so our little group was rounded out to five.

The Green Mountain Trail going up from Forest Service Road 10 is muddy and overgrown, but still a pleasant climb with a few views here and there. A few miles into the hike, one member of our party, our newcomer, twisted an ankle. He indicated little pain and wanted to go on, so on we went.

The sky was getting darker so we opted to lunch on top of Green Mountain in the trees for some cover, rather than at an overlook. Right as we sat down for a chilly lunch, down came the cold drizzle. To add insult to injury, your leader brought no baked goods due to a very busy week. So we snacked on some Starbursts for dessert. Not even chocolate!

On we went to check out a few of the overlooks above the pond. As we descended the trail down to the pond, over ledges of increasing steepness, our guest's ankle pain worsened. The good news is that despite the drizzle, the trail was still pretty dry and thus not too slippery. We went around the north end of the pond and along the eastern shore, passing few hikers other than a group of arguing, screaming children

jumping off the rocks. Even though it was raining I envied them—this Landshark always loves a swim!

Our guest's ankle continued to get worse. He borrowed some hiking poles for support and we also took several rest stops. It was still a long, difficult walk for our injured guy. He kept a good attitude and kept apologizing for holding up our hike, even though we told him apologies were unnecessary. That evening I talked to our guest who was feeling better thanks to some painkillers and help from family in the area.

## Silver Lake, Leicester

19 September 2009

by Allison Henry, leader

This hike was originally planned as an overnight with the instruction "contact the leader for details." A few days before the hike, several folks signed on for a day trip only. As for the overnight part, I got a few vague expressions of interest and a few definite responses of "NO" but no serious commitments. So, the pile of backpacking gear in our spare room remained untouched. Finally, the evening before the hike, I learned that several people were in fact interested in spending the night. I looked at the tangle of backpacking gear and said, "Argh." So the hike was renamed a day hike due to the leader's lack of interest in last-minute packing. Lesson learned: if planning a hike requiring an RSVP, give a contact deadline! All went well with the rendezvous and drive to the trailhead, and we had absolutely gorgeous weather. On the way up the trail, we checked out the Falls of Lana, and also took some time to straighten out some rumors regarding several of our members' personal lives (you had to be there). We had a happy, sunny lunch on the beach of Silver Lake. Following lunch, we

played an important and much-anticipated game, "Wheeee!" No, that is not a misspelling of a video game console. If you have been to Silver Lake, you have probably seen the channel from Sucker Brook that feeds into the lake—it has concrete walls and fast moving water, with a bridge over it. I take great delight in throwing things over the bridge (sticks, branches, fellow hikers) and saying, "Whee!" as they shoot the rapids. After this mature and dignified pastime, we followed the trail around the lake. Our forester was able to cut a few small blow downs with his saw collection. Near the end of the lake loop, we stopped for a long break on one of the rock slabs on the lakeshore. While sitting there, we spotted a crayfish sitting on the lake bottom. A very brave hiker picked it up, and found that it was actually two crayfish embracing, one much more lively than the other. What was the explanation for this scenario? Death match? Resuscitation? Or the most obvious, a mating ritual? The crayfish weren't talking. For a finale to our hike, we descended behind the dam and climbed to a view looking west toward Lake Dunmore and the Adirondacks. A few years ago the caretaker at Silver Lake had told us this is one of the best views of Vermont, and I don't think any of us were disappointed on this trip.

## Lost Pond Shelter, Mt. Tabor

3 October 2009

by Allison Henry, leader

I chose this hike not only to see the newly rebuilt Lost Pond Shelter, but also to visit Big Branch, which is a great brook. The weather for this trip was a little grey, but the cloudy skies made the oranges and reds in our vibrant foliage even brighter! Our large, friendly group also made the day seem bright. This hike began



with an easy climb to Big Branch Shelter, where a few of us had pictures taken in front of a carving on the shelter wall reading, "I Am Here Now." Very confusing, since even though I have a picture of me in front of "I Am Here," now I am here, and not there.

We proceeded one at a time across the Big Branch suspension bridge, carefully heading the sign that says, "Bridge Weight Limit: One person." We reached Lost Pond Shelter and found it still standing. As we ate lunch, it began to pour, and we noted that the shelter would probably last at least a few days because it was so "moist." The shelter is very well built with a high platform and plenty of hooks for hanging gear, as well as a large overhang. Thank you to the Manchester section for their hard work!

As we finished our lunch a southbound section hiker appeared. He happily accepted an offer of fruit, but seemed just as happy to see us go so he could have a little piece and quiet. After lunch, Barb led us on a side trip to find the start of the trail to Lost Pond Bog. We ultimately opted to stick to our original itinerary, but, now we know how to get there! Our return trip to the trailhead was much like our trip in: silly conversations, photos of foliage, and tiptoeing across Big Branch Bridge. Another successful trip!

### **Saratoga Battlefield, NY**

10 October 2009

by Sue Thomas, leader

The Killington Section has always enjoyed combing a good hike with a little history, so we headed down to the Saratoga Battlefield for a little of both. On the way we made a stop at the site where settler Jane McCrea was murdered by Indians and was relieved of her long black/red hair (contemporary accounts differ as to the color, but 4

out of 5 settlers surveyed agreed that she was exceptionally beautiful)

Our next stop was the Phillip Schuyler house in Stillwater where a park ranger gave us an excellent tour. General Burgoyne commandeered Schuyler's country estate and used it as his headquarters during his less than happy battle vacation. They say that fish and houseguests start to stink after 5 days, and he proved to be the worst kind—on leaving, rather than write a nice thank-you note he burned the place to the ground. Kind of puts obnoxious Uncle Ralph who merely spits and hogs the remote into perspective. General Schuyler sent workers up from Albany to salvage the hardware from the rubble and had the house rebuilt in no time. Anyone who has experienced endless delays while renovating the bathroom can't help but be impressed.

We also checked out a small roped-off area on the lawn where a snapping turtle had laid her eggs several months before, and no action had been seen. The rangers had decided they wouldn't hatch at all, but I have since learned from that scholarly source, the Mark Trail comic strip in the Sunday paper, that if laid late in the year they will sometimes go dormant and resume development in the spring. Hopeful news, a blessed event may still occur.

On to the battlefield, where we ate our lunch on the deck enjoying a sweeping view of the valley. The Wilkinson National Recreation Trail took us through the fields and woods where in September of 1777 this pivotal battle of the Revolution took place, with significant sites marked along its four and a half mile length. A highlight is the monument honoring Benedict Arnold's leg, surely one of the world's most bizarre tributes. Arnold was the big hero of the battle, but by the time the monument was erected had landed in the doghouse so his name does not appear anywhere on it—just a

depiction of his leg, which was injured in the fighting.

We ourselves unexpectedly came under fire when we emerged from the woods to find an encampment of Redcoats! They fired their muskets and as they charged at us with bayonets drawn, I foolishly expected our brave menfolks to throw themselves in front of us ladies...but alas, chivalry is indeed dead

We got a tour of the camp though and a whiff of some delicious-looking stew cooking over the fire. We were able to make our escape when a troop of boy scouts distracted the soldiers' attention so that we could scurry back to the neutral territory of the parking lot.

On the way home we made one more stop at the graves of Jane McCrea and of Duncan Campbell, a member of the Black Watch killed at Ticonderoga during the French and Indian War and whose ghost is said to walk the ramparts on dark and misty nights.

### **Cardigan Mountain, NH**

17 October 2009

by Sue Thomas, leader

The morning was gloomy and it had snowed in the higher elevations, so enthusiasm for the long drive to New Hampshire to climb Cardigan lagged a bit. Its rocky summit can be treacherous when icy and the cloud cover promised no views as a reward.

Exhibiting more optimism than sense, we decided to go anyway – we had to, I'd made treats. Lo and behold, we passed thru a magic portal at the top of Sherburne Pass; it was a completely different day on the other side. Blue sky and sunshine made the snow-covered mountains beautiful and the climb more appealing.

We took the longer route to the summit (we'd also taken the longer



route to New Hampshire, but enough said about that!). This route takes you along the ridge top with gorgeous views and makes the summit, a massive dome of rock topped by a fire tower, look very dramatic and a bit daunting. We hiked thru our first snow of the season, but fortunately the rocks were clear, as it's straight up from the ranger's cabin. Very straight up! But what a view from the summit – we could see the Presidentials, snowy white, and to the west our "home" mountains.

I was glad I'd packed hot chocolate. Even in the sun we got a reminder that winter would be along soon, so haul out your wooly underwear.

### **Path of Life Garden, Windsor**

15 November 2009

by Sue Thomas, leader

Hurricane Ida was not in a very "zen" mood on Saturday, and exuded almost two inches of bad Karma throughout the state. Regarding it as merely another speed bump in the path of life, we rescheduled our annual hunting season trip to Sunday instead.

Nine of us made the trek to Windsor to explore the Path of Life Sculpture Garden on the shores of

the Connecticut River. Originally built by a Buddhist colony now gone from the area, it is now being maintained as a public trail.

We picked up a map and explanatory guide and entered the garden by passing thru a tunnel beneath the railroad tracks. From there the trail led us thru many stations, each symbolic of an aspect of life creatively represented by sculpture and constructions made of natural materials.

The path of life of course is never without challenges— our first being a complicated maze constructed of bushes which proved to be surprisingly difficult. We took many wrong turns leading to dead ends, dispatched scouting parties and retraced steps only to find we'd forgotten which routes we'd already tried— it gave us a new appreciation for blazes and made us wish we hadn't left our lunches in the cars! This way and that, we went, completely fuddling Tom's poor GPS unit— I'm sure I heard it whimper.

Finally one of our advance party reached the center and rang the bell! Success! But how fleeting, now we had to find our way back out. Reread previous paragraph.

We continued on to the Tree of Wisdom, spun prayer wheels, and a few took a side trip to explore one of the Connecticut River Canoe Trail campsites.

Huge Easter Island-like faces carved out of charred wood were especially intriguing and I was excited to find Elegant Stinkhorn mushrooms growing around another station. There were bee hives nearby and a sign praising the bees for working for the good of the community without complaint. Hmm I'm not sure all that buzzing doesn't include a grumble or two.

By now we were reaching our later years in the path of life and a much-deserved "respite", consisting of a hammock set in the woods by a burbling brook and a small waterfall. Yes! That's my idea of a reward!

A winding spiral path led us to enlightenment, followed by death and rebirth, then back out thru the tunnel for lunch at the Harpoon Brewery – from the spiritual to the spirits.

After lunch we took a quick hike around Lake Runnemede, and admired the beautiful old houses of Windsor.

## **Killington Section Directors Meeting**

by: John Hale, Secretary

The Killington Section directors met at 6:00 PM on 29 September 2009 at the Midway Diner in Rutland with President Barry Griffith presiding.

Board Members present were: President Barry Griffith, Vice President Wayne Krevetski, Secretary/Treasurer John Hale, Lynda Hutchins, Gerry Martin, Herb Ogden, and Sue Thomas.

Also present were guests Bob and Thelma Perkins

The Minutes for the 16 June 2009, Board Meeting were reviewed. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Minutes as presented.

John H. presented the Financial Statements for the period 12/31/2008 to 9/29/2009: Total Assets \$25,346.81 including \$19,539.70 in certificates of deposit and \$5,807.11 in checking accounts. Total income for the period was \$1,628.85 consisting primarily of membership dues of \$1,357.25; and total

expenditure for the period was \$960.56 consisting primarily of newsletter printing and postage. The Financial Statements were approved as presented.

Lynda H. presented reports of the Main Club's recent Director's Meeting:

- Current income for the Main Club is down from last year and the endowment value has been reduced by about \$1,000,000. It's the economy.
- Ben Rose announced that the



Federal stimulus funds have been received; the amount, \$65,000, was processed through the National Forrest Service and is considered sufficient to pay for about two years of Club construction projects.

- The Club Centennial Book is now available for purchase.
- Centennial celebrations are being planned. The actual date on which the Club was formed was March 11, 1910. Separate celebrations are being planned by the Main Club and some of the Sections.
- Six shelters were rebuilt during this 2009 year.
- The Appalachian Trail Conference sponsored by the Club was a success with 910 attendees (and more than 300 volunteers), generating a \$17,000 profit for the Club.
- The Club long range financial plan has been completed; the range is from 2011 to 2015.
- The Jay Peak legal action against two felons, who cut trees on Club property, is headed back to court: one perpetrator is contrite and paying his fine; the other is neither and will likely be taken back to court and faces actual time in the penitentiary.

Lynda's full report is available by request of the Secretary.

Herb O. presented the Trails and Shelters Report:

- The Governor Clement Shelter masonry repairs have been completed to everyone's full satisfaction. When the Main Club presents an invoice, Killington Section will pay in the \$2,033 previously approved as our share. The locking gate mechanism has proved effective; there has been no vandalism. As to the new roof, it

appears that roofing material may be provided by the State of Vermont (according to adopter Roy Arthur) and the snowmobile club is still set to do the roof work yet this fall. The installation of additional bunks in the shelter is under discussion, and, once the design is agreed upon, President Barry G. will poll the Board for approval to buy any extra materials.

- Cooper Lodge is still scheduled for demolition but will not in fact be demolished without significant prior notice.
- The Churchill Scott Shelter. In an arrangement with the City of Rutland, the Killington Section agreed to provide signage about the use of the privy. Herb O. proposed sign wording two years ago to comply with our agreement but the City has yet to respond. Herb will write again to the City to get approval so we can post the appropriate signs.

Herb's full report is available by request of the Secretary.

Sue T. spoke as Outings Director, about the continuing need for hike leaders coming forward earlier in the scheduling process.

Allison H. brought up the question of injuries on Club hikes (by proxy). The subject was discussed at some length. The Main Club carries insurance which extends to each of the Sections. Lynda H. will seek clarification of the insurance policy, its effects, coverage, reporting responsibilities, etc., and also inquire about any "injury policy."

Sue T. and Barry G. mentioned that there is a Leaders Handbook available from the Main Club. Bob P. will write and publish an announcement about the availability of the Leaders Handbook in the next

newsletter. Lynda H. will question the Main Club about on-line availability of the Handbook. N.B. Ben Rose, on being contacted about this question, agreed to add this query to the agenda for the next meeting of the Legal, Insurance and Risk Management Committee of the Main Club, which is chaired by Rick Windish; we will be informed of the outcome. This year's Long Trail Festival was a success with about 1,000 people attending. Especially rewarding was the fact that more families and families with children attended this year. Next year's Festival will be held on August 7, 2010.

The EMS Kayak Raffle is to be held this coming weekend, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. We still need volunteers to host the raffle table. It was suggested and agreed that before next year's raffle, a special "KS Alert!" will be placed in the newsletter, requesting volunteers.

The fall potluck dinner will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup> this year.

Wayne K. proposed that the Killington Section centennial celebration might be a fund-raiser dinner at the New Long Trail Inn, say on 5 or 6 June, possibly with a silent auction. There was general support from the Board and Wayne agreed to pursue the details to be presented to the Board for final approval. N.B. Ben Rose, in conversation with Kathy Krevetski, gave a positive response to our proposal.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, 2 February 2010 at the Midway Diner.

President Barry G. closed the meeting at about 8:00 PM.



## Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      Dec. 2009 – Feb. 2010

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

### 5 December, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Mount Tabor Area      Herb Ogden, 293-2510

Mount Tabor south End to Mount Tabor village via the old Emporium Lumber Company logging railroad., the UH & DS (Up Hill and Damn Steep) and logging roads with a side trip to Baker Cemetery and an optional ascent of Money Cobble  
Easy, 2.5 miles, 400-foot elevation gain..

### 12 December, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Cadwell Loop, Pittsford      Tom Copps, 774-5144

Hike, snowshoe, or ski depending on conditions on one or more of the Pittsford Trails.  
Easy, 2.5 to 5 miles.

### 20 December, Sunday, 12:00 Noon      Spring Lake, Cuttingsville      Bard & Barry Griffith, 492-3573

Walk or snowshoe, depending on conditions, around Spring Lake and environs.  
Moderate, approximately 3 miles.

### 9 January, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Merck Forest, Rupert      Steve Williams, 645-9529

A woodland ramble. Snowshoes may be needed.  
Moderate, 3 to 4 miles.

### 16 January, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Chittenden Brook, Rochester      Viv Bebee & Larry Walter, 775-3855

Ski or snowshoe on a wood road.  
Moderate, 4 to 5 miles.

### 23 January, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Bomoseen, Castleton      Sue Thomas, 773-2185

Ski or snowshoe past abandoned quarries to a beaver pond and look for animal tracks.  
Moderate, 4 miles.

### 30 January, Saturday, 9:30 AM      Grandpa's Knob, West Rutland      Tom Copps, 774-5144

Snowshoe to the site of Vermont's first wind tower (from the 1940s) for great views.  
Moderate, 3 miles, 1000-foot elevation gain.

### 7 February, Sunday, 10:00 AM      Hot Dog Roast      Steve & Roma Pulling, 773-6997

Join us for a visit to Gifford Woods State Park for our annual winter cookout. Bring your own hot dogs or whatever you want to roast over the campfire. Hot drinks will be provided. Snowshoes may be needed and we'll have a short hike to work up an appetite.  
Easy,

### 14 February, Sunday, 9:00 AM      Pond Woods State Forest, Orwell      Bill Holt & Joan Davidson, 537-4227

Hike or snowshoe across frozen ponds and up and down rolling hills and dales hoping to see animal signs along the way.  
Moderate, 5 to 6 miles.

### 20 February, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Little Mad Tom, Peru      Larry Walter, 775-3855

Part three of Larry's quest. Snowshoes will be needed.  
Difficult, 8 miles.

### 28 February, Sunday      Long Trail & AT to Gifford Woods      Dorothy Sullivan, 436-2019

A Joint outing with the Ottauquechee Section. Snowshoes will be needed.  
Moderate, 3.5 miles. Call leader for time and details.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

Your Invitation to Join

### Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

**ANNUAL DUES:**

Individual..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677





Volume 63, Number 1

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

February 2010

# ***Happy Birthday***

## **Green Mountain Club**

### **March 11, 1910 – March 11, 2010**

#### **Centennial Year Events**

11 March, Thursday  
GMC Birthday Party, South Burlington  
*See Long Trail News*

27 March, Saturday  
**Killington Section Annual Meeting and Potluck**  
*See Outing Schedule insert*

7 May, Friday  
Dinner at Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe  
*See Long Trail News*

15 May, Saturday  
**Lower elevation Long Trail maintenance**  
*See Outing Schedule insert*

22 May, Saturday  
GMC Annual Meeting, Waterbury Center  
*See Long trail News*

5 June, Saturday  
National Trails Day  
**Higher elevation Long Trail maintenance**  
*See Outing Schedule insert*

5 June, Saturday  
**Dinner at Inn at Long Trail**  
*See page 7*

16 July, Friday  
Barn Dance, South Londonderry  
*See Long Trail News*

26 July, Monday  
Long Trail Relay Hikers arrive at Route 140  
*See Long Trail News*

7 August, Saturday  
**4th Annual Long Trail Festival, Rutland Fair Grounds**  
*See May Smoke & Blazes*

**The Green Mountain Club: founder, sponsor, defender, and protector of the Long Trail**



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2010 ..... \*John Hale  
"..... \*Lynda Hutchins  
"..... \*Cindy Taylor-Miller  
2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
"..... Allison Henry  
"..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
"..... Gerry Martin  
"..... Herb Ogden

\* Second consecutive 3-year term.  
Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... John Hale

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## A Photo from the Past



Dedication of the new suspension bridge at Clarendon Gorge, 1957

## Herb's Treasure Hunts (cont.)

Remember Herb's poser (rated difficult) from the May S&B wherein he asked for the number of shelters a hiker would pass on his convoluted route? Well, Sue Thomas finally saw through Herb's deviousness and came up with the answer: "None". Was that fair, Herb?

Dale Christie was the first to solve the treasure hunt from the November S&B. The river to be crossed was "Mill River", (also being crossed in the photo above).

Sue and Dale received antique Guide Books and the Kirk Fund received donations in their names.

## Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

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John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, john@sudokuvt.com  
Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, allisonnorton1@gmail.com  
Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, lmhutch@shoreham.net  
Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 wkrevetski@hotmail.com  
Gerry Martin 998 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-2244, gdmartin2020@yahooo.com  
Cindy Taylor-Miller, 337 East St., Wallingford, VT 05773, 446-2288, mrsrgorp@gmail.com  
Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, hogden@vermontel.net  
Bob Perkins, 6 Rachel Dr., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, RobertPerkins@alumni UVM.edu  
Sue Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com  
Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



# Outing Reports

## The U.H. & D.S.R.R., Mt. Tabor

5 December 2009

by Herb Ogden, Leader

This was probably the only Killington Section hike that followed most of an abandoned railroad. To be sure, we've hiked parts of the Delaware & Hudson Rail Trail in Poultnery, Pawlet and Rupert, and we've followed a little of the lumber railroad on the way to Lye Brook Falls, but those were only small parts of the entire Rutland & Washington Railroad or the Lye Brook lumber railroad respectively. In contrast, this hike took in about 80 per cent of the Emporium Forestry Company's railroad that ran for about 2.5 miles north from a mill in the South End part of Mt. Tabor. It operated from about 1906 to 1916. Locals called it the U.H. & D.S., short for Up Hill and Damned Steep. It used four switchbacks to climb from Otter Creek to the fairly level shelf that skirts the base of the Green Mountains south of Mt. Tabor Village. According to William Gove's chapter in *Rails in the North Woods* (North Country Books 2nd ed. 1999), it had only one locomotive, a homemade geared machine called the Clyde, and several logging cars. He says only two were used at a time on account of the grade.

We began at South End Road about a tenth of a mile north of where the logging railroad used to cross it, heading due east on a road to a deer camp. We had permission from its owner, William Gaiotti. After several hundred feet, we struck the former railroad at a clearing and headed pretty much north on it. It went through a cut and curved around the edge of the Otter Creek marshes. It was pretty soggy in places until it climbed away from the marsh. Crossing two small brooks, it switched back and headed

south, recrossing the same brooks. At the second switchback, down over the edge of the railbed, I pointed out the frog of an old switch. We pondered why it was left when no ordinary rails remained. We then headed back north, crossing the same two brooks again. We looked for hardware at the third switchback, which ended at another brook, but found none. There was considerable rockwork at the fourth switchback and in a little causeway north of it. We also began to pass stone walls, probably part of what the 1869 *Beers Atlas of Rutland County* shows as the Foley farm.

A couple hundred feet north of a log landing, we turned west from the old railroad to visit the Baker-Foley Cemetery, where the last burials were from the 1850s. It lies about a hundred feet south of a road that continues on to the public Norse Lodge Road off US 7. We also visited a big cellarhole a couple hundred feet east of the cemetery before returning to the railroad.

The railroad soon diverged from the woodroad that we had followed since the log landing, heading north across a slightly swampy area on a little causeway with side ditches. It crossed yet another brook, followed the woodroad for a little, then headed northeast and apparently ended at a stone loading platform at the base of the mountain. We backtracked the woodroad and followed it north along the east edge of a big swamp and beaver pond. Possibly a logging railroad could have run here, but the railroad aficionados among us opined that it just didn't feel like a former railroad. After crossing another brook, we emerged onto a drivable road that led us down to the village of Mt. Tabor (Brooklyn to us locals). On the way, we passed a small square structure with thick cement walls, a thick cement roof, and an

iron door with a lock. I joked that it was an unusually sturdy outhouse. Actually, according to folks who know Mt. Tabor history, it was built to store blasting powder the CCC used to build Forest Road 10 east to Landgrove. A little farther along was a "two-holer" made of similarly sturdy construction, and soon after that we reached the U. S. Forest Service work camp. By then, what had begun as a snow flurry at the cemetery had turned into a real snowstorm that began to cover the bare ground. Consequently, we decided to use the car I had spotted rather than hike back along a different route.

## Merck Forest, Rupert

9 January 2010

by Steve Williams, leader

A recent snowfall, sunshine, and a moderate temperature, (15 to 20 degrees) made the day ideal for a snowshoe ramble. In spite of this, participation was limited. Sue Thomas and Tom Copps from Rutland and Barbara O'Connor and the leader from Pawlet. The route followed Old Town Road and Lodge Road to the track up to the Spruce Peak viewpoint, and then Lodge Road and Gallup Road back to the barns. Snow scenery was great, many snow clusters on shrubs and trees and, for much of the route, virgin snow on the track.

Criteria for a lunch spot were defined as a place with a view, but also out of the wind, not necessarily compatible objectives. The matter was resolved by selecting an open equipment barn on the side of one of the area's large meadows. However, the barn's rafters were home to a large number of doves, most of whom vacated as the group arrived; the remainder then periodically disturbed the peace as they decided that the time had come to move out. For aesthetic reasons the barn floor



being covered with snow was definitely a plus.

### **Bomoseen before the Thaw**

23 January 2010

by Sue Thomas, leader

We just squeaked in a last low-elevation snowshoe trip before the January thaw took away all of our beautiful snow. No doubt a different adjective will come to mind after our annual April blizzard, but in January the snow is still welcome, and it provided a canvas for a variety of tracks that day. My, but the little woodland creatures had been busy! Foxes, squirrels, rabbits, deer, fishers, turkeys, grouse, and a variety of little scurrying things kept us busy trying to figure out what they'd been up to.

In some places there were regular varmint highways; in others the tracks ominously stopped a short distance from their hidey-holes. Imagine: you start down the driveway, cup of coffee in paw, to get your morning paper, and ZAP!! Mr. Owl has breakfast. It seems that the paper boy tossing your *Rutland Herald* in a puddle is not actually the worst way to start your day.

The best find of the day was a number of otter slides, including what was easily the longest one I've ever seen. I think we stumbled on the training track for the Olympic luge.

After lunch al fresco at the "Park Avenue Café" we continued on to pretty Lily Pond and boldly ventured across the ice to inspect some over-ambitious beaver chews. We returned to the cars along the shore of Lake Bomoseen, passing several historic buildings made of native slate, and remnants of quarries and mill operations on the site.

Note: As of this writing the Vancouver Olympics are still in progress. No word yet on the results of the otter luge, but we're rooting for our local athletes.

### **Gifford Woods, Killington Annual Hot Dog Roast**

7 February 2010

by Roma Pulling, leader

On a mostly cloudy and cold [I mean GLACIAL] winter morning we met at the park bundled like Eskimos. After some good-natured banter about the level of intelligence required to start on a morning like that, we headed for Gifford Woods State Park on the mountain, only to encounter another problem. From about Wheelerville Road to Noel's Restaurant, the road was icy and Steve's truck tried to take matters into its own hands and travel from side to side instead of forward. Steve was able to persuade it to stay on the traveled portion of the road, but we saw instances where vehicles had ended up in the ditch.

In order to give the other drivers some input in deciding whether to continue up the mountain or return to Rutland, Steve stopped beside the road. Both other drivers expressed their willingness to continue, and after a short distance road conditions improved. Eight people had left Rutland and five others joined our group for a total 13 at the state park.

Steve loaded all the supplies on his toboggan, secured them with his bungee cords, and with Jerry's help to keep it upright, pulled it to a lean-to named "Cherry." First, the snow had to be shoveled from the outdoor fireplace in order for Steve to start a fire while I set food stuff on the table and Jerry Parker led a group on a short hike on the Appalachian Trail.

The hikers returned about noon for the cookout. Each person had brought hot dogs or sausages and cooked them over the open fire on twigs which Sue had provided for that purpose. Steve boiled water in the club pot so that all those who so desired could have a hot drink courtesy of the Killington Section. The menu was fleshed out with cookies and potato chips donated by the hikers.

When everyone had eaten all they could, it was time to pack up for our return trip. Hooray! The road conditions had improved during our time on the mountain, and we arrived home without further incident.

## **Killington Section Directors Meeting**

by John Hale, Secretary

The Killington section Directors met at 6:00 PM on 23 February 2010 at the Back Home Again Café in Rutland with President Barry Griffith presiding.

Board members present were: Barry Griffith, President; Wayne Krevetski,

Vice President; John Hale, Secretary/Treasurer; Lynda Hutchins; Gerry Martin; Herb Ogden; Sue Thomas; Allison Henry; and Cynthia Taylor-Miller. Also present were guests Cathy Thomas and Bob Perkins

The **Minutes for the September 29, 2009, Board Meeting** were reviewed. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Minutes as presented.

Treasurer John H. presented the **Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2009.**



## **Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      March – May 2010**

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

- 7 March, Sunday, 9:00 AM      Catamount Trail, Mendon      Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Trek from Brewers Corner north on the Catamount ski trail to Route 4  
A 6-mile moderate snowshoe or a difficult ski.
- 13 March, Saturday      Burnt Mountain, Shrewsbury      Connie Youngstrom, 492-3502**  
A combination cross-country ski and snowshoe; ski to the base of the mountain and then snowshoe up and around.  
Five miles, with some challenging terrain.  
Call leader for meeting time and place.
- 21 March, Sunday, 9:00 AM      Fayville, Glastenbury      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Walk, ski, or snowshoe to an abandoned logging town in the mysterious "Glastenbury Triangle".  
Moderate, 4 miles.
- 27 March, Saturday, 5:30 PM Killington Section Annual Meeting, Rutland      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Bring a dish to share and you own place setting for a potluck supper followed by a short business meeting and election of officers. All are welcome!  
Meet at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Hillside Avenue, Rutland.
- 28 March, Sunday, 10:00 AM      Bald Mountain, Mendon      Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
Work off the potluck supper with a hike on the Bald Mountain loop. Great views.  
Moderate 3.5 miles with some steep climbing. Grippers may be needed depending on conditions.
- 3 April, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Silver Lake, Leicester      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
We'll be joined by Bill Powers, author of "Silver Lake, Beyond the Mists" for a hike to the site of an old hotel on the lake shore. Bill will share historic photos and stories about the area.  
Moderate, 3 miles.
- 10 April, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Battenkill State Forest, Cambridge, NY      Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
Cross the border.  
Moderate; 5 miles.
- 18 April Sunday, 9:00 AM      Crown Point Road, Weathersfield      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Hike along a section of the original military road and visit historic Grout cemetery.  
Moderate 3 or 4 miles with a possible stream crossing.
- 24 April, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Natural Bridge, Dorset      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Climb on old roads to this geologic oddity and descend via bushwhacking along the course of a beautiful marble streambed with sculpted gorges and waterfalls.  
Moderate, 3.5 to 4 miles with 900 feet elevation gain. Some very steep grades
- 2 May Sunday, 9:00 AM      Birds and Wild Flowers      Connie Youngstrom, 492-3502**  
A slow-paced hike to a locale of the leader's choosing to identify spring wild flowers and returning migrant birds.

**Schedule continued on next page.**



## Killington Section, GMCOuting Schedule

March – May 2010

Schedule continued from previous page.

- 8 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Winona Lake, Bristol**      **Larry Walter & Viv Bebee, 775-3855**  
Canoe or kayak on a beautiful pond.
- 15 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Long Trail Spring Cleaning**      **Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
All are welcome to help prepare the trail for the summer hiking season. We'll clear water bars, trim brush, and cut blowdowns on the lower-elevation stretches. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and lunch; tools will be provided. Have fun while doing a good deed.
- 22 May, Saturday**      **GMC Annual Meeting, Waterbury Center**      **GMC, 244-7037**  
This year's annual meeting of the Green Mountain Club will recognize the club's 100th birthday with activities on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at club headquarters on Route 100 in Waterbury Center. There will be a variety of hikes to choose from on Saturday. See your *Long Trail News* for details.
- 23 May, Sunday, 9:00 AM**      **Lake Ninevah Area, Plymouth**      **Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
Explore old roads and trails and visit the gravesite of a Revolutionary War-era soldier.  
Moderate.
- 29 May, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Ethan Allen Cave, Salisbury**      **Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
Purported to be the site where the Green Mountain Boys hid out. See it and decide for yourself. Optional extra short climb to a view point.  
Moderate, 4 miles.
- 5 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **National Trails Day Maintenance, Killington**      **Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
Volunteers all over the country will be out today clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns, and painting blazes, readying trails for the summer hiking season. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and lunch; tools will be provided.



### Senior Shuffle

The Killington Section would like to thank Roma Pulling for her many years of leading the "Senior Shuffle" hikes, along with husband Al. Roma has now retired from the job, but we'd love to keep the tradition going. If anyone is interested in taking over leadership of the "senior Shuffle" (one easy, non-threatening, or slow-paced hike per schedule) please contact hike coordinator Sue Thomas at 773-2185. Thanks, again Roma!

Left: Roma recording attendance at Minerva Hinchey Shelter on the Valentines Day Senior Shuffle Hot Dog Roast, 14 February 2009.



- Total Assets were \$23,721.57 including \$19,553.81 in certificates of deposit and \$4,167.76 in checking accounts.
- Total income for the year was \$2,367.46 consisting primarily of membership dues of \$1,707.75.
- Total expenditure for the year was \$3,324.41 consisting primarily of \$1,163.56 in newsletter printing and postage and \$1,943 for the Section's share of expenses associated with the new stonework at the Governor Clement Shelter.
- The only financial transactions since the year end have been a \$100 contribution received and membership dues received of \$502.50.

It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Financial Statements as presented.

Herb O and Wayne K. presented the **Trails and Shelters Report and Planning**. Herb requested Board members to review the Projects listed to assure that the information is currently valid. Some highlights:

- In early May, a site visit with Dave Hardy is planned to scout a Trail relocation to avoid the Hermit Spring bog.
- The General Electric people are again interested in volunteering.
- A bridge is envisioned for the Trail crossing at Gould Brook which will probably be a two year project given abutment challenges on one side (GE engineer volunteers could be of use here.)
- The bunks at Gov. Clement Shelter will start with one lower level with allowances and provisions for an upper level should it be desired later. This project is scheduled for 1 May this spring starting at 10:00 AM at the Shelter. About four workers will be required.

- The Gov. Clement Shelter roof repair has been offered to be done by Shelter Adopter, Roy G. Arthur utilizing shingles provided by the State of VT.
- Options were discussed for a section of the Trail north of Lower Cold River Road which does not drain.
- A very steep and eroded section of the Bucklin Trail was discussed with an eye to possibly creating a switch-back.

The full Report and Planning document is available from the Secretary on request.

Barry G. presented some **upcoming events** and their dates:

- The Main Club is hosting a **Centennial Anniversary Gala** at the Doubletree Hotel in Burlington on 11 March. A \$10 donation is sought and reservations are requested.
- The Killington Section will hold its **Annual Meeting** and pot luck on 27 March at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.
- Wayne K. will firm up the **EMS Club Day and Raffle** date, expected in the middle of April.
- The Main Club will host a **fund raiser dinner at the Trapp Family Lodge** on 7 May. The cost is \$100 per person and Governor Howard Dean will speak.
- Section Low Elevation and Upper Elevation **Work Parties** will be held on 15 May and 5 June respectively.
- The Main Club's **100th Annual Meeting** will be held at the Waterbury Center Headquarters on 22 May.
- The **Killington Section Centennial Celebration** will be held at the Inn at the Long Trail on 5 June starting at 6:00 PM. Club Executive Director Ben Rose will be the speaker at this \$25 per person dinner buffet.

There will also be a raffle and raffle items are to be given to Kathy Krevetski for this event.

- The Main Club is sponsoring a **Long Trail End-to-End Relay Hike** starting on 17 July. Participation will be quite limited to reduce the ecological impact.
- The Fourth Annual **Long Trail Festival** will begin this year on 7 August.

Lynda H. presented a report on the **Main Club Board Meeting** of 23 January held in the Forest Center at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, Woodstock, VT.:

- The Club's financial position has improved; we may end the fiscal year in the black. The line of credit has been repaid, publication income is strong and investments have rebounded.
- Business memberships are to be offered at various donation levels. The Club's goal is to exceed 10,000 members. NB: current Club membership is 8,914.

A copy of Lynda's full report is available on request of the Secretary.

Bob P. is looking for new authors and more articles for the *Smoke and Blazes* publication.

The **Board of Directors** terms of John H., Lynda H. and Cynthia T-M all expire at the Annual Meeting on 27 March this year. Lynda offered to continue as GMC Board representative as a regular member and is authorized to that function in our Bylaws. Allison H. would accept the position of Secretary if offered. John offered to continue the work of the treasury function under the direction of a to-be-elected new Treasurer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.



## Another Source for Long Trail News and Networking

by Allison Henry

There are several options for those who prefer to get their Long Trail information online. The Green Mountain Club's website is the obvious start. You can also become a "Fan" of the GMC on Facebook or join several other LT-related groups on Facebook. *Whiteblaze.net*, an internet forum geared primarily toward Appalachian Trail thru-hikers, also has lots of user-provided information about the Long Trail and other trails.

Last spring, a new website, *www.longtrailhiking.info* was started by a friend of the LT, Joe Figura (trail name Rolling Stone), a self-described "displaced New Englander" who currently resides in Montana). Rolling Stone graciously agreed to an "e-interview" last November. He explained that he started the website to provide a "one stop resource for basic information about thru-hiking the LT and to offer a user-generated online thru hiking companion. In addition we wanted to bring awareness to younger folks about the GMC's mission." The site manager's focus on encouraging us to support the GMC is clear throughout the website. There are links to the official GMC website as well as strategically placed gentle reminders to donate directly to the GMC. Other sections of the website include links to GMC and LT-related events, community members' trail stories, and a whole section describing camping opportunities in Vermont.

When you visit the website, you are greeted by a banner linking to the latest Green Mountain Club news. There is also a description of the Long Trail, its basic history, and the mission of the GMC. The opening page of the site also explains the site's goals as such: "...in conjunction with the Green Mountain Club, we

present to you Long Trail Hiking and we hope that this special place on the web will be a stopping point for you as you plan your journey on the Long Trail. And when you're done with your journey, come back, log into the hiker network and post a blog and photos of your trip to share with others."

*Longtrailhiking.info* is a mix of general trail information as well as interactive forum sections where the reader can access current information and add additional news and updates to help others. First, the "Trail Info" section starts with links to an online version of the GMC's End-to-End Guide. The page linked to the guide once again reminds us that if we find the information helpful, we should donate directly to the GMC or consider buying a copy of the End to End Guide or the waterproof LT map. An individual reading the site, whether a hiker, a local business owner, a trail angel, or simply an interested member of the community, can add comments about changes or updates to Trail-related services and Trail conditions. A subsection of the E2E page is the "Shelter Guide" where recent comments have been posted about shelter repairs, animal activity, and so on. Another feature of the website is the "Web Boards" portion which is a traditional discussion forum, with topics such as "Gear", "End to End Planning", and "Flora and Fauna." Still another section of *Longtrailhiking.info* is the LT Hiker network. This is a social networking site where the user can create a profile, make "friends" with other users, post pictures, etc. Rolling Stone has indicated that hikers can also create their own trail journals on the site, and trail-related businesses can create a group on the Hiker Network much like has been done on Facebook.

Rolling Stone has not yet completed the whole Long Trail, but has "ambled up and down the Trail," mostly in the southern sections. Both of his two attempts at an End to End of the LT with his teenage daughter were cut short. He has hopes of finishing an End to End trip this summer. He has been doing parts of the AT since 1986 and is planning an AT thru-hike in the near future. Rolling Stone has had some interesting, yet rather familiar experiences while hiking on the LT. On he and his daughter's first day on their first attempt at thru-hiking the Long Trail, right at the Pine Cobble Trailhead, two women staggered out of the woods in front of them and demanded directions to the nearest Dunkin Donuts. They have also been denied a good night's sleep by a woodpecker and a raccoon (on separate nights).

The *Longtrailhiking.info* site is indeed a "one stop resource" for members of the LT community. Visitors to the site can access current information about LT conditions, link up with other LT hikers, and find details about services in nearby towns, while still being reminded of the importance of supporting the Long Trail ourselves.

Visit

*Longtrailhiking.info*

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## Quilting, Anyone?

Members of the Killington Section are once again working on a quilt to be raffled off at the fall volunteer luncheon to benefit the Green Mountain Club. We had a lot of fun last time, but the more hands the better! If you'd like to help out with sewing, attend a "quilting bee", or sell tickets, contact Sue Thomas at 773-2185.



The Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club  
&  
The Inn at Long Trail  
Present

**The Green Mountain Club's Celebration of a Century**

The Inn at Long Trail  
Route 4, Sherburne Pass  
Killington, Vermont

Saturday, June 5, 2010

at  
6 o'clock pm

Guest Speaker  
Ben Rose, Executive Director

**"Looking Ahead to the Long Trail's Second Century"**

\$25 per person

Fabulous all inclusive buffet dinner served

Cash bar and entertainment  
Raffle with lots of great prizes

Reservations for dinner can be made on line at [www.innatlongtrail.com](http://www.innatlongtrail.com)  
or call the Inn at 802-775-7181

Discounted Lodging at Inn for weekend with full breakfast also available

All proceeds to benefit the Green Mountain Club  
For more information or to volunteer to help  
contact Kathleen & Wayne Krevetski at 802-779-1485

The Killington Section will also host a volunteer work day on the trail on  
Saturday, June 5 and also will sponsor a local hike on Sunday, June 6.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 63, Number 2

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

May 2010

## Long Trail Festival at Rutland Fair Grounds

By Wayne Krevetski

The Rutland Long Trail Festival, a celebratory gathering to inspire individuals to participate in the outdoors will take place on Saturday, 7 August 2010 at the Vermont State Fair Grounds in Rutland. Admission is free and camping on site is available for \$5 per person for the weekend.

The summer 2009 issue of *AT Journeys* highlighting Rutland City as a trail town and referring to our festival as "an awesome day of festivities, education activities and relaxation geared toward the whole family". Last year *Backpacking* magazine also cited Rutland as "the best place to raise children as thru-hikers."

Another "Hard Core" volunteer workday is scheduled for Sunday 8 August. In previous years the "Hard Core" crew worked on the Appalachian Trail (AT) Thundering Brook Falls relocation, helped to repair the suspension bridge over Clarendon Gorge, and replaced the roof on Tucker-Johnson Shelter...

Headed up by local musician Phil Henry, the superb talent of Vermont musicians is putting this festival on the map and making it a must stop for hikers and their families as they come through Vermont this summer.

## GMC Club Days at the Mall

By Wayne Krevetski



"Mad Hatter" Krevetski at Diamond Run

Again this spring the Killington Section was represented at the EMS Club Days Event at the Diamond Run Mall. Thanks to Tom Copps, Allison Henry, Wayne Krevetski, and Cindy Taylor-Miller, the section was able to get the word out about the Long Trail and the Green Mountain Club. Though traffic at the Mall was low due to the great spring weather outside, a good number of people stopped at our table to look at the display and get information on the club and membership.

As a side issue the section also received \$84.00 in donations from people shopping at EMS during the event. Thanks again to those that could help out and keep an eye out for future information about the Fall Club Day event.

## Gov. Clement Shelter Restoration

By Herb Ogden

Early in May, Wayne "Mad Hatter" Krevetski, his sons Sean and Devin, and Cindy Taylor-Miller (Ms. Gorp) built a beautiful new sleeping platform at Gov. Clement Shelter. It is level, its height is just right for sitting on the edge, and it lightens up the space greatly.

The old double deck bunks had been removed so the mason could restore the stonework last fall. The bottom bunks, at least, dated back to around 1965. They were hardware cloth, installed by my father. When the hardware cloth developed holes, they were boarded over. The upper bunk was at an uncomfortable slant and had little headroom. Good riddance! We will add upper bunks only if the demand is present. The restoration of this historic shelter will be finished once Shelter Adopter Roy Arthur and his snowmobile club crew replace the roof shingles.

Thanks again to the Town of Shrewsbury for turning the road into a legal trail so a locked gate could prevent the rowdy parties and vandalism that had made staying at Gov. Clement a chancy business and had put the shelter on the path to demolition. Now it's a real gem.

See *Trails & Shelters* page 4



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... Gerry Martin  
" ..... Herb Ogden  
2013 ..... Viv Bebee  
" ..... Tom Copps  
" ..... Steve Williams

\* Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary ..... Allison Henry  
Treasurer ..... Gerry Martin

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## Photos from the Past

One day in 1972 the late Robert West, prominent Rutland lawyer and legislator, was cleaning out his basement at 65 Center Street in Rutland preparatory to selling the building. He ran across two wooden boxes, which he donated to the Rutland Historical Society.



The boxes contained nearly one hundred 3-by-4-inch glass slides with photographs from the early days of the Green Mountain Club and the Long Trail. We don't know who originally collected these pictures, but it can be no coincidence that prior to 1977 the office of the Green Mountain Club was in Rutland and, for a time, next door at 63 Center Street. The slides remained at the Rutland Historical Society, unknown to many, until recently when they were converted into a half-hour program on a modern digital medium for more convenient viewing.

The premier showing is scheduled for the Killington Section Centennial Celebration at the Inn at Long Trail on 5 June with future showings on *Historically Speaking*, the Historical Society's program on PEG Channel 15, on Wednesdays at 4:00 PM, Thursdays at 1:30 PM, and Fridays at 7:30 PM through most of June..

## Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

Viv Bebee 14 Belmont Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 775-3855, vib@sover.net  
Tom Copps 78 North Main Street, #3, Rutland, VT 05701, 774-5144, tcopps@sover.net  
Barry Griffith 68 Griffith Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-3573, Griff2VT@Vermontel.net  
John Hale, 170 Spooner Point or PO Box 506, Castleton, VT 05735, 273-2293, john@sudokuvt.com  
Allison Henry 47 West St., #1, Rutland, VT 05701 775-1627, allisonnorton1@gmail.com  
Lynda Hutchins, 10 Hibbard Hill Rd., Orwell, VT 05760, 948-2770, lmhutch@shoreham.net  
Wayne Krevetski 22 Roberts Ave., Rutland, VT 05701 282-2237 wkrevetski@hotmail.com  
Gerry Martin 998 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-2244, gdmartin2020@yahoo.com  
Herbert Ogden, 214 South End Road., Mt. Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, hogden@vermontel.net  
Bob Perkins, 6 Rachel Dr., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu  
Sue Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com  
Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



## Killington Section Directors Meet

By Allison Henry, Secretary

The Killington Section Annual Meeting was held on 27 March 2010 at the First Lutheran Church following our potluck dinner, led by President Barry Griffith. Board members in attendance were: Barry Griffith, President; Lynda Hutchins, Delegate to Main Club; and directors Gerry Martin, Cindy Taylor-Miller, Sue Thomas, and Allison Henry; also about 20 members of the Section. Absent Board members were: John Hale, Wayne Krevetski, and Herb Ogden.

Barry reminded us that the Green Mountain Club was formed in 1910 and the Killington Section was likely formed in 1911. Barry also reviewed the section by-laws, noting that later in the meeting we'd be electing three new directors, as three current board members would not be eligible for re-election having served two consecutive 3-year terms.

On behalf of Secretary/Treasurer John Hale, Barry referred to minutes from the 2009 Annual meeting, and it was passed to accept the minutes as presented. Reference was made to the Treasurer's report for 2009, as published in the most recent *Smoke & Blazes*. Upon motion, these were also accepted as presented.

Lynda Hutchins reviewed her Main Club report from the last General Meeting taking place on 21 March 2010, with the following highlights. See Lynda for more details.

- The Main Club is in the "black." Merchandise sales are under budget, but ahead of last year. The 2009 Appalachian Trail Conservancy annual meeting at Castleton brought in some income. The cost for salaries has gone up six to seven percent due to an "active field season," but much of this comes from federal stimulus

money. -At GMC's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party celebration in Burlington on 11 March, a skit was presented showing the history of the club. Steve Williams was in the skit as Ambassador Bryce, having been recruited for his fine British accent! You can visit YouTube to view the performance.

- The club is continuously working on improving its online presence to connect with members and potential members who prefer the Internet to paper communications. A new software program is in progress.

- Congratulations to us—resolutions were passed at both the State and Federal level praising GMC's stewardship of the Trail. Dick Krompegal and Tom Simmons were recognized by the Main Club for service.

- The Main Club's new budget is 1.5 million dollars, up from the past two years. Stimulus money is still available, and they are anticipating another "active field season."

- Publications updates: A new waterproof map of the Camel's Hump area is now available. This is smaller than the official Waterproof Long Trail Map but similar in design. The *Day Hiker's Guide to Vermont* is being revamped. They are taking out the "Rambles" section, as short walks will now be addressed in an upcoming Walker's Guide. The new edition of the *Day Hiker's Guide* will also include more loop hikes that connect with part of the Long Trail. The *Section Leader's Handbook* is also being revised.

- The club now has a new insurance policy which has better coverage.

- A relay hike of the Long Trail is being planned for July and

August as part of the Centennial. Lynda emphasizes that we must contact Ben Rose directly if we wish to participate. More information is available on the Club's website.

Minutes from the 23 February 2010 Directors' Meeting were presented briefly by President Griffith on behalf of Secretary/Treasurer John Hale.

Highlights from Trails and Shelters, also presented by Barry Griffith.

- There will be a Trail relocation in the Shrewsbury area to avoid a bog. This was even in the "Legal Notices" section of the Rutland Herald.

- We still need a bridge for the Gould Brook crossing between the Cold River Roads. There is still a possibility of this project getting taken on by volunteers from General Electric.

- The stonework at Governor Clement Shelter is completed. Bunks will be added on 1 May. The shelter adopter is doing roof repairs; shingles provided by the state.

- We are considering possible improvements near the Cold River Road and on the Bucklin Trail to reduce erosion.

- Barb Griffith gave compliments to Tom Shanahan for putting big rocks in Gould Brook, making the crossing much easier.

Smoke & Blazes update from Bob Perkins: Always looking for contributions, hike write-ups, and articles.

Outings report from Sue Thomas: Will be working on next



schedule in May. Leaders are always welcome. Please call me!

Volunteer opportunities this spring: EMS Club Days 23/24 April (sit at a table at the mall and try to convince people to become a member in order to receive the Club Days discount); Booth at the Sunshine Daydream Festival at Killington on 17 April.

A question was raised about getting our outing schedule onto the online calendar at the Main Club's website. While our schedule printings do not coincide with the printings of the Long Trail News, the online calendar might be updated more frequently. Barry or Bob will investigate.

Upcoming Centennial celebration events were reviewed by President Griffith; refer to the front page of the February 2010 S&B or to the main club's website for details. The Killington Section will be hosting a party at the Inn at Long

Trail on June 5<sup>th</sup>, National Trails Day. Ben Rose will be the guest speaker, and Killington Section Friend and Spouse Phil Henry will be the musical guest. It will be a buffet-style dinner, and the tagline for the event is "closer, cheaper, better entertainment." Other upcoming events were noted: the Main Club Annual Meeting on 22 May and the Long Trail Festival on 7 August.

#### Election of New Directors

Barry expressed the Section's thanks to the three outgoing directors: to John Hale for his service as Secretary/Treasurer, (as well as another thank you to Al and Roma Pulling for their past service), to Cindy Taylor-Miller for contributing experience and wisdom, and to Lynda Hutchens, our liaison to the Main Club. Lynda is not eligible for re-election as a director but the bylaws do not state the liaison must be a director.

Four members were nominated for the three directorships to be filled: Viv Bebee by Sue Thomas; Steve Williams by Chryl Martin; Tom Copps by Steve Williams; Chryl Martin by Allison Henry. Chryl respectfully declined the nomination, and moved that the nominations cease and that we elect the slate of three candidates. Barb Griffith seconded Chryl's motions, making Viv, Tom, and Steve our new Directors to join continuing directors Barry, Wayne, Sue, Allison, Herb, and Gerry.

A brief Director's meeting was held to appoint officers. Barry Griffith and Wayne Krevetski will remain as President and Vice President, Allison Henry was appointed Secretary; Gerry Martin was appointed Treasurer, and Lynda Hutchins will continue as our Delegate to the Main Club with Allison Henry as alternate.

The-meeting adjourned at about 7:40 PM.

#### Trails & Shelters from page 1

Also early in May, Sector Checkers Cindy Taylor-Miller, Steve Williams and Barbara O'Connell, Connie Youngstrom, Barbara and Barry Griffith, and Viv Beebe were out checking their sectors of the Long Trail and reporting what work was needed where. As a result, the 14 May Lowland Work Parties were successful. On a beautiful spring day, a dozen people cleared brush, dug out waterbars and side ditches, and sawed branches and blowdowns from Wallingford Gulf to about a mile north of Gov. Clement Shelter. Except for a few wet spots, this entire trail is now in good to excellent condition.

Some of the wet spots north and south of the Lottery Road in Shrewsbury probably will be avoided by relocations soon. GMC Director of Field Programs and a small Killington Section contingent walked my proposed relocations early in May. Depending on U. S. Forest Service approval, the trail south of Lottery Rd. will head north along the road, cross a small brook, and cross a small wet area on bog bridging before heading south through pleasant, dry woods to join the present route before it heads up Beacon Hill. This will avoid the perennial mud wallow along the edge of the cow pasture. To the north of

the Lottery Road, roughly between Hermit Spring and the height of land, the trail would run slightly west of the present route and use a switchback to moderate the grade. This would avoid the wet area south of and along the brook that flows into the swamp.

Trails & Shelters Co-Chair Wayne Krevetski and I have heard of considerable winter damage to the trail in the Coolidge Range, so we hope for a good number of volunteers on National Trails Day, 5 June, to put that piece of the trail back in good condition.



## **Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      June -- August 2010**

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

- 5 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM      National Trails Day Maintenance, Killington      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
Volunteers all over the country will be out today clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns, and painting blazes, readying trails for the summer hiking season. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, and lunch; tools will be provided.
- 13 June, Sunday, 10 AM      Bike Tour – Castleton Area      Ted & Martha Molnar, 468-5125**  
Meet at Castleton State College South Street parking lot (last lot on the left, past all buildings). We will offer two rides, one leisurely and one more ambitious. Ride 1: Castleton to Poultney and back, 12 miles on flat, unpaved bike trail. Ride 2: Two lakes tour, 17 miles on quiet back roads with rolling terrain and little or no traffic.
- 19 June, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Crown Point Road, Weathersfield      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Hike along a section of the original military road and visit historic Grout cemetery.  
Moderate 3 or 4 miles with possible stream crossing.  
Rain date: 6/20.
- 26 June, Saturday, 10:00 AM      Tinmouth Gulf Road, Tinmouth      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
Follow the Tinmouth Gulf Road south through woods and former farm land to the Purchase and Old Otis Road.  
Moderate, 6 miles, 1200-foot elevation gain.
- 4 July, Sunday, 9:00 AM      Mascoma Lake, Enfield, NH      Terri Wilson, (334) 787-2426**  
Celebrate the Fourth with canoeing, kayaking, and swimming, followed by a potluck cookout. Bring salads and side dishes to share.  
Easy.
- 10 July, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Lake St. Catherine, Wells      Viv Bebee & Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Explore the ridge above the lake with great views and interesting terrain.  
Easy.
- 11 July, Sunday, 10:00 AM      Bike Tour – Castleton Area      Ted & Martha Molnar, 468-5125**  
Meet at Castleton State College South Street parking lot (last lot on the left, past all buildings). We will offer two rides, both on quiet back roads with little or no traffic.  
Ride 1: Castleton – Fair Haven – Poultney loop. Flat, 15 miles.  
Ride 2: Castleton – Hubbardton loop. Rolling to hilly, 21 miles.
- 17 July, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Bromley Mountain, Peru      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Great views from the summit.  
Moderate, 6 miles.  
Rain date: 7/18.
- 24 July, Saturday, 9:00 AM      Paddle the Poultney, Fair Haven      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
A relaxing paddle for kayaks or canoes along the scenic Vermont – New York border.  
Meet at the Diamond Run Mall parking lot near Sears.  
Easy, 5 miles.  
Rain date: 7/25.

**Schedule continued on next page.**



## Killington Section, GMC Outing Schedule

June -- August 2010

Schedule continued from previous page.

- 1 August, Sunday, 9:00 AM**      **Clarendon Lookout, Shrewsbury**      **Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
Follow the Long/Appalachian Trail up a dramatic, boulder-strewn gulf to the lookout and on to Clarendon Shelter with an option to visit an old cemetery in the woods.  
Moderate, 2 1/2 to 3 miles with some steep climbing.
- 7 August, Saturday, All day**      **Long Trail Festival, Rutland**      **Wayne Krevetski, 282-22-37**  
Meet at the Rutland State Fair Grounds any time on Saturday for free fun, education, and entertainment for the whole family at the fourth annual Rutland Long Trail Festival.  
Easy. No elevation gain.
- 8 August, Sunday, 8:00 AM**      **Little Rock Pond, Wallingford**      **Wayne Krevetski, 282-22-37**  
Meet in the parking area inside the Dana Avenue entrance on the Rutland State Fair grounds. Join Festival attendees in a work party to help build new tent platforms at Little Rock Pond on the Long Trail.
- 14 August, Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Snake Mountain, Addison**      **Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
Gorgeous views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondack High Peaks.  
Moderate climate, 4 miles.
- 21 August, Saturday, 8:00 AM**      **Grafton Pond Paddle, Grafton, NH**      **Viv Bebee & Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Flat water paddle for canoes or kayaks. Swimming, too!  
Easy.  
Rain date: 8/22.
- 28 August, Saturday, 8:00 AM**      **Appalachian Trail, Pomfret**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Follow the AT to the lookout for a view of Lakota Lake, and then on to Route 12.  
Moderate, 7 miles.

### TURTLE HIKE SCHEDULE

The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of "Turtle" hikes for seniors and others who wish to enjoy their outings at a somewhat slower and easier pace. The hikes typically cover two to four miles, involve limited elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9 AM** at the Godnick Adult Center on Deer Street off Woodstock Avenue. We return in early to mid-afternoon. Call leaders listed at the right below if you have questions. All are welcome

June 3	<b>Eshqua Bog Nature Area, Hartland; Woodstock Trails</b> Discover this wildflower and bog plant sanctuary via path and boardwalk.	Renée Warren 747-4466
June 17	<b>Merck Forest Trails, Rupert</b> Get acquainted with Merck Forest and Farmland Center. Optional donation.	Edith Kellogg 775-1246
July 1	<b>Pittsford Trails, Pittsford</b> Hike along an interesting trail near Pittsford.	Ann Perry 236-1780
July 15	<b>Snake Mountain, Addison</b> Logging roads lead to abandoned hotel site at summit. Excellent views.	Bob Perkins 773-0184
July 29	<b>Cookout – Hapgood Pond, Peru</b> For this outing only, bring something to cook over our campfire. Hike around the pond, swim, eat, and relax.	George Butts 483-2891
August 12	<b>White Rocks, Wallingford</b> Enjoy the cool breeze from the Ice Beds at the base of the White Rocks Cliffs.	Jerry/Lyn Ash 775-3481
August 26	<b>Susie Peak, Clarendon</b> Climb to the proposed site for a controversial wind turbine.	Bob Perkins 773-0184



# Outing Reports

## Boiling Springs, Chittenden

20 June 2009

By Barb Griffith

For years Barry and I have been looking for Boiling Springs in Chittenden. People would casually say, "Oh, So and So used to know how to find the springs." We made several forays in with topo maps, compass, and GPS unit. We wandered hither and yonder (more yonder than I wanted to do). We could see it on the map, but it remained elusive trip after trip after trip in. Then one day we were chatting with friend Jim Moore, who said he had just hiked up Carmel and had stopped in at Boiling Springs to refresh himself. So once again, Barry and I went in search – this time with "perfect" directions from one who had just been there. But, alas, it was not to be. Upon our return home that day, we called Jim. He promised to help us out on hike day, to help us finally find what was lost to us.

It was a perfect day to be out hiking, not too buggy, not too warm. Parking cars at the Mountain Top Inn lot, we began our adventure. One walks in on old roads, past cellar holes of an old village. We paused at the cemetery in "Old Boston". There is not much climbing at all on this route, and the road is easy to walk. There are a series of intersecting roads, but we managed to head along with maps. (After all Barry and I had *almost* been here lots of times!)

As we neared our destination, a series of "Burma Shave" signs started to show up, encouraging the group. The last sign said, "Give a hoot after the bridge". We passed a tree with "BS" carved into it – the same tree that Barry and I had passed several times before. I thought it was someone's initials, but what do you know? It was a marker for Boiling Springs!! Well, we all gave a "hoot,"

and a "hoot" was returned from down in the woods. Climbing down we arrived at our destination, with the springs indeed boiling and roiling. Barb decided she had to feel the effects of the swirling water and bubbling sand, so she carefully (?) waded in. It felt like quicksand. Soon after, as we settled down to lunch, Jim told stories of his decades of trips in to the site. According to Jim, the springs are the headwaters of the Proctor water supply. (Now he tells the wader!)



Barb Griffith Testing the Waters

After our spring-side feast, the return trip was uneventful. Tom and Allison did discover a mouse nest in a Mountain Top Inn XC Trail sign-in register and were enraptured with all the wee little ones. They were so cute – the mice, that is.

## Poultney River, West Haven

25 July 2009

Barb & Barry Griffith, leaders

As summer 2010 fast approaches and we contemplate putting this paddle on the schedule again, I want to remember to let everyone know about the POISON IVY! In 2009 it was thick and everywhere at the parking area where we put the kayaks in. I ended up with poison ivy on my legs and fingers, and am sure that others must have as well. Therefore, if we do the paddle again, everyone should wear tall socks and gloves until we are

waterborne! If someone has another idea, let me know, as I am up for more input!

This is a nice gentle paddle. Even with all the rain and the water being high, this river is still navigable. The put-in is a bit of a steep pitch down a muddy bank (after dragging through poison ivy!) When we did this paddle in 2008, it took us forever to paddle down the river. The water was low, and thunderstorms threatened later in the day. We learned from the Nature Conservancy (they own the land along most of this paddle) that when the water is low there is back flow from Lake Champlain and indeed the current becomes more stagnant as one approaches the mouth of the river. So one's waterway downstream becomes another's upstream. (Does this make sense?)

On this day, the trip was fast. We managed to drag out for a muddy lunch spot. A cemetery was pointed out on a knoll. This being rattlesnake country, no one wanted to venture into the overgrown field. There were numerous water birds along the way. The riverbanks were lined with cottonwood and silver maples. As one paddles along downstream New York is on your left and Vermont on your right. You put in on the New York State side and take out in Vermont, near the Galick Farm. This section of the Poultney River is a pleasant paddle, and we recommend it.

## Otter Creek Paddle, Wallingford

30 August 2009

By Barbara Griffith, leader

High waters of the summer 2009 made this a quick trip (or quicker than in past years). The "stringers" that one usually has to portage around or climb over in Otter Creek were virtually nonexistent – or



at least underwater or washed away. For this trip we convened in the Diamond Run Mall parking lot, and proceeded to the "put in" site on the Creek Road in Wallingford. The site I like to start at is about 2 miles south of the intersection of Walker Mountain Road and Creek Road. The kayaks were unloaded, and most of the vehicles were spotted at our journey's end by the bridge that spans Otter Creek on the Alfrecha Road in Clarendon.

This peaceful trip meanders through farm country. At one point, the river almost bends back on itself. One mostly had only to steer, as the current carried us steadily along. There came a time when we kept looking for favorite "sand banks" to lunch upon. However, none showed up. We then realized that they were all under water! Hunger finally drove us to find a respite area to dine. It was buggy, and the stinging nettles kept us locked in to a small area.

Reloading, we continued on. We enjoyed watching the cows, the herons, and the various other water fowl, until the bridge loomed into site. To be truthful, my arms were tired and I was ready to disembark. Every time I have done this trip, it has been different. 2010? We will see.

End Note: I was concerned when a Mom showed up with her 4-year-old child for this trip. I tried to discourage them from coming, as the water was high and swift. Nevertheless, they persevered, came, and appeared to enjoy the long trip. Always remember, however, that as an outing leader you have the right – and the obligation – to question anyone about having the proper gear and ability for an excursion.

### **Shrewsbury Peak Loop**

12 September 2009

By Barb Griffith, co-leader

This group of seven started out early in the morning, spotting cars on

the Gilman Road, which is off the Upper Cold River Road, and then driving to the Black Swamp trailhead on the CCC Road in Plymouth. We enjoyed a nice stroll up the gated old logging road (gated due to the black bear habitat) to the base of Shrewsbury Peak, where we started our climb. The weather was wet, as it had been all summer. However, this crew was prepared with appropriate rain gear and plenty of enthusiasm. The rain may have dampened the trail, but our spirits were high and dry! This is an easy trail to access the 3737-foot Peak of Shrewsbury. At the junction of the Black Swamp and Shrewsbury Peak Trails there was some debate about whether to climb the last few hundred feet to the top, as there would be no view in all the cloud cover. However, since it was there and we were there, to the top we climbed. The clouds were thick and cold (at 2 miles from the trail head).

We returned to the junction, and headed north toward Little Killington. This part of the trail was like walking through the forest primeval with thick undergrowth, slippery underfooting, and evergreens stunted by the altitude. One follows the trail down into a saddle between Shrewsbury and Little Killington. Part way down we decided to pause and have lunch (one thing this group does well) amongst the dense vegetation. Fortified with food, we forged ahead. It was great to have a blazed trail, as visibility was not the best. In fact, it was difficult to keep the entire group in sight. Reaching the saddle (at 3.2 miles) we began the climb up to the junction with the Long Trail on Little Killington.

We reached the junction a bit wet and tiring (at about 4.2 miles). Now it was all downhill to Governor Clement Shelter. We had the pleasure of walking across the new bog-bridging that had been put in last spring, and marveled at the

construction. We could see how necessary it had been – especially with such a wet summer. Arriving at the Gov, we appreciated all the new masonry work that had been done to the shelter (at 6.8 miles). Finally arriving at the spotted vehicles, we acknowledged a great day outside with friends.

### **Spring Lake Loop, Shrewsbury**

20 December 2009

By Barb & Barry Griffith, leaders

The snow did not deter folks for this snowshoe, ski, and walk. Several enthusiastic souls met at "The Olde Barn" in Cuttingsville. We drove from there to the Spring Lake Road, ascending past Spring Lake Ranch to the nicely maintained parking area. On the way we passed a motorist deeply mired in a ditch by the Sugar House – and discovered it was one of our crew! We all stopped to assist, but despite our efforts, we were unable to push or pull the vehicle out of the ditch. We decided to leave the vehicle, and tackle its extraction after the hike. Loading passengers back in, everyone proceeded to the trailhead.

This trail is well maintained, and circles around Spring Lake. New snowshoes had to be readjusted along the way. Some decided to snowshoe, others skied, and some walked a bit (although for the walkers, post holing occurred further along when the snow became deeper and the trail less packed). It was COLD.

When we arrived at the outlet of Spring Lake, it was so pretty to look out across the frozen pond. Onwards around to the west side and heading south we came upon a "kill site," where Jerry tried to determine and inform us what had eaten what. There was much speculation as to what had taken place. It was an interesting lesson in survival of the fittest. Continuing on, we snagged the Long Trail in a bit. We followed it to Minerva Hinchey Shelter, and then took the farm road back to our



vehicles. We agreed that being in the protection of the woods had prevented us from exposure to extreme cold of the day. All returned home to warm up.

Addendum: The vehicle was successfully extricated from the ditch before the end of the day.

### **The Ball, Arlington**

20 February 2010

By Larry Walter, leader

I'm at fault for originally advertising this little jaunt as a difficult 8 miler up the side of the Little Mad Tom drainage. Operating on an assumption that blazed trails actually go somewhere, Jeff Harvey and I recon'd the hike in November and found that the blazes disappeared about 15 minutes out of the drainage and that the terrain was a little scary on the return trip (we took a short cut – bad idea.). That's when I thought "Hey! I'll drag, (or lead) everyone up onto a really cool section of the Taconic Range, just south of Arlington". This 800-acre parcel (currently owned by Mettawee Timber and Plastics) is under consideration for purchase by the USFS and basically encompasses the eastern flank of Spruce Peak and most of the drainage of Dry Brook.

Tom Cops, Jeff Harvey and I scouted the trail a week early, which was a good thing, because we missed a turn and ended up hiking straight up the south side of Grass Mountain (3100 feet). The view was OK, but not spectacular. On the return trip, we thought, Gee, that ridge over to The Ball (aka, Ball Mountain) looks like an easy hike from a saddle we were going through anyway. I had heard from some folks at the Arlington Town Office that the views were great from The Ball, as well as from the ridge leading up. So it was settled.

A handful of hard-core GMC'ers showed up (Linda H., Gene, Peter G. and Tom C.), expecting a grueling trek up the eastern flank of the Greens. In contrast, the trip up to The Ball is entirely on old logging roads and ATV trails, most of moderate grade. I expected to see some snowmobiles up there, but we were breaking trail the whole way. This would be a great ski run, but you'd have to get permission from the abutting owners. I can help with contacts, if you're interested.

After reaching a main saddle between Grass Mountain and The Ball, the remainder of the hike is along a nice ridge line to the east that gets increasingly sharp, eventually yielding nice views to the north past Equinox and northwesterly down onto Route 30. A short distance from the summit, there's a very nice lunch spot with a 180-degree view to the south. We decided to bushwhack southeasterly back down to Dry Brook Road, but would not recommend the same for future trips. It's steep and rocky. A return trip on the ridge and logging roads would probably yield about a 6-mile hike with roughly 1700 feet of elevation gain. Sans the bushwhack, I'd rate it as a moderate to difficult, depending on how much snow's on the ground. I will definitely lead another hike or snowshoe to this peak, perhaps with a car spot to the northeast of the summit.

### **Silver Lake, Leicester**

3 April 2010

By Sue Thomas, leader

Mother Nature turned the heat up on 3 April and gave us a preview of the summer to come. We gazed longingly at the patch of ice still visible in the middle of the lake as we sat perched on the rock retaining

wall, all that was left of the old Silver Lake Hotel. At least that was what I'd always thought. Fortunately on this trip we were in the hands of historian Bill Powers, author of *Silver Lake, Beyond the Myths*, who showed us many things I'd never noticed on countless visits to the area.

For instance, the stone footprint of the hotel can still be found, if you know where to look, as well as the spring that supplied drinking water. Perhaps the most curious relic is a large mound on the property where, we were delighted to learn, the faithful who had taken "the pledge" buried all alcohol and tobacco products and marked the spot with a stone obelisk. As we enjoyed our lunch on the lake shore, Bill shared several scrapbooks of wonderful old photos and postcards he has collected of the hotel in its heyday.

After lunch he led us along the penstock to an open view of Lake Dunmore, then surprised us all with an added walk out to the surge tank, a tall, thin tower that none of us had noticed before.

On the way back down we stopped to read the names and wedding dates of early settlers in the area carved into a rock beneath the penstock where they were easily overlooked. But Bill was saving the best for last. On a boulder near the parking lot, unnoticed many times before, is a long inscription dedicated to "Aunt Jenny", who ran a tea room at the site. "Everything I am I owe to my mother" her son had carved unto the stone.

Many thanks to Bill for spending the day with us and sharing his wealth of information about beautiful Silver Lake.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual..... \$40  
Family..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_\_publications, \_\_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 63, Number 3

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

August 2010

## Centennial Relay Visits Killington Section

Perhaps the most appropriate of the several events commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 1910 founding of the Green Mountain Club was the Centennial Relay. In relay style, groups of enthusiasts day-hiked the Long Trail from end to end. Starting at the Massachusetts line, each group spent a day hiking its assigned section of the Trail. Then, in lieu of a baton, Prickles the porcupine

was passed on to the next group to the north for its day hike. All the way to Canada.

Prickles was joined by several of our members as she passed through the Killington Section on 26 July on the way to earning her End-to-End patch. (See story, page 4.)

### Killington Section Annual Potluck Supper

Are you one of our Killington Section members who seldom, (or never), for whatever reason, join us for a hike, boat trip, or bike ride? Are you a supporter of Vermont's Long Trail and Green Mountain Club but have not joined the Killington Section? Are you new to the area (or a long time resident) who has read about our outings in the paper and wondered what it would be like to participate?

Here's your chance to enjoy a meal and slide show and to socialize with like-minded folks at no charge to you. Our annual fall potluck supper will be at 6 PM on Saturday 20 November at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Hillside Road in Rutland. Bring a dish to share and your own plate and utensils. All are welcome!

### Get Your Red-Hot Raffle Tickets Here!

There's still time to purchase tickets for the 100th anniversary quilt raffle. The "Vermont Woodlands" quilt is queen-sized, in fall colors featuring a tree-of-life medallion surrounded by maple leaves, acorns, pine trees, and beavers. The drawing will be held at the Volunteer Appreciation picnic on 25 September so get your tickets now. They can be purchased on any Killington Section outing or by contacting Sue Thomas 773-2185, Cindy Oas-Kirk 775-7646, Ruth Gibbud 747-0732, or Karen Bowles 775-0239.



Bob Whitney of Manchester (right) passes Prickles to Killington Section President Barry Griffith



Miss Prickles Porcupine, Long Trail End-to-Ender



## Smoke & Blazes

Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... Gerry Martin  
" ..... Herb Ogden  
2013 ..... Viv Bebee  
" ..... Tom Cops  
" ..... Steve Williams

\* Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary ..... Allison Henry  
Treasurer ..... Gerry Martin

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## The Pitch at Pitch Pine Point

[A few Vermont places were named for significant or interesting events. Mt. Independence and Runaway Pond come to mind – and maybe Ticklenaked Pond. Today we report on the reverse situation. The place name triggered the event.]

The people in our party plodded up the primitive path to the peak where we paused to enjoy the pristine panorama and to partake of the provisions from our packs. The pinnacle's name, Pitch Pine Point, prompted playful President Barry to propose and promote a postprandial pastime in which he would play the part of pitcher. Perkins was pleased to proffer his prized possession, a primitive pedestrian pole. Larry presumed to participate and promptly positioned himself at the plate.



Prexy picked up a pine cone and prepared for his primary pitch. A perfectly placed pitch. A powerful swing. And POW! The projectile, in its parabolic path, passed over the precipice. But Perk's pole parted and was now in a pair of pieces.

P.S. Presently Larry, as penance for his performance, professionally produced, and presented to Perk, a proprietary, personalized, pedestrian pole. Please peruse picture to port.

### Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

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Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



## Outing Reports

### Brooklyn Bridge, New York, NY

21 March, 2010

By Barbara O'Connor &

Steve Williams, co-leaders

The Killington Section spring expedition to the Big Apple elected to include at least an easy hike amongst its activities and selected the Brooklyn Bridge as being ideal for the occasion. Once the rabbit warren beneath Grand Central had been mastered, the trip to the trailhead adjacent to the City Hall MTA stop, via the Lexington Avenue Train 6, was uneventful. After crossing just one street, there stretched the bridge walkway/cycle path, centrally located between and above the two roadways, some 1.13 miles long.

A few other statistics on the bridge:

- Original designer, appointed 1867, John Roebling, died 1869 from a bridge related injury.
- Successor, son Washington Roebling, incapacitated by "bends", communicated via wife Emily.
- Construction 1870-1883.
- Height above high water: towers 276 feet, roadway 135 feet.
- At time of construction: 50 percent longer than any previous suspension bridge.

(For more details than you ever wished to know, Google "Brooklyn Bridge Facts and Information").

While on land the pathway is blacktop, once over water it becomes easily walked planking. Views of both uptown and downtown immediately appear, the latter being particularly spectacular because of the proximity of the Financial District. The Statue of Liberty and the Verrazano Narrows Bridge then come into view. There is a pedestrian traffic circle at each tower, one of

which contains raised copper sketches of the means of construction and other historic data. Just two events stand out from the very refreshing one hour walk and its aftermath: having our picture taken with some Korean tourists who seemed to want to demonstrate their contacts in the USA, and, at the end of the bridge, finding the highly commended Brooklyn Ice Cream Factory, located almost directly beneath the bridge.

In conclusion, a word of warning for those attempting to return from the Borough Hall MTA Station on a Sunday, as we did. Read the fine print on notices scattered around the Station, otherwise you may just find, after walking for some ten minutes amongst the seven lines that intersect there, that "Trains 4 & 5 will today be replaced by a J Train to be found on the platforms normally used by X & Y trains at the far end of the green concourse etc." And good luck!

[Smoke & Blazes is always glad to receive and publish "Outing Reports" that go beyond trips listed in the official schedule. Obviously Barbara and Steve have grasped the essence of our customary report formats. Ed.]

### Natural Bridge, Dorset

24 April 2010

By Sue Thomas, leader

I'd warned everyone that this was a trail that wasted no time in the ascent. Nearly vertical is a rude awakening to the hiking season, but hey, with such a wonder as a natural bridge for a reward it would be worth it, right?

As we paused at the top of the ridge to catch our breath and place our hearts back in our chests, I felt it was time for the disclaimer. As natural bridges go, our humble Vermont version would not take the breath away – in any case the climb had already accomplished that. In fact, anyone who has visited the

Southwest would likely find this one a bit of a yawn, so I cautioned everyone to keep disparaging comments to themselves so as not to hurt its feelings, and we proceeded on for lunch beside the natural wonder. Brownies were administered to help make up for the lack of grandeur.

If the bridge itself does not inspire awe, the bushwhack back along the streambed absolutely does. The stream follows a vein of marble all the way down to where we were treated to spectacular waterfalls, mini-gorges and places marble in white, pink, and green was smoothed and swirled by the water.

We enjoyed a second round of brownies by the shore of Emerald Lake, a great end to the day. And the less said about the Great Peep Race of 2010, the better.

### Crown Point Road, Wethersfield

19 June 2010

By Barb & Barry Griffith, leaders

The Crown Point Road was originally marked and cut in 1759, to get people and provisions from the Connecticut River to Lake Champlain. In the years that followed, the Road served untold travelers and settlers. When we learned that folks from Weathersfield had blazed a hiking trail on the old Road in these parts, we decided to bring the Killington Section to check it out. We had originally scheduled this lower elevation hike for April, to keep us off the wet higher trails. We had to postpone that outing due to inclement weather, and rescheduled it for June.

Vehicle spotting was the first order of business. We placed Jerry's vehicle in the middle to rescue Burdock, if the day proved too hot for him. He was glad we did. Then we all gathered on the Greenbush



Road in Cavendish, near the old Paine Tavern. We crossed the remains of an old stone bridge, and headed south into the woods. Yellow blazes guided our way as we crossed a stone wall marking the Weathersfield town line, finding the remains of an old cellar hole on our left. After stopping for lunch, we descended the trail to another CPR marker on Route 131.

The next part of our walk was along present day highways through Amsden. Of historical interest along the way was an original (?) stone Road marker engraved "CP 1760 MILE XI" to indicate that it was 11 miles from Fort No. 4 in Charlestown, N.H. More interesting to some was a yard sale we walked past on Route 106. This is the first time we can recall hiking past one of these on a Killington Section outing. A number of items were purchased. Perhaps we should look for potential yard sale locations when scheduling future outings!

We continued south on Branch Brook Road – now a dead end road. About fifty years ago, a flood control dam was built on Branch Brook south of here. That dam created Stoughton Pond, and altered the terrain above it. We again entered the woods, following the yellow blazes. We passed another old stone road marker, this one crudely lettered "1759 10 M CAMP." The blazes soon brought us to the bank of Branch Brook. We located the yellow marks on the other side, took off our boots, and waded in. This would have been a challenge in April, when the stream was swollen and the water frigid. Today, it was a pleasant way to cool our feet.

A steep but short scramble up the slope on the east side of the Brook brought us to an abandoned roadway. After walking on this road for a time, we followed the blazes across a small rivulet and up a slope.

Here we found the abutting Plain and Grout Cemeteries, and our awaiting vehicles. We inspected old stones marking patriot graves, and returned home.

### **Tinmouth Gulf**

26 June 2010

By Herb Ogden, leader

A rising chance of showers was forecast for the afternoon, but the morning dawned sunny, and nine of us decided to explore the wilds of southwest Tinmouth. We began at the south junction of the Upper and Lower Gulf Roads. South of that point, the Gulf Road becomes Class 4 and is chancy for normal vehicles. Making a less than obvious turn to the southeast, we hiked through the corner of a hayfield and entered the woods. After passing through a mossy stone wall, we climbed over a blowdown with really interesting funguses that had a sort of leg attaching them to the trunk. This fairly level stretch of old woodroad ended at a turn to the east, where a short bushwhack to the west led to a view over Tinmouth Gulf.

At this point we discussed the difference between Gulfs, Notches, Passes, Gaps, Tunnels, and Dungeons. Without consulting Webster's, I think we concluded that a gulf in northern New England is a narrow valley leading from one more open area to another, usually if not always with considerably different elevations. In contrast, a pass or gap is a low place on a ridge that allows traffic to pass from one side of the mountains to the other. A notch is like a pass or gap except deeper. A tunnel is a narrow valley with steep sides that gives the feeling of being enclosed when the leaves are out. A dungeon seems to be more or less the same thing, but perhaps the feeling of being enclosed comes more from the denseness of the forest and less from the steepness of the valley's sides. Now, please write in and

disagree! And tell us if you know of other mountain terms used in Vermont.

Hiking up a side valley from the gulf, we crossed its brook at a pretty waterfall. Farther up, the road became a mudhole and then a pond for several hundred feet. It's hard to believe local folks say normal cars could drive this far in the 1920s or 30s. Respite came when we struck a continuation of Tinmouth Town Highway 16, a north-south road that some say used to be a highway all the way down to Danby. This is now both a snowmobile trail and a Tinmouth Town Recreation Trail through an area owned by the town and subject to conservation easements. Following this road south, we passed some sort of man-made stone structure just east of the road. Aside from the road itself, this was the last manmade thing we saw till we passed a modern cabin on the slope down toward Purchase Brook. Meanwhile, before the final climb over an unnamed mountain between The Purchase and Tinmouth Peak, we had lunch at a log landing where the Tinmouth trail went east at a less than obvious turn. Rain began then and continued for most of the rest of the hike. So much for "chance of showers"! Navigating several more less than obvious turns with the help of my GPS, we eventually crossed Purchase Brook at another less than obvious turn and, by a couple more less than obvious turns, descended through a sugarbush and wound up where the abandoned Little Village Road crossed the ridge, coming up from Danby. We followed it most of the way down to the abandoned part Ricketts Road, avoiding the badly eroded and overgrown lower quarter mile or so by taking a less than obvious turn into a recently logged area. (By now, are you getting the idea that less than obvious turns were a hallmark of this outing? Steve Williams said it was a wonder we



## Killington Section, GMC Outing Schedule

Sept. – Nov. 2010

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**6 Sept., Monday, 9:00 AM**      **Bear Mt. – Clarendon Gorge**      **Gerry & Chryl Martin, 492-2244**  
Follow the Appalachian/Long Trail from Route 140 in Wallingford to the swinging bridge over Clarendon Gorge with stops at Minerva Hinchey Shelter and the Airport Lookout.  
Moderate, 6.3 miles.

**11 Sept., Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **White Rocks Lookout, Wallingford**      **Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
Climb the Keewaydin Trail and the Appalachian/Long Trail to the "rock garden" and a scenic overlook  
Steep, 3.2 miles. Rain date: 9/12.

**18 Sept., Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Mother Myrick Mountain, Dorset**      **Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
We'll be joined by Dave McDevitt, Southern Vermont Steward of the Nature Conservancy, to explore the 3361-foot summit, with optional post-hike trip to Mother Myrick's Ice Cream Parlor. Some steep climbs. Five to six miles.  
Rain Date: 9/19.

**25 Sept., Saturday, 3 PM**      **Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, Waterbury**      **RSVP. See below**  
A gathering and free picnic at GMC headquarters to honor all volunteers for the hours of work that go into maintaining the club and the Long Trail. Please RSVP by Friday, 17 September, to Mari Zagarins, 802-244-7037 or [mzagarins@greenmountainclub.org](mailto:mzagarins@greenmountainclub.org).

**26 Sept., Sunday, 9:00 AM**      **Rattlesnake Cliffs, Salisbury**      **Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Starting at Moosalamoo campground, we'll skirt the mountain and climb to a scenic lookout.  
Moderate, 5 miles.

**2 Oct., Saturday, 8:00 AM**      **Cardigan Mountain, Canaan, NH**      **Terri Wilson, 334-787-2426**  
Beautiful views from this bald, 3132-foot summit.  
Moderate, 3 miles with some steep climbing. Elevation gain 1220 feet.  
Rain date: 10/3.

**9 Oct., Saturday, 10 AM**      **Shrewsbury Peak**      **Barry & Barb Griffith, 492-3573**  
Up the Black Swamp Trail and down the other side, with optional side trip to "picnic rock".  
Moderate, 5 miles with some steep climbing.  
Rain date: 10/10.

**16 Oct., Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Thundering Falls, Killington**      **Viv Bebee, 775-3855**  
Follow the new accessible trail to the foot of the falls, and then continue on the Appalachian Trail.  
Moderate, 5 miles.

**23 Oct., Saturday, 9:00 AM**      **Big Branch Bridge, Mount Tabor**      **Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
We'll hike south on the Long/Appalachian Trail to check out the newly constructed bridge and the ruins of an old mill. Option to continue on to Lost Pond Shelter.  
Moderate 2.6 (or optionally 6) miles.

**Schedule continued on next page.**



## Killington Section, GMC Outing Schedule

Sept. – Nov. 2010

Schedule continued from previous page.

**30 Oct., Saturday, 9:00 AM Halloween at Devils Den, Whitehall, NY Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

Spend Halloween eve exploring Devils Den and Death Rock, if you dare! Local residents and Nature Conservancy volunteers Tim and Mary Ward will guide us safely through. Nice views of South Bay.

Mileage variable.

**6 Nov., Saturday, 9:00 AM Fall Trail Maintenance Day Herb Ogden, 293-2510**

Help us get the Long/Appalachian Trail put to bed for the winter by clearing out water bars, removing downed trees and repairing shelters. Bring sturdy boots, work gloves, and lunch.

Tools provided.

**13 Nov., Saturday, 9:00 AM Fall Mystery Hike Mark & Connie Youngstrom, 492-3502**

Leaders will select an appropriate venue for our "deer season" outing. Call if you need more details.

**20 Nov., Saturday, 6:00 PM Annual Fall Potluck Supper Sue Thomas, 773-2185**

Bring a generous-sized dish to share and your own plate and utensils and join us for our annual event. Non-members welcome. Following the meal we'll enjoy a slide program "Walking through Time – Archaeology & History on the Long Trail" by Dave Lacy, archaeologist with the US Forest Service.

Meet at 6:00 PM at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Hillside Road in Rutland.

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### TURTLE HIKES SCHEDULE

The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of "Turtle" hikes for seniors and others who wish to enjoy their outings at a somewhat slower and easier pace. The hikes typically cover two to four miles, involve limited elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9 AM** at the Godnick Adult Center on Deer Street off Woodstock Avenue. We return in mid-afternoon. Call leaders listed at the right below if you have questions. All are welcome.

- |                 |                                                                                    |                            |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>9 Sept.</b>  | <b>Rattlesnake Cliffs Trail, Leicester</b>                                         | <b>Bob Perkins</b>         |
|                 | Moderate hike offers spectacular views of Lake Dunmore, Adirondacks. No snakes.    | 773-0184                   |
| <b>23 Sept.</b> | <b>Mt. Tom, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park, Woodstock</b>                | <b>Tom Copps</b>           |
|                 | Enjoy autumn foliage while hiking old carriage roads past The Pogue to Mt. Tom.    | 774-5144                   |
| <b>7 Oct.</b>   | <b>Taconic Mountains Trails, Hubbardton</b>                                        | <b>Jerry &amp; Lyn Ash</b> |
|                 | Follow a network of trails to the Japanese Garden and to Moot Point on Mount Zion. | 775-3481                   |
| <b>21 Oct.</b>  | <b>Helen W. Buckner Memorial Preserve, West Haven</b>                              | <b>Bob Perkins</b>         |
|                 | Hike Tim's Trail through fields and forests where Vermont is west of New York.     | 773-0184                   |
| <b>4 Nov.</b>   | <b>Long Trail, Spring Lake, and Patch Hollow, Clarendon</b>                        | <b>Tom Copps</b>           |
|                 | Hike from Spring Lake, past the Minerva Hinchey Shelter, to Patch Hollow.          | 774-5144                   |



actually came out where we meant to.) We ended with a pleasant three quarter mile walk south along the old Ricketts Road, passing a former marble quarry and a large house foundation lying just west of the road.

According to Tom's GPS, total distance was 7.7 mi., total time: 5 hr 9 min, total climb was 1890 feet, and total descent was 24 feet more than that. Some of the climb and mileage wasn't originally planned. I added it in hopes of finally getting a view from the south end of Tinmouth Mountain. We were rewarded – sort of. It was easy to see the next ridge in the rain, but the Green Mountains were barely visible.

### **Bromley Mountain, Peru**

17 July, 2010

By Sue Thomas, leader

The breezes were cool and refreshing on the summit of Bromley, a welcome change from the blast furnace down below.

Six of us had gathered at the trailhead, including a very patient college student, who diplomatically hid his dismay at finding himself hiking with the geriatric set. Being six feet five inches tall he had eyed little Bob-the-car with even more dismay, and offered to drive us down to Manchester in his roomier vehicle.

This should have made us nervous – he carried no pack, wore running shoes, and looked as if he could jog to the summit and back in the time it took the rest of us to zip up our packs and adjust our canes ... er ... hiking poles. Fortunately he had no pockets so I confiscated his keys, thereby ensuring that he couldn't drive off without us.

On the way up we took a break at Bromley Shelter, where we encountered the first of several sawed-off sign posts. It seems some aren't satisfied with the usual

souvenirs – why buy key chains if you can lug a 30-pound sign out of the woods for free?

From the summit tower we could see a storm blowing in across the Taconics, so we enjoyed lunch and the view and headed back down for ice cream.

### **Long Trail Relay, Shrewsbury**

26 July 2010

By Barry Griffith, leader

We had perfect weather for Leg 10 of the GMC Centennial Relay. Sunshine, temperatures starting in the 50s, ending in the 70s. A nice breeze on the ridges to keep the bugs away. Thank you, hiking gods!

We assembled at 8 AM at the Town Office in downtown North Shrewsbury. Prickles was the first to arrive, looking forward to a great day. After dropping off participant vehicles at the Cold River Road crossing where we would end the day, Killington Section volunteers Bob Perkins, Gerry Martin and Barbara Griffith shuttled hikers to the Route 140 parking lot in Wallingford via back roads. There we were joined by two Wallingford residents, completing our contingent. In addition to Prickles, eleven hikers participated: Molly Griffith (Colorado), Bill Johns and George Jackson (Connecticut Section), Mary Keenan (Burlington Section), Marge Fish and Bob Whitney (Manchester Section), Adrian Eisler and Julia Huessy (Wallingford), Barbara Griffith, Barry Griffith and Allison Henry (Killington Section).

After Prickles was welcomed to the Killington Section of the Long Trail and obligatory group photos were taken, the group set off northward at about 9 AM. One mile in we were able to look south to the White Rocks, over which yesterday's leg had passed. We ascended, then descended, Bear Mountain to Patch

Hollow. Thousands pass this spot annually not knowing of the bloody tragedy which occurred here in 1831. Leader Barry Griffith related the story to Prickles and the other hikers. Rumor has it that Allison Henry may post the narration on YouTube.

From there it was on to Minerva Hinchey Shelter, where adopters Gerry & Chryl Martin had left a fresh roll of toilet paper for Prickles and her entourage. Rather than eat lunch there, the group voted to press on to the airport lookout with its open view to the west. We then descended to Clarendon Gorge, where Prickles admired the suspension bridge. Suggestions of bungee jumping were suppressed. At the Route 103 parking lot circa 2 PM three hikers left for other obligations, but another joined in. Then began the steep ascent to the Clarendon lookout, where the hikers could again look back south to survey their progress. Next stop: Clarendon Shelter, again in wonderful shape. Alison and Barry shared jokes to get us up the incline to the summit of Beacon Hill. We then traversed an area where the Youth Conservation Corps has been working this year to keep hikers' boots dry in a naturally wet area. A highlight of Prickles' day was meeting a new YCC group just beginning a three week stint. The future is in good hands!

After a final climb, Prickles and her companions descended to Lottery Road and finally to their waiting vehicles on the Cold River Road. The day's outing was projected to end at 5 PM, and we were pretty much on schedule. Great weather, no untoward incidents or injuries, lots of smiles and great memories. A good time was had by all.



# Killington Section Directors Meet

By Allison Henry, Secretary

The Killington Section directors met at 6:10 PM on 15 June 2010 at Seward's Restaurant in Rutland, led by Section President Barry Griffith. Other directors present were Vice President Wayne Krevetski, Treasurer Gerry Martin, Secretary Allison Henry, Sue Thomas, Vivian Bebee, Steve Williams, Herb Ogden, and Tom Copps. Also present were Lynda Hutchins, liaison to the Main Club, and friends Bob and Thelma Perkins.

A motion to approve the minutes from the Annual Meeting on March 27, 2010, as already published in the May 2010 issue of *Smoke & Blazes*, was made by Lynda, seconded by Gerry, and passed. Allison posed a question about the format of minutes via email. We determined that sending documents both in the body of the email as well as an Open Office document attachment would be acceptable to all.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Gerry. A motion to accept the report was made by Wayne, seconded by Allison, and passed. Garry explained that \$2010.85 for the Governor Clement renovations was taken from our general fund rather than from the Kirk Fund, which is in a CD, in order to avoid a \$6.00 early CD withdrawal penalty. Barry moved, Herb seconded, and the board agreed, that we leave the accounts as they are for now and that, when the Kirk Fund CD rolls over, we move \$2010.85 from the Kirk Fund to the general fund as an internal reconciliation. We also discussed whether our funds should be moved into longer term CDs with better interest rates. Steve suggested that

our treasurer look into options for us to address at our next meeting.

A Trails and Shelters report was given by Herb and Wayne, co-chairs of Trails and Shelters.

- Herb reported that when the Churchill Scott shelter was built, an agreement had been made between the GMC and the City of Rutland/Public Works regarding the public water supply. A sign was supposed to have been posted stating that the area around the shelter is the watershed for the City of Rutland, therefore no camping allowed other than at the shelter, and no human waste is to be deposited other than at the privy at the shelter. When the original agreement was reached, it said that the Club and City should "work together to post appropriate signs." Herb passed around a sample sign for us to review. We discussed how many signs are expected to be posted, and where, such as at the north and south line of the watershed area along the Trail or only at the shelter? Herb will contact the City and/or Public Works for more information before we make a final determination regarding the sign language and placement.

- The Forest Service wants us to log our volunteer hours. There is a spot to log your time on the top of the Sector Checker form.

- Wayne reported that the bunks at Governor Clement are complete! It is a lower-level sleeping platform and the shelter is really "brightened up." According to Barry there have been no reports of vandalism or mischief at the shelter this summer. Barry also noted that even snowmobilers were commenting in the shelter's logbook over the winter.

- Adoptions: Minerva Hinchey needs an Adopter. Former adopter Cindy Taylor-Miller has given up her post as she is once again on a long-distance expedition and is not available to take care of the shelter. Cooper has not been maintained by the GMC for some time. Herb reviewed the list of the shelter adoptions for the rest of our section of Trail.

- Shelter and structure damage by porcupines was also discussed. Suggestions were posed such as metal sheathing on sleeping platforms, which works until it starts to pull up and then it has sharp edges. We also discussed building "porky salt licks" away from shelters and leashing fishers to the sleeping platforms. Attaching an extra, easily replaceable board to the front of each chewed area also is being considered as a viable option.

- Clarendon Shelter will eventually be moved as it is not on federal land. In the very long term, a replacement for Clarendon will be built near Hermit Spring.

- Relocations/Adjustments: Dave Hardy has approved a relocation of the Trail south of Lottery Road. This still needs approval by the Forest Service. The relo is flagged with pink flags if you want to check it out. Dave Hardy has also approved a relocation north of Lottery Road, also still to be approved by the Forest Service. This is flagged yellow. There is an "old" suggestion (from 1995!) in the list of projects to move a section of Trail near the Kieffer Road; it was decided to remove this from the list.

- Other Projects: There will be a visit to Gould Brook in July with GE volunteers, as they will possibly be building a bridge across the



brook. Also, a stretch of the trail south of Upper Cold River road will be moved as there is a new muddy stretch. Eventually we will build up a section near Little Killington that is steep, rocky, and disintegrating. This project will need to be done by people with rock work experience. There is a major blowdown on the Cauty Trail which has been there for some time. It might not be removed, as this is a good excuse for a switchback through that section.

- Tom, Gerry, Herb, and Sue completed an "adjustment" around the expanding Sinkhole on the Sherburne Pass Trail. The trail now passes west of the hole.

- Some of our tools are missing – please check your garage, shed, and station wagon!

- Herb emailed out a list of small projects since the major work parties were rained out. If you complete a job, let Herb know so he can cross it off the list. And don't forget to log your hours!

Highlights from the Main Club report were presented by liaison Lynda noting that most meeting attendees had already heard the information at the Main Club Annual Meeting in May. Copies will be provided by Lynda on request. Some points to note:

- The Main Club is still in the black!

- There is a wind project pending for Lowell Mountain. This is not on "our" land but near it, and the Main Club is monitoring the situation.

- A new *Section Leader's Handbook* is available on the Montpelier Section's website.

- There was a good turnout from the Killington Section at the Main Club's annual meeting!

President Barry once again offered thanks to Bob for the *Smoke & Blazes*. Bob reminded us to keep the trip reports coming, and get them in sooner please! Outings coordinator Sue mentioned that there are several bike trips on this summer's schedule.

Wayne reported that the 5 June dinner at the Inn at Long Trail to raise money for the GMC was a success! Sixty-two people were in attendance. The proceeds were \$600 which will be donated to the Main Club. Thanks to Bob Perkins and Jim Davidson of the Rutland Historical Society for the design and presentation of the slide show. David Wright also gave a presentation on 6 June about the original Long Trail Lodge. *Thank yous* were issued to Patty and Murray McGrath of the Inn for the delicious dinner, and to folks who donated items for the raffle: McGraths, Eastern Mountain Sports, John Hale, Cindy Taylor Miller, and Gerry Martin. \$213 was raised from the raffle, also to be sent to the Main Club. It is possible this could become an annual event.

David Wright will be working with Killington Resort to place a historic marker at the site of the old clubhouse. Herb moved, Sue seconded, and the board concurred in asking Barry to send an appropriate letter of support to the State Historic Commission.

Wayne reported that the fourth annual Rutland Long Trail Festival is coming up on Saturday 7 August. There will be music, new movies from the Department of the Interior, and a Leave No Trace presentation. The "hardcore project" for following day will be carrying materials and building tent platforms at the Little Rock Pond area. Speak to Wayne if you are interested in leading an easy-to-moderate, local hike as part of the Festival.

Barry reminded us that the Long Trail relay hike starts on 17 July and will be coming through our section in late July. Barry will be leading a section of the relay on 26 July. All of the information about the relay hikes is in the Long Trail News. Be sure to sign up in advance if interested.

Barry reminded us that next year will be the 100th anniversary of the Killington Section! What should we do for our anniversary? There is nothing in the archives regarding what was done for our Section's 50th. Herb is looking for old information about what was known as the "Board of Trustees" at the start of the Killington Section. Some information could be at the Vermont Historical Society in Barre or at UVM. Marcellus Wheeler of Rutland made the original donation to the GMC, and he was a manure salesman! We are hoping to track the changes to the Trail and changes to the Killington Section borders. When written up we can publish a history of the Section.

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, 5 October 2010. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join **Killington Section, Green Mountain Club**

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_publications, \_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 63, Number 4

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

November 2010

## New Structures and Routine Maintenance

### Suspension Bridge over Big Branch



### New Shelter at Little Rock Pond



### Trail Ready for Winter

By Herb Ogden, Trails & Shelters Co-Chair

I was going to call this article "Trail Tucked in for Winter," but then I reflected that actually the last thing we want is a tucked-in trail. That would mean all the waterbars and side ditches were tucked in under a mat of leaves and silt and weren't doing their job of keeping the water from running down the trails. Between the nine folks who showed up for the 6 November work party and several more who couldn't come then but agreed to do full fall maintenance on various stretches of trail, we have worked on most everything under about the 3,000 foot level except for the Cauty Trail up Blue Ridge Mountain, which is reported in good shape except for a few blowdowns. It would have been nice to clear the waterbars and side ditches for about a mile either side of Cooper Lodge, but there was already too much snow. We'll have to give that top priority in the spring work parties, along with replacing rotten bog bridging south of the Keiffer Road, north of Gov. Clement Shelter, and north of US 4.

It's time to highlight the contributions by our trail volunteers rather than leave them anonymous like most of those who go on our strictly pleasure outings. So here is the fall work party: Dick Carey, Dave Coppock, Tom Copps, Jim Dorman, Wayne Flewellig, Allison Henry, Joe Minard, and Sue Thomas. (I was recovering from pneumonia and couldn't work, and co-chair Wayne Krevetski had to attend a Killington Ski Area meeting.) In addition, Larry Walter and Dave and Clare Coppock spent a day readying the Bucklin Trail for winter, and the following others have worked on the trails this fall: Barb and Barry Griffith, Chryl and Gerry Martin, Cindy Taylor-Miller, Viv Beebe, and Connie Youngstrom. If you did, too, and I failed to list you, I apologize. Please do tell me or Wayne Krevetski when you work on the trails and how long you were at it. Not only does it keep us from sending others out to do what you already did, but it also gives us the volunteer hour statistics that the Green Mt. Club has to report to the Forest Service and others.



**Smoke & Blazes**  
Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

### Killington Section Directors

Term expires in:

2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... Gerry Martin  
" ..... Herb Ogden  
2013 ..... Viv Bebee  
" ..... Tom Copps  
" ..... Steve Williams  
\* Second consecutive 3-year term.  
Not eligible for re-election.

### Killington Section Officers

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary ..... Allison Henry  
Treasurer ..... Gerry Martin

### Committee Chairs

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden  
and ..... Wayne Krevetski

### Delegates to GMC Board

Director ..... Lynda Hutchins  
Alternate ..... Allison Henry

### Smoke & Blazes

Editor ..... Bob Perkins

### Web Site

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

## A Photo from the Past

The new shelter at Little Rock Pond has quite a genealogy. According to *Long Trail System Shelter History* by Paul Woodward there was a private camp in a fine spot on the west shore in 1928. The shelter that I remember was built on the island in 1935 and was reached by a bridge from the mainland (see photo).



Killington Section Hikers Crossing to the Island, 1941. (l to r)  
Jim Hayward, Fernand Bartlett, and Bob, Dorothy, and Crague Perkins

The 1935 shelter was replaced in 1962 but the 1962 shelter was moved, in 1972, to its present location north of the pond. Also in 1962 the East Shore Shelter was built but it too was relocated, in 1972, to the south and renamed for Lulu Tye.

## A Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I am prompted to pick up my pen in praise of your prose pertaining to the premature perishing of your pal, the pedestrian pole. Your portrayal was perfection, and I speak for all in proclaiming our pride in the premium periodical you produce quarterly, despite the preponderance of perennially procrastinating hike report providers.

*A peruser of said periodical*

## Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>

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Sue Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, purplejeep99@hotmail.com  
Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, voorburg00@comcast.net



# Outing Reports

## **Bald Mountain, Mendon**

28 March 2010

By Allison Henry, leader

A ten o'clock start on this fine, crisp day let us sleep in a little after the big feast at the potluck the night before. Being unsure of the conditions, I had advised participants to bring ice grippers or even snowshoes in case of leftover snow. It turns out that the ground was mostly bare, with only a little crusty old snow in a few sheltered spots. A pleasant trip was had by all, with a long but chilly lunch break on one of the overlooks and several peeps-themed photos.

About the only remarkable thing that happened was after lunch, when the gang of saw-wielding gentlemen went ahead to neaten up the trail for the rest of us. Toward the end of the loop, we caught up to them and found them standing around and scratching their heads. A large saw was immobilized in a blowdown. Fortunately someone was carrying the equipment needed to free said saw from the tree trunk; otherwise the saw, and probably Larry, would still be there.

## **Folded Rock, Cambridge, NY**

10 April 2010

By Allison Henry, leader

This trail is located on Route 313 in the Battenkill State Forest between Arlington, VT and Cambridge, NY, a few miles west of the state line. There is a public trailhead on the south side of the road, but the trail is also accessible from the property of Battenkill Valley Outdoors (BVO), a private shop offering canoe and bike rentals, guided trips, maps, et cetera. Their shop has a very distinguished looking sign with a kayak stuck through it. When my spouse and I went for a recon hike the week before, the folks at the store told us they would be out of town for the weekend but that we were welcome to park on their property. They warned us that a bicycle race was to take place the same weekend as our hike, but it turns out the traffic stop was west of our turnoff for the trail, so our plans were safe.

This trail has two different names, either Folded Rock or Peaked Rock. The trailhead and a trip write-up on the Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) website say "Peaked Rock," and signs along the trail and in the vicinity mostly refer to "Folded Rock." We also saw a sign on which "Peaked Rock" was crossed out and corrected to read "Folded Rock." It is unclear who is responsible for the trail, but according to the above-

mentioned ADK trip report from last year, the trail was "created" and "improved" by ADK members in the past. The trail is an out-and-back, about two and a half miles each way.

After a rendezvous at Main Street Park and another at Stewarts in Arlington, with our numbers swelled to ten persons, we made our way to the Battenkill Valley Outdoors center. The drive itself was quite nice, following the Battenkill River.

At the BVO property the trail starts near a carved creature – either a monster or a very rough-cut black bear. It was another gorgeous day for a hike, warmish with no leaves to block our views. After a walk through a field, the trail goes up, up, and straight up for almost two miles, mostly along an old gravel road. There was a lot of huffing and puffing and I took a lot of breaks. Once we reached the ridgeline, we had occasional views of the valley below. We also found some vernal pools complete with frog spawn. Luckily, no one tried to hand me some this year. We even found a really big newt. After a ridge walk, the trail headed downward (resulting in some grumbling that we'd have to go back up again on our return before we could go down).

The trail ended with a great lookout (lookout!) north over the valley. Sure enough, right at the end of the trail there was an outcropping of rock that looked like it had been folded. It didn't exactly look peaked though. We took some photos of the views along with a few close-ups of the Folded and/or Peaked Rock formation. We had a leisurely lunch sheltered behind the ridge, grumbled our way back up the ridge, and stumbled our way down the steep gravel road to our cars. With the sun and wind I ended up with a very pink face that evening!

## **Appalachian Trail, Pomfret**

28 August 2010

By Sue Thomas, leader

There was a bit of a mix-up about the meeting time for this hike, so I administered molasses cookies in the parking lot and all was forgiven.

The day turned out to be an oasis in the middle of an unusually hot summer – one of those perfectly blue-sky days without the humid haze that had clouded the views for so long. This made the short but steep climb to The Lookout more than worthwhile, and the ascent of the alarmingly rickety-looking ladder to the rooftop viewing platform a must. We did the smart thing though and sent up a scout. Naturally I was judged to be the most



expendable. When I did not fall thru the roof the others joined me for spectacular views in all directions.



**The Lookout at The Lookout on the AT, Pomfret**

Back on terra firma we celebrated with caramels and then backtracked to the trail. This achievement called for chocolate cookies. A pleasant walk thru the woods led us at lunchtime to Wintturi Shelter, named for a Killington Section member who, though gone by the time I joined the Club in 1982, was still legendary for his habit of carrying a warm beer on all hikes. We toasted him with more molasses cookies, and awarded several to a grateful young backpacker.

After lunch there was a bit of up and down, but we had more chocolate cookies to keep up our strength, and the trail is just so darn pretty that a few more caramels were in order as we passed scenic stone walls and open clearings overlooking Mt. Ascutney.

Crossing lovely fields and stiles, our thoughts began to turn to ice cream, which so enflamed us that we kidnapped two thru-hikers at the trailhead and took them to a country store up the road, before depositing them at Gifford Woods on our way home. A delicious day!

### **Mother Myrick Mt., Dorset**

18 September 2010

By Sue Thomas, leader

Not long ago a resident of Dorset was mowing the field adjacent to his home when the tractor hit a hard object below the surface. Investigating, he discovered a large marble slab with the name "Newton Myrick" beautifully inscribed in flowing script. This prompted some research by the local historical society, and helped to satisfy my longtime curiosity about the unusually named peak.

It turned out that Isaac Newton Myrick was a stone carver whose home and shop had stood at the site where

the inscribed marble, now on display at the historical society, was found. "Mother" Myrick is thought to have been Isaac's mother, who was a local midwife.

At the base of the peak we visited the marker where the Kent Tavern had stood – one of several sites around the state where constitutional conventions were held.

Knowing that The Nature Conservancy has been acquiring land on the mountain, I invited Dave McDevitt, the conservancy's Southern Vermont Steward, to come along on our hike. At the trailhead he gave each of us a copy of the conservancy's new book *Places to Walk, Paddle, and Explore* and then guided us up the correct and most direct route to the ridge top, rather than the longer and more convoluted route I had mistakenly taken when I scouted out the hike. Thank you Dave! Along the way Dave stopped to post new signs and gave us an overview of the conservancy's projects and goals in the area.

At the summit a view of the surrounding valley and mountains made a nice backdrop for lunch, and we all signed in at the summit canister. A large number of hawks passed by on their way south for the winter – a thrilling sight.

On the way back down Dave discovered what a bunch of trouble makers we really are when we gleefully helped him pull blowdowns and brush into the trail to at least slow down ATV access – a "reverse work party" that somehow seemed much more fun than clearing the trail. We all agreed that it was the best time we'd ever had doing trail work.

### **Rattlesnake Ridge, Salisbury**

26 September 2010

By Larry Walter, leader

This hike in the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area east of Lake Dunmore is one of our personal favorites for its hike-to-view ratio. Viv and I had reconnoitered the loop in a counterclockwise direction a couple of weekends before and figured the best direction would be the opposite.

Most of the traffic in this region comes from the west side at the Keewaydin Camp or from the south via the Falls of Lana trail (if the brook is fordable). Striving to avoid some of the hubbub, we parked at the Voter Brook Overlook, under escort of a local constable (not sure what that was about). This is a nice little spot with picnic tables and a good view to the southwest. It's accessed by way of Forest Road 32 (Blueberry Hill route), off of Vermont Route 73 (Brandon Gap). You can just make out a small portion of Rattlesnake Cliff if you slide off to the southerly end of the clearing.



A recently reopened trail drops off the hill southeasterly from the overlook for a 5-minute hike to the North Branch Trail. I counted twelve people at the start – not a bad turnout. The members were getting restless after we'd descended southwesterly for about 45 minutes along the brook to where the Rattlesnake Cliff trail takes off to the right and ascends steeply to the northeast.

Tom, Barry, and Diane helped me remove some windfalls with the Griffith's antique 3-foot crosscut saw and some good teamwork. Meanwhile the rest of the group clattered on up the trail. I was sure they'd pause at the first junction to wait for one of their hike leaders. Righttttt!

We banked a left at the first, brand-spanking new sign and worked our way down to another fork (still no souls present), the left of which took us to the most southerly overview where about half of the group was hanging out. The rest of the delinquent hikers had migrated (or as they'd say out west, "quailed") to parts unknown.

Taking Viv's concerns in mind and with a strong commitment to group cohesiveness, I followed leader protocol by sitting down for lunch. There's a fantastic view of the Greens, the most impressive height of land being Gillespie Peak. You can see most of the surface of Silver Lake, the southern end of Lake Dunmore, and way down the Route 53 drainage to the south. If you slide just a little further to the west along the cliff, there's another spot where you can see more of Lake Dunmore. That's where the missing hikers showed up.



**View of Lake Dunmore from Rattlesnake Cliffs**

After finishing lunch, we worked our way back up to the first "Cliffs" sign (badly in need of repair) and checked out the western overlook. This one gives you a nice view of the Adirondacks and most of Lake Dunmore

and Fern Lake. Gordon's house is somewhere along the later. I think this view point is more heavily visited, but I prefer the more southerly of the three. At least some of these cliff overviews are closed by the Forest Service in the peregrine falcons' spring nesting season. Fall is a great time to go.

We headed north up the Oak Ridge Trail towards Mt. Moosalamoo. This is a nifty hike unto itself, with partial views through the trees to the west. A lot of the surface is along a sharp ledge which could be pretty slippery if wet – another good reason for hiking clockwise. We noticed that a bunch of trash that previously had been thrown off the ledge by hikers unknown had subsequently been picked up by hikers unknown. Well done to the later.

About a quarter-mile short of the top of Moosalamoo the Keewaydin Trail takes off to the southeast. Taking direction from those more influential and, frankly, intimidating than I, the decision was made to skip the peak and head down hill. The National Forest crews have been busy on this section, with lots of new water bar work and impressive stone paving and culverts.

After taking out a couple more windfalls, Barry wisely confiscated all implements of destruction from me so as to catch up with the others who had heartlessly waltzed on down the hill. After dumping out on Forest Road 24B, it's a quick, 5-minute jaunt down the hill to the overlook. All were accounted for and we squeezed into our automobiles for the carpool back home. I'd estimate this trip to be about 4 or 5 miles, round trip and moderate in difficulty. We'll do this one again.

Note from Viv regarding Larry's "left behind" grumbling above, "This was not a work party!"

### **Mount Cardigan, NH**

2 October 2010

By Terri Wilson, leader

Not only was the weather great, but the company was exceptional. There were ten of us hiking up "Old Baldy." I can't think of a better way to spend a day than with my "Green Mountain" family. After a moderate climb up the mountain we were rewarded with a view I never tire of. The colors were bursting with yellows and oranges that accented all the surrounding hills. There was more agreement than debate on what we were looking at in the distance. That doesn't happen all the time!

We enjoyed our lunch and company. Then it was off to hike "Firescrew". There was no debate. Everyone seemed in agreement. Our family was united in decision. That doesn't happen all the time! We scrambled down the rock and over to the ridge of Firescrew. Looking back at "Old Baldy" gave one a new appreciation for the climb.



After some time taking in the views, taking pictures and fellowship we headed back. On the way down we passed a young couple with a small child. She was heard saying "Look at the world mommy" while pointing down at the landscape. You couldn't help but catch the child's

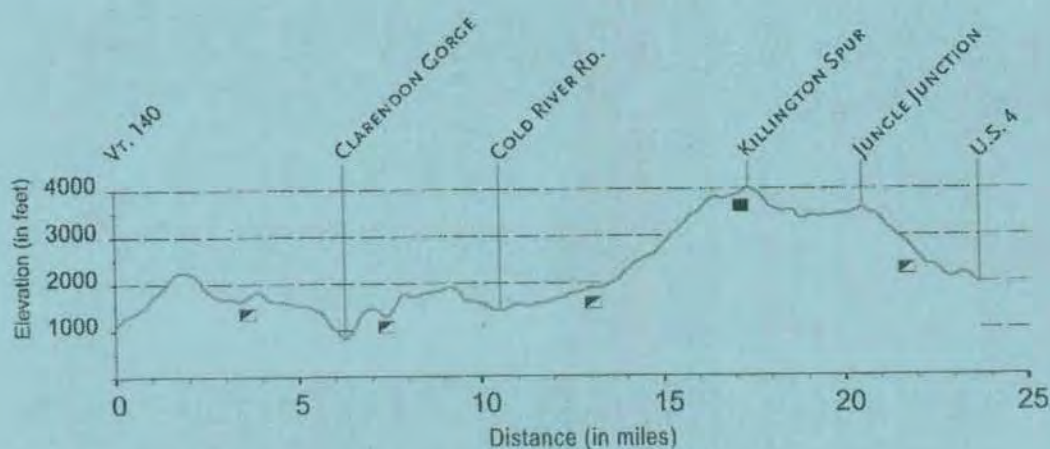
appreciation for the beauty outstretched before us.

Everyone agreed that it was a good day for a hike and we needed to stop for ice cream on the way back. Now that is my kind of kin!



On Mt. Cardigan. "We enjoyed our lunch and company....I can't think of a better way to spend the day"

### The Killington Section of the Long Trail





# Killington Section Directors Meet

By Allison Henry, Secretary

The Killington Section Board of Directors met at Swards Family Restaurant at 6:00 P.M. on 5 October 2010. Present were President Barry Griffith, Vice President Wayne Krevetski, Treasurer Gerry Martin, Secretary Allison Henry; and directors Sue Thomas, Tom Copps, and Herb Ogden. Also present were friends Bob and Thelma Perkins, Barb Griffith, and Lynda Hutchins.

Minutes from the 15 June meeting were approved on a motion by Herb, seconded by Gerry.

Treasurer's report by treasurer Gerry:

- Finances remain excellent; there has been limited activity since the last report.
- Our CDs mature in late October. CD interest rates are extremely low but there are few other options with higher interest rates, and nothing as secure as a CD. Even if we extended the CDs to 5 years we would not earn much interest.
- Internal reconciliation between the Kirk Fund and the General Fund still is needed in the amount of about two thousand dollars. We discussed whether or not this reconciliation should be made now. We believe that we can only use the interest from the Kirk fund, not the principal, but there is limited information available as to the original amount of the Kirk principal. Allison moved, and Lynda seconded, that we do the internal reconciliation so everything is in order. Further discussion indicated that if we transfer the amount now, the Kirk checking account will be very low. Allison amended her motion to defer the transfer of money until we find out the actual amount of the Kirk Fund principal. We then discussed ways to research this information. Gerry has gone through old treasurer's logs but cannot find the actual number. We can possibly consult other members of the Killington Section. Allison has a briefcase full of meeting minutes to turn over to Gerry for more research.

The Treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Allison, seconded by Herb.

Special Shrewsbury Trip Report by guest Barb Griffith: Dave Hardy, GMC Director of Field Programs, and representatives from the US Forest Service went out in the Shrewsbury Peak area, including the Black Swamp Trail and around to the chimney. Dave will be reporting to the Trails and Shelters Committee of the Main Club. One of the Forest Service representatives has requested help with maintenance of trails in this area. It could eventually fall under our Section. Upon discussion, we feel that we could

come up with a sector checker but not be responsible for the actual maintenance, as we already have a lot of miles of trail to maintain.

Report from Wayne:

- Thank you to Tom for helping to represent the Killington Section at the Diamond Run Mall for the Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) "Club Days" sale. EMS gave customers the twenty percent Club Days discount as long as they purchased at least \$50 worth of merchandise and gave \$10 to the Club. During the two-day sale Tom and Wayne together raised \$155 in donations for the Killington Section.
- We received a letter from Ruth Cooper Lamb who wants a copy of Bob Perkins' slide show. The slide show will also be shown at the ALDHA gathering. Copies of the DVD show can be purchased from PEG TV Channel 15.
- The 2011 Long Trail Festival will be held on Saturday, 6 August with a trail work day Sunday, 7 August.

Trails and Shelters report by co-chairs Herb and Wayne:

- Governor Clement Shelter is completely renovated with a new roof and new shingles. The site crew made a new bench out of saplings as well.
- The Governor's Gate is open for the hunting and snowmobile seasons.
- Herb will send a thank-you note to shelter adopter Roy Arthur.
- Bill Gwozdz, representing the GE Volunteers; Dave Hardy, GMC Director of Field Programs; and Doug Reeves of the U. S. Forest Service visited the Gould Brook crossing site between the Lower and Upper Cold River Roads in Shrewsbury. The cost for a bridge for this sometimes dangerous ford is astonishingly high for a Forest Service-designed bridge. Dave Hardy and the Forest Service representatives are skeptical of the suggested design to build a bridge just to the island; however a full span will be very long. We will keep in touch with the Main Club about this issue as a bridge is definitely needed. We discussed whether the ford should be mentioned in the guidebook or if a sign should be posted. A detour via a roadwalk is possible but it adds mileage.
- Wayne suggested that we add signage for the Governor Clement road – it is not in the ATC guidebook nor on their map, and AT hikers, especially South-Bounders, get confused because they think it is Upper Cold River road. Should we post a sign or map?
- Pico Camp needs substantial carpentry including a new door, steps, and maybe new bunks, as well as some



work underneath such as chicken wire to keep out the porkies. Do we have enough people for such a project on an upcoming Trail Work Day? Can we recruit a volunteer group, such as EMS or the carpentry students at Stafford?

- We do not know the time frame but Clarendon Shelter will eventually be removed or relocated because it is not on GMC or government property. We pointed out that it is still in good shape and it would be a shame to lose it.

Main Club Directors 25 September Meeting report by Allison, our alternate representative. [See Allison for more specific details.]

- Highlights: The GMC had a great Centennial year with many celebrations and projects by the Main Club and by the individual Sections. We got lots of publicity including the End-to-End Relay and Prickles the Porcupine on Facebook! It was a great field season as well with supersized efforts in many locations. Our book, *A Century in the Mountains*, received the Hathaway Award. The GMC community was saddened by loss of friend and Board member Dave Blumenthal. The Board appointed Lexi Shear to fill his post.
- The Main Club is working with an auditor. There are no major concerns with financial procedures or record-keeping.
- Lowell Wind Project: This was a major discussion at the Main Club meeting. Green Mountain Power has proposed a large-scale wind project on the Lowell Range. Turbines will be clearly visible from Belvidere Mountain and Tillotson Camp; as well as in view from much of the northern/central section of the Long Trail.
  - The Green Mountain Cub is NOT officially opposing the project. We are working to set a precedent and we are focusing on three points. (1) We want to consider the cumulative impact of multiple wind power projects; this is only one of what could eventually be many projects in view of the Long Trail. There is no statewide long-term energy plan. As individuals, we should be speaking with our legislators about a long-term energy plan for Vermont. (2) What are the plans for decommissioning the project? (3) How can the impact of the towers on the views from the Trail be minimized? At least nine of the towers are tall enough to require red blinking lights as per FAA regulations. Technology is available for lights that only turn on when a plane is detected.
  - We need to communicate these three points to the community for public relations purposes.

Additionally, the GMC is not focusing on the environmental impact of such a project as there are other groups already addressing this.

- A motion was passed to spend \$30,000 (including what has been spent so far) in addressing the Lowell Range project. This includes lawyer fees and an expert witness.
- Development Committee: The new Dave Blumenthal Education Endowment will provide long term funds for Trail-related educational projects.
- Other changes: There are some changes to committee appointments; job titles, and policy wording.

Outings report by Sue, Outing Coordinator:

- Outings have been very successful. As always, contact Sue if you wish to lead a hike or trip!

Other Business:

- General discussion of safety for group outings. What health information, if any, should we ask participants to provide? Some might be uncomfortable sharing personal information, but it is clearly a safety issue in some cases, such as asthma, diabetes, or an insect allergy. To our knowledge the Main Club has no specific policy and we do not require written sign-ups or waivers. We suggested that a group leader casually remind the group to mention any health problems to the leader in private at the start of the trip. We discussed that some leaders might be uncomfortable making this announcement, and that some participants might not wish to share. As always, we reminded ourselves that the group leader has the right to ask someone not to participate if they appear unable or ill equipped.
- Quilt Raffle tickets are still available and are still being sold at the Main Club headquarters.
- Our annual Fall Pot Luck will be on 20 November with a slid show on Archeology on the Long Trail.
- Our Section's Centennial will be on 4 October 2011. What can we do to celebrate? Suggestions: Exhibit in a vacant store front downtown. Old slides/photos. Killington Section Dinner. Find some of the original trail in our area. Allison is considering a backpacking trip of our section of the Long Trail.
- Will we have an event to commemorate Cooper Lodge before it is removed? We still have no tear-down date.
- The next board meeting is set for Tuesday, 1 February 2011 at Swards.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm



## Killington Section, GMC      Outing Schedule      Dec. 2010 – Feb. 2011

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**11 Dec., Saturday 9:00 A.M.      LT/AT Mystery Hike, Killington Area      Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
Destination and mileage will be determined by conditions. Snowshoes may be needed.

**19 Dec., Sunday, 10:00 A.M.      Hawk Hill – Old Brandon      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Explore the site of the original settlement of Brandon and an old cemetery  
Easy to moderate, 4 miles.

**9 Jan., Sunday, 9:00 A.M.      The Ball, Arlington      Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Snowshoe or ski depending on conditions.  
Moderate to difficult, 5 to 6 miles.

**15 Jan., Saturday, 9:00 A.M.      Wallingford Pond, Wallingford      Tom Copps, 774-5144**  
Snowshoe or ski depending on conditions.  
Moderate, 2.5 to 3 miles.

**22 Jan., Saturday, 8:30 A.M.      Bamforth Ridge, Bolton      Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
Snowshoe on the Long Trail to Duxbury Window and Bamforth Ridge Shelter on the side of Camel's Hump.  
Moderate, 6 miles.

**29 Jan., Saturday, 9:00 A.M.      High Pond, Sudbury      Barb & Barry Griffith, 492-3573**  
Snowshoe and explore winter wildlife habitat at this pretty Nature Conservancy preserve.  
Moderate, 4 to 5 miles.

**6 Feb., Sunday, 10:00 A.M.      Hot Dog Roast, Shrewsbury      Steve & Roma Pulling, 773-6997**  
Join us at Minerva Hinchey Shelter on the Long Trail for our annual cookout. Bring your own hot dogs or whatever you want to roast over our campfire. Hot drinks will be provided. Snowshoes may be needed, and we'll have a short hike to work up an appetite.

**12 Feb., Saturday, 9:00 A.M.      Rail-Trail, W. Rupert      Viv Bebee & Larry Walter, 775-3855**  
Snowshoe or walk, depending on conditions, on a rail-trail and old roads.  
Moderate, 3 to 5 miles.

**19 Feb., Saturday, 10:00 A.M.      Rail-Trail, W. Pawlet      Herb Ogden, 293-2510**  
Cross-country ski (or walk if Mother Nature doesn't cooperate; call leader to inquire) on the D & H Railroad route from West Pawlet, VT to Granville, NY.  
Easy, 8 miles.  
**Note: Meet at 10:00 A.M. at the West Pawlet Post Office.**

**26 Feb., Saturday, 10:00 A.M. Tamarack Notch to Brewers Corners, Mendon      Sue Thomas, 773-2185**  
Moderate snowshoe; about 4 miles.

**5 March, Saturday, 8:30 A.M.      Pharaoh Lake Wilderness, Chilson, NY      Allison Henry, 775-1627**  
Explore ponds and forests. Snowshoes may be needed. It may be very wet.  
Moderate, 5 to 6 miles.



Bob Perkins, Editor  
6 Rachel Drive  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

Your Invitation to Join

### Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

**ANNUAL DUES:**

Individual..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer ..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 64, Number 1

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

February 2011



Killington Sectioneers kayak on Grafton Pond NH  
August 22, 2010 with Terri Wilson



Spruce Peak Shelter January 22, 2011 on a trip  
led by Allison Henry



Trooping down Mount Cardigan with Sue Thomas, October 3, 2010

Pictures of  
Seasonal hiking  
with the Killington  
Section.



**Smoke & Blazes**  
Newsletter of the  
Killington Section,  
Green Mountain Club

**Killington Section Directors**

Term expires in:

2011 ..... \*Barry Griffith  
" ..... Allison Henry  
" ..... Sue Thomas  
2012 ..... \*Wayne Krevetski  
" ..... Gerry Martin  
" ..... Herb Ogden  
2013 ..... Viv Bebee  
" ..... Tom Cops  
" ..... Steve Williams

\* Second consecutive 3-year term.

Not eligible for re-election.

**Killington Section Officers**

President ..... Barry Griffith  
Vice President ..... Wayne Krevetski  
Secretary ..... Allison Henry  
Treasurer ..... Gerry Martin

**Committee Chairs**

History ..... Bob Perkins  
Outings ..... Sue Thomas  
Trails & Shelters ..... Herb Ogden  
and ..... Wayne Krevetski

**Delegates to GMC Board**

Director ..... Allison Henry  
Alternate ..... Steve Williams

**Smoke & Blazes**

Editor ..... Viv Bebee  
Assistant Editor ..... Larry Walter  
Photo Editor ..... Tom Cops

**Web Site**

Web master ..... Deborah Waggett

THANK YOU, EDITOR BOB PERKINS!  
WELCOME, EDITOR VIV BEBEE!

One of the perks of being a Section President is that GMC provides you with courtesy copies of newsletters from the other Sections. I have presided over the Annual Meetings of the Killington Section since 2007. I have stated every year that our own *Smoke & Blazes* is the best GMC Section newsletter, bar none.

Praise for the quality of this publication over the past decade is properly bestowed upon our fine newsletter Editor, Bob Perkins. For ten years, every quarter Bob has solicited articles and reviewed photographs of Killington Section outings, new and old. Bob has gently reminded and patiently cajoled our hike and other leaders into submitting reports and articles in a (more or less) timely fashion. *Smoke & Blazes* has memorialized outings and provided our members with information about our Killington Section. More often than not, over the past decade the best articles were written by Bob himself.

Earlier this year, Bob advised our Board of Directors that it was time for him to back away from the time commitment required to serve as our newsletter Editor. We received this news with sadness, but also with extreme gratitude for the fine service Bob has provided in this post for ten years. Bob, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Vivian Bebee has stepped forward, and has agreed to serve as our new *Smoke & Blazes* Editor. Larry Walter will serve as her Assistant Editor and Tom Cops will serve as Photo Editor. Thank you, Viv – Larry and Tom. We are grateful to all of you!

Barry Griffith, Killington Section President

**Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>**

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Barry Griffith 68 Griffith Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-3573, [Griff2VT@Vermontel.net](mailto:Griff2VT@Vermontel.net)  
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Sue Thomas, 27 Clinton Ave., Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185  
Deborah Waggett, 21 Academy St., Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, [purplejeep99@hotmail.com](mailto:purplejeep99@hotmail.com)  
Steve Williams, 682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, [voorburg00@comcast.net](mailto:voorburg00@comcast.net)



## Outing Reports

### DEER LEAP, KILLINGTON, December 11, 2010, by Tom Copps, leader

This was to be our last trip to Deer Leap for the year. Our crew was myself, Larry Walter and the pair from Pawlet Steve Williams and Barbara O'Connor. We arrived at the LT-AT trailhead on US Route 4 at about 9:45 in the morning on a cold and overcast day. The snow cover was light so we settled for grippers instead of snowshoes and started out. Climbing steadily we arrived at Maine Junction in Willard Gap in due time. Continuing up the trail we had a short discussion as to whether we should proceed over the top of Deer Mountain. Short because none of us had any intention of doing any such fool thing! Having re-established our goals for the day we continued on around the north side of the mountain until we arrived at the Deer Leap Spur. Up we went, though not nearly as fast as we had been traveling of course. Slippery!

As everybody knows, when we finally achieved the rocks of Deer Leap Lookout the views were beautiful. We saw some snowmaking on Pico but the mountain also appeared to be covered with a good deal of natural snow. I seem to remember that eighteen inches had been reported on the backside the previous week by Larry and Dave. When we were satisfied with the view, we turned back, still not yet having eaten lunch. Larry went on ahead and picked out a large rock in the woods that served nicely as a table.

After lunch we descended via the spur, turned right, and quickly made our way to the Inn at the Long Trail. Here we spent an enjoyable hour conversing and sampling the beer, wine and snacks. Finally we walked back down the highway to the car, stowed our gear and returned to Rutland.

### THE BALL, ARLINGTON, January 9, 2011, by Larry Walter, leader

I always tend to underestimate the time it takes to get a group of people up to a peak and back. We had a great turnout of 10 hikers, including myself. Dave and Nancy Hagelburg let us park in their woodlot where the trail takes off up Dry (never been known to) Brook. The temperature was just right given the grade. The hike is all on old logging roads, most of which could be walked without snowshoes, but once on top, post holing was not pleasant. I neglected to make sure that everyone had snowshoes when we left. That, coupled with our time growing short, prompted a 2:00 PM lunch on the ridge for five of us with the other five making it to the summit about fifteen minutes later. As luck would have it, the view was pretty much obscured by a pretty fair little snow squall, but it cleared up a bit when we were descending, affording a nice view back down through the drainage.

We walked through the southern portion of a 775-acre proposed acquisition by the Forest Service that I'd been working on for about 2 years. Looks like it might actually happen. I hope it does, because this drainage plus the three peaks in the area (including Spruce Peak and Grass Mountain) are just stunning. Word has it that the approach from the north is equally impressive, so that'll be one to recon in the spring. Hope to see you there for the official summer trip.

### WALLINGFORD POND, January 15, 2011, by Tom Copps, leader

Early Saturday morning was cold and quiet. When I called Sue, she exclaimed "my God, do you know that it's four below!" However we met at the park as usual. By we I mean myself and Bob Perkins. The two of us made our way to East Wallingford where we met up with Steve and Barbara, for our final group of four. The drive up to the Wallingford Pond parking space was uneventful on a well-maintained plowed road and we set out at about 10 AM.

The conditions were beautiful. We quickly made our way to the junction at the pond area. A quick reconnoiter to the left brought us to the north half of what used to be called Spectacle Pond, where there is a small lunch area with a dilapidated homemade table. The pond was beautiful so we tested the ice a little bit. Everything seemed just fine.

We retraced our steps back to the junction and proceeded up the South side of the right "spectacle". The ice seemed fine under two feet of snow so we set out counterclockwise around the shore looking for the channel to the other "spectacle". At least that's what I was doing. The channel appeared in front of us as we rounded the east end of the pond. As Johnny Carson used to say, when you come to a fork in the trail take it. So we did. As I made my way around a tree that had tipped over into the channel I heard a small crack in the ice. When Barbara, our tail gunner, made the turn she said some water was coming up. The northern pond is much larger and more appealing. After a little confusion about where we should make landfall we made our way around the left shore back to the dilapidated picnic table for lunch.



As we were packing up, four snow machines arrived. We had a pleasant conversation with them although they were quite smelly. Barbara warned them about the slush anyway. Again we made our way back to the pond junction. As we regrouped we could hear what sounded like beagles running in the woods.

On our way back down the trail we met four more snow machines, so they are pretty active on these trails. No skiers. When we explored the area just after Christmas, we met a hunter with three beagles, another hunter with an old time single shot and a cross-country skier who had come up from the Belmont side. Certainly a more interesting group to meet on the trail I would say.

Although I was a little nervous in the morning about how it would all work out it was a great day and I am indebted to Bob, Steve and Barbara for making my "leadership" no work at all.

#### **NOT BAMFORTH RIDGE, January 22, 2011, by Allison Henry, leader**

I had scheduled a hike to Duxbury Window and Bamforth Ridge Shelter on the Long Trail north of Camel's Hump, but I watched the weather forecasts during the week prior to the trip with shivers of foreboding. With the highs expected to be in the single digits for the upcoming weekend, by mid-week I began walking the Long Trail in my brain, searching for a closer, more southerly and more sheltered destination for the expedition. (It would have been a very long drive for what could have been a miserable trip.) I even went so far as to actually look at the Long Trail map and suddenly, There It Was, shining like a beacon....Spruce Peak Shelter. Shorter drive to be home to a warm house sooner? Check. Less northerly? Check. Sheltered? Check check! Less-exposed trail AND an enclosed shelter. Even with the potential for sub-zero temperatures we had five participants, including yours truly, two more crazy diehards, a Herb, and a new guy (plus his well-mannered terrier mix). An added bonus: the trailhead on Rt 11 and 30 was already plowed from the previous night's snowfall, due to snowmobiler use in the winter. After a treacherous crossing of the highway (Flatlanders in SUVs!), the snowy woods welcomed us with open limbs. Hilarity ensued soon after entering the woods... as I spoke proudly of the convenient ratcheting feature on my snowshoe bindings, I fell over backwards, covering myself from head to toe in fluffy snow. Luckily (?????), it was too cold for the snow to melt on me. Other than the landshark-shaped hole marring the flawless snow, the scenery was perfect. The best winter conditions I've ever seen. Every single branch and twig was covered with a light layer of fluffy snow. There was new snow cover on the Trail itself, a foot deep or so, but clearly people had been there two or three snowfalls ago. Larry broke trail most of the way in his MSR Denalis (without the tails!). We only had a few instances of "losing" the white blazes but we knew the general direction of the Trail anyhow. I believe the temperature ended up in the low teens, warmer than expected, but lunch was still a bit chilly even in the enclosed shelter. The wood stove was tempting but we resisted—otherwise by the time we got it going, we would've had to leave. After lunch, it was a quick walk out on our packed trail.

By the way, has anyone seen Tom? He insisted on going to Bamforth Ridge despite the cold. When we got to the trailhead, he headed north instead of south. He is probably nearly to Camel's Hump by now....

#### **HOT DOG ROAST, February 6, 2011, by Roma Pulling, leader**

"Seems like old times..."

And it was very much like old times except when your leader, in a "senior moment," filled the Section's pack basket with ingredients for hot beverages and other goodies and left it sitting in her dinette at home. For that I am extremely sorry. Of course that backfired, didn't it? I was one of those who endured the winter outing with no hot beverage. Strangely, following a day of unpleasant surprises, we had good weather. We experienced mostly cloudy weather with a few glimpses of blue sky and acceptable driving conditions. The road from Route 103 to Spring Lake Ranch, which can be tricky at times, had been well-plowed and sanded.

Eight of us met at the park that morning and were met by two more at the parking area at the ranch. Three joined us later at our meeting spot, Minerva Hinchey Shelter. While Steve and I stayed at the shelter to get things set up and a fire going over which we would soon cook our hot dogs and sausages, the rest of the group went for a short snowshoe hike in the area. What really added a festive touch to the occasion was when three old-timers who, like myself, who don't hike as



much as they used to, were able to join us: Rob and Sue Carey and Jerry Parker. And I was grateful that everyone was so gracious when I fell down on the job. Thank you.

#### **WEST RUPERT (BUSHWACK/RAIL TRAIL), February 12, 2011, by Viv Bebee/Larry Walter, leaders**

Our little group consisted of stalwarts, Tom Copps and Sue Thomas. (Larry was included in case we needed any trail breaking, ditch digging or tree maiming). The day was overcast and cold with a bit of wind, adding up to a nice mix of winter elements. The sun tried to peak though a couple times. We parked our car at Georgia Bebee's house (Viv's mom) and walked from there north on Mill Road to the rail trail. We crossed the brook on the rail trail bridge, put on our snowshoes, left the rail trail, shoed across a small meadow to begin climbing a steep little woods road that wound up the east side of the hill. Several turkeys had used the same route. After we reached a point where the road swung more to the northeast, we turned northwest instead and made our own trail, passing several deer beds. A narrow window in a pucker brush patch brought us out onto the top of the hill. Viv pointed out a large bird's nest on the way up. The summit afforded a nice opening from where we could see the West Rupert valley south/southeast, including Mother Myrick, Antone Mountain, Masters Mountain and west to Salem, NY. While standing on top of the hill enjoying the view, we noticed a large bird floating across the valley. It was close enough to see a white tail and head with a dark body. Looked like a bald eagle to us!

From the summit, another woods road dropped steeply off the southwest flank of the hill and then wound around to the west, crossing open fields, coming down to Cross Road (not maintained in the winter). On the side of the road, we noticed feather remains of a grouse. When we left Cross Road a short distance further up the road, Sue happened to cross over the fence near a stump-dump and noticed the entrance to a fox den. Perhaps the likely predator.

We snowshoed across a few more open fields and rolling hills, having lunch near the top of a wooded ridge. Then we headed southerly across the ridge and spotted a rather large, quarried stone marker about four feet tall with a pointed top but no markings, unless they were under the snow by the base. Continuing on to another open hill-top, we had a great view of West Rupert Village. For such an easy (Larry says) hike, there are several excellent views along the way. A quick 10 minutes down the other side of this last hill and across a meadow brought us out to the Cross Road Bridge over the brook. We picked up the rail trail again just off the bridge and worked our way back to the Bebee residence, where Viv's mom had some freshly-baked brownies to share. Good company, beautiful snow, great views . . . all adding up to a very nice day.

### **Killington Section Directors' Meeting**

#### **Minutes of Directors' Meeting**

February 1, 2011

By Allison Henry, Secretary

Present: President Barry Griffith, VP Wayne Krevetski, Secretary Allison Henry, Treasurer Gerry Martin; Directors Sue Thomas, Herb Ogden, Tom Copps, Viv Bebee; friend Bob Perkins.

Meeting convened at 6:20 pm at Swards Restaurant, Rutland.

Minutes approved from 10/5/2010 (motion by Herb; seconded by Wayne).

Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Gerry. Contact Gerry for a copy and/or for more details. Highlights:

- Funds received from the quilt raffle (which will then be donated to the Main Club) and from donations from Club Days held at Eastern Mountain Sports last fall
- We had an increase in membership funds after the first of this year



•No changes in issues brought up at our last few meetings: we have not yet decided to do an internal reconciliation between our checking account and the Kirk fund. Also, our cds still have very little yield but no one is offering a decent rate so we'll continue to roll them over where they are for now.

The Treasurer's report was accepted by the Board (motion by Herb, seconded by Wayne).

Lynda Hutchins, our liaison to the Main Club, was not present due to weather but she submitted a written report to Barry. Barry gave us a brief summary of Lynda's report from the last Main Club meeting which was held on January 22, 2011. Contact Lynda for a written copy. Highlights:

•Our intervener status in the proposed Lowell Range wind project has been keeping the Main Club very busy with public meetings, hearings, and research; legal and consulting fees are also contributing to financial challenges of Club. \$20,400 has already been used of the \$30K sum already approved by the Board

•Concerns about what funding sources will be like this year—stimulus money, statue funds, etc.

•The new Marketing Committee is addressing topics such as: overuse of the Trail in some areas; brand awareness ("GMC" vs. "LT"); technology use in the woods.

•Lynda was appointed as a Main Club director at large to fill a vacancy (another director had resigned)

[Motions made, seconded and approved to appoint Allison Henry as the Killington Section director to the Main Club and Steve Williams as the alternate. -Ed.]

Bob Perkins announced that he will be retiring from his position as Smoke & Blazes editor sooner than anticipated (he had previously shared this news in an email to the Directors several weeks ago). [Discussion regarding transition to a new editor. -Ed.] The Board thanked Bob for his ten (ten!) years of service.

The Killington Section's own 100-year anniversary will be this October. [Discussion regarding events to commemorate this occasion. -Ed.]

A Trails and Shelters report was presented by co-chairs Wayne and Herb. Highlights:

•the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) is trying to get the entire Appalachian Trail recognized as a National Historic Site. This is something that would be done "section by section." The Vermont section of the AT had been suggested as a possible "test case" but the GMC is not sure that this would be ideal. We are still working on easements with some landowners. However, being on the Historic registry would give the Trail better legal standing in the face of development such as wind towers or ski areas. Any cost associated with this transition would be covered by the ATC.

•The Main Club is working on a 5-year plan for improvements and renovations to shelters

•Pico Camp could be the Rutland Long Trail Festival's Hard Core project for Sunday of the festival, if the Festival's board approves the project. A question then arose as to whether Pico and Killington still plan to build a connector trail between the two ski areas. When this was proposed years ago, it was slated to go right past the front door of Pico Camp. No one on the Board has heard anything for sure, especially recently, about the resort areas' plans. We discussed what improvements to Pico Camp were necessary, and it was suggested that we attempt to find out what the ski areas plan to do in the near future.

•There are still no official plans for a bridge at Gould Brook

Other Business:

•[Discussion regarding possible new location for our pot lucks and Annual Meeting. -Ed.]

•Allison asked what constitutes true volunteer hours for reporting purposes to the Main Club: only actual trail work, or also leading hikes, etc. Barry said that volunteer hours would include everything: trail work, leading hikes, and even board meetings.

•We have a new Sector Checker for the Canty Trail

•Does anyone have photos of the original Long Trail Lodge?

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 (motion by Allison, seconded by Herb)

(For complete transcript of the above Minutes, contact Allison Henry.)



## **This n' That**

**--GMC Board News:** The Board of Directors of the Killington Section appoints one of our members as our representative to the Green Mountain Club Board of Directors. Each of the other Sections similarly designates a GMC Director. General or at-large Directors elected by GMC members round out the main Club Board. I am happy to report that two Killington Section members are now serving on the GMC Board of Directors. Last month the GMC Board appointed LYNDA HUTCHINS, who has ably served as our Killington Section representative, to fill its vacant at-large Director position. The Killington Section Board thereafter promptly appointed our Board member (and Secretary) ALLISON HENRY to serve as our Killington Section delegate to the GMC Board. I believe that all concerned are pleased with this development -- I know I am! Allison has much to offer at the GMC Board level. The GMC will now have the benefit of Allison's talents and energy, while at the same time retaining Lynda's skills and expertise. Come to our Killington Section Annual Meeting and congratulate them both!

Barry Griffith, Killington Section President

**--Celebrate Our Killington Section Centennial!!!** The meeting in Burlington that established the Green Mountain Club on March 11, 1910 is well memorialized. We properly celebrated the centennial of GMC's founding throughout 2010. Sections were established in the months and years that followed GMC's founding, to pursue work on the Long Trail at a local level. Our Section was organized in Rutland on October 4, 1911. Thus, this year the Killington Section turns 100 -- good cause for further celebration!

We discussed events to recognize this anniversary at our recent Section Board meeting. Wayne and Kathy Krevetski have volunteered to organize a celebratory dinner at the Long Trail Inn on June 4 -- National Trails Day. Allison Henry plans to organize a summer hike through the part of the Long Trail maintained by our Section -- perhaps Prickles can be persuaded to join us! A celebration around an autumn potluck also seems in order -- either on Tuesday, October 4, or as part of the annual deer hunting season get-together.

The Killington Section's 100th Annual Meeting will be held at the Godnick Center on March 26. Come join us, hear what we have in mind, and tell us how you would like to celebrate Killington's centennial year.

Barry Griffith, Killington Section President

**--EMS Club Days, April 8 and 9 (discounts for GMC members)**



Viv Bebee, Editor  
14 Belmont Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual..... \$40  
Family ..... \$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



**Killington Section, GMC    Outing Schedule****March – May 2011**

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather, and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Rutland's Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**5 March, Saturday, 8:30 A.M.,****Pharaoh Lake Wilderness, Chilson, NY****Allison Henry 775-1627**

Explore ponds and forests. Snowshoes may be needed. It may be very wet.

Moderate, 5 to 6 miles

**13 March, Sunday, 9:00 A.M.,****The Dome, Pownal****Larry Walter 775-3855**

Snowshoes are required for this climb to a viewpoint in the Taconic range.

Difficult, 7 miles

**20 March, Sunday, 9:00 A.M.****Ludlow Mountain, Mount Holly****Barb and Barry Griffith 492-3573**

We will climb via the Healdville Trail to the summit fire tower with views of the major peaks in Southern Vermont. Some steep climbing - 1,900 feet elevation gain. Snowshoes may be needed. Moderate, 6 miles.

**26 March, Saturday, 6:00 P.M.,****Killington Section Annual Meeting****Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Bring a dish to share and your own place setting for a pot luck supper, followed by a short business meeting and election of officers. All are welcome!

NEW LOCATION: Godnick Senior Center, Deer Street, Rutland

**27 March, Sunday, 10:00 A.M.,****Grandpa's Knob, Castleton****Tom Copps 774-5144**

Climb to the site of the State's first municipal wind turbine, erected in the 1940's; great views in all directions of the Greens, the Adirondacks and the Taconics; elevation gain 1,000 feet. Moderate, 3 miles

**2 April, Saturday, 9:00 A.M.,****Snake Mountain, Addison****Allison Henry 775-1627**

Climb to the site of a ca.1870 hotel – gone now, but the sweeping view of Lake Champlain and the Adirondack Mountains are well worth the hike; 900 feet elevation gain. Moderate, 4 miles

**9 April, Saturday, 9:00 A.M. (rain date April 10),****Hamilton Falls, Jamaica****Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Hike on the old roadbed of the former West River Railroad along the river and up to the Falls, at Jamaica State Park. Optional extra hike to Ball Mountain Dam. Moderate, 4 miles

**16 April, Saturday 10:00 A.M.-2:30 p.m., Section Leaders Forum,****GMC Headquarters, Waterbury    Contact Main Club for details.****244-7037 ext. 24**

The Club is hosting this meeting in order for members to exchange information on trail maintenance, outings and promotion.

**17 April, Sunday,****Mystery Hike****Diane Bargiel 413-687-1109**

The leader will choose a destination. Call for meeting place and time.



- 7 May, Saturday, 9:00 A.M.,**  
**Long Trail Spring Cleaning** **Herb Ogden 293-2510**  
 All are welcome to join us for our annual cleanup and maintenance, preparing the trail for the summer hiking season. We will clear waterbars, trim brush and cut blowdowns on the lower elevation stretches. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes and lunch. Tools will be provided. Have fun while doing a good deed.
- 14 May, Saturday, 9:00 A.M.,**  
**Spring Wildflowers and Birds** **Connie Youngstrom 492-3502**  
 A short hike to identify the wildflowers and birds of the area. Bring binoculars, fieldguides and bug repellent.
- 15 May, Sunday, 9:30 A.M.,**  
**Winona Lake, Bristol** **Larry Walter and Viv Bebee 775-3855**  
 Canoe or kayak on this beautiful, small lake (a/k/a Bristol Pond), with abundant bird life.
- 21 May, Saturday, 10:00 A.M.,**  
**Relive the Patch Hollow Horror, Cuttingsville** **Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**  
 How time flies – it's the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dastardly deed, and we will hike to the scene of the crime to commemorate the occasion (grass skirts optional).  
 Moderate, 3.5-4 miles
- 28 May, Saturday, 9:00 A.M. (rain date May 29)**  
**Lye Brook Falls, Manchester** **Sue Thomas 773-2185**  
 Climb gradually to one of Vermont's highest waterfalls, in the Lye Brook Wilderness.  
 Moderate, 4.5 miles
- 4 June, Saturday, 9:00 A.M.**  
**National Trails Day, Long Trail Maintenance** **Herb Ogden 293-2510**  
 Volunteers all over the country will be out clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns and painting blazes, readying the trail for the summer hiking season. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes and lunch. Tools will be provided.
- 10-12 June, Green Mountain Club Annual Meeting, Plymouth**  
 Hosted by the Ottauquechee Section at Camp Plymouth State Park, with activities, meals and hikes planned in addition to the meeting itself. For details and registration information, see the Long Trail News or check the website - [greenmountainclub.org](http://greenmountainclub.org).



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 64, Number 2

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

June 2011



Steve Williams, Barbara O'Connor and Bob Perkins  
on Wallingford Pond, February 15



Allison in her Rabbit Hat  
at High Pond, January 29



The Annual hot dog roast at Minerva Hinchey  
hosted by Roma Pulling, February 6



Larry Walter, Tom Cops and Herb Ogden on the way  
to Spruce Peak Shelter with Allison Henry, January 22



Annual Meeting, March 26

Steve Williams, Jennifer Wright GMNF, Gerry Martin, Herb Ogden, Wayne Krevetski, Allison Henry, Sue Thomas, Tom Cops



**Killington Section Directors:**

Term expiration 2012

Wayne Krevetski\*

Gerry Martin

Herb Ogden

Term expiration 2013

Viv Bebee

Tom Copps

Steve Williams

Term expiration 2014

Allison Henry

Sue Thomas\*

\*Second consecutive 3-year term. Not eligible for re-election.

**Killington Section Officers:**

Wayne Krevetski President

Steve Williams Vice President

Allison Henry Secretary

Gerry Martin Treasurer

**Committee Chairs:**

Bob Perkins History

Sue Thomas Outings

Herb Ogden Trails &amp; Shelters

Wayne Krevetski Trails &amp; Shelters

**Delegates to GMC Board:**

Allison Henry Director

Steve Williams Alternate

**Smoke & Blazes:**

Viv Bebee Editor

Larry Walter Assistant Editor

Tom Copps Photo Editor

**Web Site:**

Deborah Waggett Web Master

**THANK YOU**

This, my first newsletter note as President, will be a note of thanks. The first thank you goes to the Killington Board of Directors for their trust in me to appoint me as your president for the coming year. I will not let you down.

My second thank you goes out to the folks who stepped up to represent the Section at the EMS Club Days event in April. Allison, Henry, Tom Copps and Herb Ogden gave there time to put a face on the Green Mountain Club, Killington Section, and Long Trail. Their efforts earned the Section \$140.00 in donations and a new member. Aside from the monetary gain, the importance of sharing our love for and commitment to the trail with others and, hopefully, igniting the same fire and commitment in them cannot be overstated. The future of the Trail and the other wild places we currently enjoy depends on developing an understanding and respect for those places with the youth who will be responsible for their care in the years to come.

The weather is changing and the black flies will soon be gone. Lets go for a hike and take a friend with you.

Wayne Krevetski, Killington Section President

**IN MEMORIAM**

We sadly note the passing of our friend, John Little. John was an avid hiker and along with his dog/hiking partner, Sammi, was an active participant in Killington Section outings. John's quiet good humor will be greatly missed, and we extend our sincere condolences to Betty and all the family.

**Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>**

Viv Bebee	14 Belmont Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 775-3855, <a href="mailto:lwalter@sover.net">lwalter@sover.net</a>
Tom Copps	78 North Main Street, #Apt. 3, Rutland, VT 05701, 774-5144, <a href="mailto:tcopps@sover.net">tcopps@sover.net</a>
Allison Henry	47 West St., Apt. #1, Rutland, VT 05701, 775-1627, <a href="mailto:allisonnorton1@gmail.com">allisonnorton1@gmail.com</a>
Wayne Krevetski	22 Roberts Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 282-2237, <a href="mailto:wkrevetski@hotmail.com">wkrevetski@hotmail.com</a>
Gerry Martin	998 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-2244, <a href="mailto:gdmartin2020@yahoo.com">gdmartin2020@yahoo.com</a>
Herbert Ogden	214 South End Road, Mount Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, <a href="mailto:hogden@vermontel.net">hogden@vermontel.net</a>
Bob Perkins	6 Rachel Drive, Rutland, VT 05701, 773-0184, <a href="mailto:RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu">RobertPerkins@alumni.UVM.edu</a>
Sue Thomas	27 Clinton Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185
Deborah Waggett	21 Academy Street, Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, <a href="mailto:purplejeep99@hotmail.com">purplejeep99@hotmail.com</a>
Steve Williams	682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, <a href="mailto:voorburg00@comcast.net">voorburg00@comcast.net</a>



## **This n' That**

**GMC Annual Meeting:** June 10-12, hosted by Ottauquechee Section at Camp Plymouth State Park, with activities, meals and hikes planned in addition to the meeting itself. For details and registration information, see the Spring *LTN* or check [www.greenmountainclub.org](http://www.greenmountainclub.org).

**Killington Section Board Meeting:** June 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 p.m. at Seward's Restaurant, North Main Street.

**PLEASE!!!!!!** Viv Bebee and Larry Walter will be on vacation the end of August through first week of September. The next issue of *Smoke & Blazes* must be ready for the printer no later than August 19<sup>th</sup>. It would be so helpful if, when you lead a hike, you could send us your hike report shortly thereafter, as well as any other items you want included in the next issue. Sue Thomas will also need new hikes for the hike schedule sooner. If not, the September issue will not be going out until the end of September. Thanks for your help.

**GMC Trail Committee Meeting:** April 14, PM at Waterbury Headquarters.

Attendees: Larry Walter, Jen Wright (USFS employees), Herb Ogden, Wayne Krevetski, Dave Coppock. Several topics were discussed, but our primary reason for attending this meeting was to reaffirm the GMC policy of blazing trails to achieve "inter-visibility" between the same. The use of the trail has progressed steadily towards a 4-season form of recreation. This has made it very difficult to find a snow covered path in certain sections, one being the popular stretch running south from Route 73. Dave Coppock and I will probably plan a general maintenance day for this segment (along with others) when we'll bring the blazing up to standard. Any volunteer painters? LW

## **Outing Reports**

**TAMARACK NOTCH, BREWERS CORNERS.** February 26, 2011, by Sue Thomas, leader

One of this snowy season's big dumps having occurred overnight, we decided not to assume any parking would be available at the Notch so early and opted for a snowshoe up the Bucklin Trail to the bridge instead. This had the added benefit of no snowmobiles, making for a much more peaceful hike, and the new snow sparkling in the sun was a treat.

When we had almost reached the bridge, we looked back to see a late arrival – our shortest Killington Section member, Burdock Parker, was barreling gamely through the powder. No easy feat when the snow is deeper than you are tall. He was pleased to find that he had arrived just in time for lunch, probably his goal all along.

After lunch, we decided it was too pretty to go home, so continued on up the trail for a bit before turning back, making way now and then for back-country skiers coming down from Killington. Alas, no one seemed lost, which was a bit of a disappointment. We had looked forward to pointing them toward the long walk out to Route 4. Yes, we are evil!

**THE DOME, POWNAL.** March 13, 2011, by Larry Walter, leader

The weather report was awful, but two other fools, er GMC'ers showed up at the park. It's a long drive to Pownal, so we decided to come up with something closer and relatively wimpy. Seeing as how Sue was the only one with a car, Tom and I piled into the venerable "Bob" and took a quick run over to Pine Hill Park. The hike/shoe up through the park was nice and quiet, with just a couple others out on the trails. Gas saved: check. Hiked some winter fat off: check. Put a couple more miles on Bob: check. It's nice hiking with good people, just about in any weather.



**COY HILL RD AND BUXTON RD., MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS, April 17, 2011, by Diane Bargiel, leader**

Mud and rainy season had arrived, so come Sunday morning of our scheduled hike, there was a real concern about the weather and the temperature. Storms north of Route 4 had been predicted, and as I walked out on my back deck, I could literally see the dividing line above my own yard (the north side of which had nasty clouds and the south had more puffy clouds with some visible sky).

I called folks to see if they were going to take a chance. Barry, Barb, Sue, Tom, and Larry were the hearty souls that morning who listened to me as I said something about there being no rain at all above East Poultney, and the word from Middletown Springs shared the same news. On top of that, the temperature was comfortable.

So, everyone got in their cars to meet me, even though it had been pouring in Rutland and Shrewsbury all morning long. Imagine how I felt then, when I drove out of my garage about 15 minutes prior to the meeting time and was hit with sprinkling raindrops that turned into a steady rain. I was sweating it out that I'd have a bunch of folks a little annoyed with me, but luckily, everyone was in good humor and by the time we hit the trail-head, so-to-speak, the rain had stopped and I didn't get strung up for mucking up people's day. Phew!

The six-mile loop on dirt roads was lovely and included an alpaca farm (which is the site of the original Coy homestead), streams, signs of a dog-sled trail, beautiful views, a mix of conifers and budding hardwoods that were in the beginning stages of their spring awakenings, and an uphill and a downhill that gave us a nice balanced workout. By the way, the uphill climb on the west side of Coy Hill is more gradual than the east side.

We finished with a meal at *Sissy's Kitchen* on her front porch on Route 140 just past the intersection with Route 133 where we had originally gathered. Then we checked out the cemetery across the street where we read some very dark and ominous grave stones from the 18th and 19th centuries. I don't know about the rest of the gang, but I'm glad that I didn't live around those folks!

It ended up being a fun and nourishing walk without any rain. Many thanks to the gang for being such good sports and good company.

**BOTANY AND BIRDING AT SHAW MOUNTAIN, BENSON, May 14, 2011, by Connie Youngstrom, leader**

Our group of seven was just the perfect size for a slow-paced ramble on the footpath at Shaw Mountain. This Nature Conservancy preserve is host to a wide array of spring wildflowers and many rare plants. We could comfortably gather in close to observe the plants growing at our feet or crane our necks while searching for an elusive songbird in the greening treetops. Thankfully, the forecasted rain held off until we returned to our cars at the trailhead, even though the skies remained dark and brooding and the air cool. Highlights for plants included Purple Virgin's Bower, a rare little Wild Clematis that is at its northern most reach at Shaw Mountain. Ironically, one of the rambling vines draped lavishly over an invasive honeysuckle shrub. Not far away, an interesting double form of White Trillium was spotted. It sported six sepals and six leaves rather than the usual three. Barb aptly renamed it "sexillium" and took some excellent photos of the plant. The usual list of spring flowers – Dutchman's Breeches, Squirrel Corn, many Violet species, Barren Strawberry, and more. A partial list of the birds heard or seen included Ovenbird, American Redstart, Black-Throated, Green, Black, White and Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroat, Swamp Sparrow, Ruffed Grouse, Tufted Titmouse, Red-Bellied Woodpecker, Baltimore Oriole, Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Eastern Wood Pewee, Red-Eyed Vireo, Cardinal, Rose-Breasted Grosbeak, Yellow-Throated Vireo, Scarlet Tanager and Great-Crested Flycatcher, just to name a few! A nice look at a Garter Snake, several Red Efts, an America Toad and an unseen Northern Grey Tree Frog that screamed from a treetop.



Our appointed day dawned stormy  
The rain date, it was worse,  
We settled then on Monday,  
And woke to rain, of course.

As dark clouds loomed above the ridge  
With forecast grim and wet,  
We slathered on the bug spray,  
And to the falls we set.

And there we found a wondrous sight-  
Not of the falls I speak,  
But lo, the sun, that yellow thing,  
Gone AWOL all last week!

The blue sky went right to our heads,  
The hike out, oh so merry,  
We just had to share our joy,  
With Messrs. Ben and Jerry.



Viv Bebee, Editor  
14 Belmont Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual.....\$40  
Family.....\$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer.....\$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_\_publications, \_\_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



## **KILLINGTON SECTION, GMC      OUTING SCHEDULE      JUNE – SEPTEMBER 2011**

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**18 June, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Baker Peak, Mt. Tabor**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

Climb to a viewpoint on Baker Peak via the Lake Trail. Some steep climbing – 2,350 feet elevation gain. Moderate, 5.6 miles.

**25 June, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**LT and Old Roads, Shrewsbury**

**Herb Ogden 293-2510**

We will follow the Long Trail north from Route 103 to the beacon north of the Lottery Road, then return via old roads and a little bushwhacking past the Bullard Cemetery. Moderate, 6 miles.

**2 July, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Big Branch to Old Job, Mt. Tabor**

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Hike along Ten Kilns Brook to the site of a once-thriving logging community and a real big pile of sawdust. Moderate, 3.5 miles, with option to go further along the brook.

**9 July, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Otter Creek Paddle, Clarendon**

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

A moderate-length paddle for canoes or kayaks. Meet at Sears parking lot.

**16 July, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Mount Hanley, West Rutland**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

You see it every day from Rutland. Join us for a climb to the top. Some steep climbing, a little bushwhacking and great views. Moderate, 4 miles.

**23 July, Saturday, 8:30 a.m.**

**Buck Mountain, Fort Ann, NY**

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Climb to a beautiful rocky summit with garnet crystals and a stunning view of Lake George and the Adirondack Mountains. Moderate, 4.6 miles.

**31, July, Sunday, 8:30 a.m.**

**Shaftsbury State Park, Shaftsbury**

**Viv Bebee & Larry Walter 775-3855**

Paddle for canoes or kayaks, hike, swim, picnic. Something for everyone to relax and enjoy. Lake Shaftsbury is small, so an easy paddle. Hiking on Healing Springs Nature Trail, which goes around the Lake also crosses over Hemlock Island via bridges. Small fee for use of State Park will be charged per car. If poor weather is predicted for Sunday and Saturday looks better, we will do this on July 30 instead. Call leaders.

**5-7, August, Friday-Sunday**

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event – Backpack the Killington Section**

**Allison Henry 775-1627**

Celebrate our milestone by hiking the entire 23 miles of the Killington Section. Call leader by August 1st for details and to reserve a space.

**20 August, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Haystack Mountain, Pawlet**

**Steve Williams 645-9529**

We will climb to the summit for a spectacular view of the Mettawee River Valley and soaring hawks and falcons. Some steep climbing. Moderate, 4-5 miles.



**14 August, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Rattlesnake Point, Salisbury**

**Larry Water 775-3855**

Hike to spectacular views of Lake Dunmore and Silver Lake from a series of comfortable ledges on the south flank of Mt. Moosalamoo. Our route will begin at the most northerly trailhead for the Falls of Lana. The bridge has been replaced above the Falls, so the hike will be relatively short. 1,100 feet elevation gain. Moderate, 4.5 miles.

**27 August, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Paddle the Poultney River**

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

A relaxing paddle along the scenic Vermont/New York border. Easy, 5 miles. Rain date August 28. Meet at Sears parking lot.

### **THURSDAY HIKES SCHEDULE**

The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of hikes for those who wish to enjoy their outings at a less strenuous pace. The hikes typically cover two to four miles, involve limited to moderate elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9 am** at the Godnick Center on Deer Street to car pool. We return in early to mid-afternoon. Call hike leaders if you have questions. All are welcome.

**June 9 Eshqua Bog Nature Area, Hartland; Mt. Peg, Woodstock**

**Reneé Warren 747-4466**

Visit this wildflower and bog plant sanctuary (Lady's Slippers!), then hike Mt. Peg.

**June 23 Chaffee Falls, Pittsford**

**Edith Kellogg 775-1246**

This woodland walk along Furnace Brook ends at a lovely waterfall. Moderate.

**July 7 Trail Around Middlebury, Middlebury**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

Leader will select an interesting section of the TAM.

**July 21 Deer Leap, Killington**

**Lyn/Jerry Ash 775-3481**

Climb the Deer Leap trail to both overlooks. Excellent views! Moderate.

**Aug. 4 Lily Pond, Bomoseen**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

Hike past beaver dams and old slate quarries to remote pond. Moderate.

**Aug. 18 Cookout - Gifford Woods, Killington**

**Ann Perry 236-1780**

(free admission w/Green Mt. Passport\*) Bring something to cook over our campfire. Enjoy a short hike or just relax.

**\*Age 62?** Obtain your lifetime Green Mountain Passport for \$2 at your Town Clerk's Office.



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 64, Number 3

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

September 2011



Uh-Oh Prickles got into Allyson's pack!



Cheryl Martin and Barry performing the Patch Hollow Tragedy.



"You are here" in Merck Forest



Larry Walter at Chittenden Brook.



The latest in rain fashion at Spring Lake

## Happy Centennial Killington Section!



The new Old Job Bridge. Massive wooden girders!



**Killington Section Directors:**

Term expiration 2012

Wayne Krevetski\*

Gerry Martin

Herb Ogden

Term expiration 2013

Viv Bebee

Tom Copps

Steve Williams

Term expiration 2014

Allison Henry

Sue Thomas\*

Dave Coppock

\*Second consecutive 3-year term. Not eligible for re-election.

**Killington Section Officers:**

Wayne Krevetski President

Steve Williams Vice President

Allison Henry Secretary

Gerry Martin Treasurer

**Committee Chairs:**

Bob Perkins History

Sue Thomas Outings

Herb Ogden Trails &amp; Shelters

Wayne Krevetski Trails &amp; Shelters

**Delegates to GMC Board:**

Allison Henry Director

Steve Williams Alternate

**Smoke & Blazes:**

Viv Bebee Editor

Larry Walter Assistant Editor

Tom Copps Photo Editor

**Web Site:**

Deborah Waggett Web Master

**Editor's Note: If you would rather receive Smoke & Blazes by email, please contact me. Thank you.**

**NEW MEMBER**

Hi to all fellow members of the GMC. My name is Paul Norton and I am the proud father of Allison Norton. I recently became a GMC member this past March. Unfortunately, my hikes are limited to 2-mile walks through my South Buffalo neighborhood two or three times a week. I do look forward to hiking the woods of upstate NY every Fall during deer season. I am proud of Allison and her husband, Phil, and all of their accomplishments. The pictures they send me make me want to be there with you guys. This is just a little note to say "Hi" from a proud new member of the GMC.

Paul V. Norton

Buffalo, NY

**Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>**

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Dave Coppock	21 Engrem Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 775-5968, <a href="mailto:dscoppock@gmail.com">dscoppock@gmail.com</a>
Tom Copps	78 North Main Street, #Apt. 3, Rutland, VT 05701, 774-5144, <a href="mailto:tcopps@sover.net">tcopps@sover.net</a>
Allison Henry	47 West St., Apt. #1, Rutland, VT 05701, 775-1627, <a href="mailto:allisonnorton1@gmail.com">allisonnorton1@gmail.com</a>
Wayne Krevetski	22 Roberts Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 282-2237, <a href="mailto:wkrevetski@hotmail.com">wkrevetski@hotmail.com</a>
Gerry Martin	998 Lincoln Hill Road, Shrewsbury, VT 05738, 492-2244, <a href="mailto:gdmartin2020@yahoo.com">gdmartin2020@yahoo.com</a>
Herbert Ogden	214 South End Road, Mount Tabor, VT 05253-9756, 293-2510, <a href="mailto:hogden@vermontel.net">hogden@vermontel.net</a>
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Sue Thomas	27 Clinton Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 773-2185
Deborah Waggett	21 Academy Street, Fair Haven, VT 05743, 265-2024, <a href="mailto:purplejeep99@hotmail.com">purplejeep99@hotmail.com</a>
Steve Williams	682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, <a href="mailto:voorburg00@comcast.net">voorburg00@comcast.net</a>



## This n' That

### 100-Year Celebration

Will Wiquist, new CEO of the Green Mountain Club, was the guest speaker at the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebration of the Killington Section, held on June 4, 2011 at the Inn at Long Trail. Over 30 club members attended the GMC benefit dinner, hosted by Patty and Murray McGrath of the Inn at Long Trail.

With help from research done by past president, Barry Griffith, of Shrewsbury, Will reviewed the early days of the Killington Section and how the Killington Section came to be.

The following is a synopsis prepared by Killington Section member, Kathleen Krevetski, of Will's presentation that evening:

In 1911, the Vermont Magazine noted a meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> of that year that was organized by Margaret Clement where Green Mountain Club President, James P. Taylor, talked about the work and projects of the Green Mountain Club, with the result that the 25 people in attendance that night organized the Killington section, just one year after the founding of the Club. By 1913, with the Killington section on board, the Long trail stretched from Killington Peak to Smugglers Notch. From 25 members in 1911 to 245 Killington Section members 100 years later, the Green Mountain Club today has grown to over 10,000 members worldwide.

For over one hundred years, the Green Mountain Club has been working to build and then maintain and promote the Long Trail and other hiking trails in Vermont. Will acknowledged the Killington Section has been an essential part of this organization. When the Green Mountain Club was first established at a meeting in Burlington in 1910, the first donation to the club was \$100 from Mr. M.E. Wheeler of Rutland. Rutland County was the home of the Club from 1917 through 1978. Right there at the top of Sherburne Pass, Killington, Mortimer Proctor took the lead in paying for the famous Long Trail Lodge, which served as the Club's central meeting place and home since 1923. The Lodge incorporated mossy rocks and used birch wood throughout, which eventually became such a popular tourist attraction that it was transferred to private management and unfortunately burned down in 1968.

It was in that Lodge that the Club celebrated completion of the Long Trail in 1931. The Club later moved its offices first to downtown Rutland, then to Montpelier and eventually to Waterbury where we make our home today.

There is something special about the Long Trail that has inspired dedication and sacrifice from Vermonters and non-Vermonters for more than 100 years. Will said for him it is the quiet breeze on the mountain tops, the exhilaration of seeing a splendid view, the sense of accomplishment one gets from besting a tough trail and working with others on a common mission. Like so many, Will admitted that when he first started hiking, it never occurred to him to ask who made the trails possible as they were part of the landscape. Despite its age, the Long Trail never fails to inspire hikers to commit so much time and energy into making the trails accessible and promoting the role of mountains in people's lives. Now more than ever, Will knows it takes hard work and planning, with so many people making a difference and working together today to make the hikes of tomorrow possible.

It is the members of the Green Mountain Club that do so much of that heavy lifting -literally and figuratively- that makes for the hiking experience we treasure. He told us two things he knows for sure since being with the Green Mountain Club for a little over a month: the Club is a great organization powered by great volunteers, and his boots are not waterproof enough for trail work during mud season.

It is the volunteers that make this organization tick and all are welcome, because for every white blaze you paint on every red spruce on Dear Leap, there is a white blaze fading on a maple in Jay. Along with our partners in the Forest Service, the State government and the organizations such as the Appalachian Trail



Conservancy and ALDHA, we all come together and work hard to keep the trails open, safe, and beautiful today and for generations to come. We volunteer because we love the trails, we love the woods, we love Vermont and we love the Green Mountain Club. I (Will) ask that you continue to remind people of the role that the Green Mountain Club plays in making the Vermont Mountains play a larger part in the life of the people while maintaining and promoting the outdoor experience we all cherish. Thanks you all for your commitment to the Green Mountain Club.

### **Volunteers Spend Over 200 Hours Getting Trails Ready for Summer**

By Herb Ogden, Section Trails & Shelters Co-Chair

Since late November of 2010, at least 20 Killington Section volunteers have spent at least 200+ hours working on our trails and many more hours getting to and from work sites. I write "at least" because some folks do not keep track of their time. Co-Chair, Wayne Krevetski, and I do appreciate those who keep time records. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the U.S. Forest Service have an appetite for statistics. Also, being able to cite worker hours can come in handy when the GMC is lobbying for something in Montpelier.

Here, in alphabetical order, is the Honor Roll of those who have checked sectors, cut brush, sawed and moved blowdowns, dug out ditches, painted blazes, carried or built bog bridging and repaired shelters: Dave Coppock, Tom Copps, Scott Erickson, Anne Gallivan, Barbara Griffith, Barry Griffith, Allison Henry, Lynda Hutchins, Wayne Krevetski, Joe Minard, Cindy Oas-Kirk, Herb Ogden, Debbie Schoch, Tom Shanahan, Cindy Taylor-Miller, Sue Thomas, Steve Walsh, Larry Walter, Steve Williams and Connie Youngstrom. There may well be others who have helped keep the trails in shape, but just have not told us. Many thanks to all!

Our Lowland Work Party on May 7, 2011 saw nine people fix the worst problems between Wallingford Gulf and the Gov. Clement Road. On June 4, 2011, National Trails Day, fourteen of us did the same between the Gov. Clement Road and the site of Tucker-Johnson Shelter on the LT and the Sherburne Pass Trail. Smaller groups or one-person work parties had already done the Bucklin Trail, the Killington Spur and the Cauty Trail up Blue Ridge Mountain. In general, our trails are in good to excellent shape.

This is not to say there is nothing left for folks to do. Bog bridging needs to be added or replaced in several areas, including south of the Keiffer Road, north of Gov. Clement Shelter, and near Jungle Junction on the ridge between Pico and Killington. We have purchased the materials, but people are needed to carry it in and spike it down. Various trails need brush lopped on the sides. Some stretches need to have blazes repainted. Signs need to be made for the Bear Mountain vista spur, Hermit Spring, the Gov. Clement Road crossing, the Cauty Trail trailhead and various features around Gov. Clement Shelter, Pico Camp and Churchill Scott Shelter. We are scheduling a Fall work party, but individuals or small groups could do a lot in the meantime. For a full list, please see the Section Website or contact me or Co-Chair, Wayne Krevetski.

### **Outing Reports**

#### **THE HISTORY HIKE THAT BECAME A WORK PARTY, June 25, 2011, by Herb Ogden, leader**

This was supposed to be a loop hike: north on the LT from VT 103 to above the Lottery Road and then return via old roads and the Bullard Cemetery. But when the official forecast included an over 60% chance of thunderstorms, I decided it was not appropriate to have an official hike where we probably could not reach safety in time if the storms came our way. Instead, I invited volunteers to saw up and remove a small but intense area of new blowdowns just south of Clarendon Gorge. At least there, we had a good chance of reaching cover before a storm reached us. Barry Griffith and Sarah Beard joined in the effort. With the one man crosscut saw and a couple of bow saws, we reopened the trail. There were some pretty spectacular uprooted evergreens to deal with. The planned hike will be rescheduled for October.



**OLD JOB TRAIL, MOUNT TABOR, July 2, 2011, by Sue Thomas, leader**

Luckily, we had Barry along on our hike through the Old Job site to keep the ghost of Silas Griffith at bay. From all I have read about him, he likely would have charged us a toll and made us buy our lunches at the company store! Barry's ancestor, and Vermont's first millionaire, owned a logging and charcoal operation along Ten Kilns Brook. All that is left now of the village of Griffith is a huge pile of sawdust, but a notebook at the Old Job shelter has old photos, maps and newspaper clippings.

We had lunch by the very impressive new bridge at the shelter and then skedaddled before Old Silas could charge us a fee for use of the picnic table. Thank goodness he had not yet thought of a coin-operated outhouse!

**OTTER CREEK PADDLE, July 10, 2011, by Barry and Barbara Griffith, leaders**

Paddlers: Barry, Mary, Jerry, Barbara, Barb, Steve, Lynda, Linda, Ted, Martha, Jen, Diane, Burdock (last names withheld to protect the perpetrators...)

It rained Friday night. It rained hard. It rained a lot. I heard it. Wondering how high the Creek would be Saturday morning. Knew there would be much more water chugging along the Otter. By the time we got everyone assembled at the "put in spot," there were 12 people, 1 dog, 9 cars. You all know how the drill goes-everyone out, kayaks off vehicles, paddles, life vests and other paraphernalia. The drivers then back in their vehicles and off to where we would "take out" later at the bridge on Alfrecha Road. Reassemble the drivers in 2 vehicles and back to the "Trail Head." (So far so good?)

"The water was murky.  
The people were perky"

The water was moving right along. This is usually a fairly easy, but muddy spot to launch from. Now paraphernalia into kayaks, paddles, life vests and one by one, two by two we encounter very tippy conditions. Almost all in the Creek and we hear, "Where's my paddle"? Oh no! A paddle has been left in a vehicle and that vehicle was back at the "take out!" Rats! Barry tosses his keys and away speeds Linda to retrieve her paddle.

So we are a flotilla of 11 and 1 Burdock moving right along...trying to slow down a bit. 13 minutes later, we hear a Beep Beep! Before we know it, we are once again a complete group. As I said, the old river was moving right along. There were eddies, currents, small whirlpools and muddy water abounding. Then along came the stringers, debris across the waterway. When doing this trip with two people it is pretty quick. With 12 people to get around, over or through, it takes awhile. We were able to get around most sites. Branches were moved. Barry brought his trusty handsaw so we cut through other debris. Who would have thought we would have to do trail maintenance? Over logs, over branches, under this and that. The conditions were very tippy for some kayaks as currents caught one unawares and up against logs and such just under the surface. We were pushed sideways, backwards, every which way (even over, but I get ahead of myself!)

"Over logs, over branches  
We hit the muddy trail  
As our Kayaks kept floating along (mostly)"

The first one to capsize was Martha. Over she went. Now, if you have paddled Otter Creek you know that the riverbanks are steep and muddy. Places to get out are rare and today even rarer! We were glad she had her PFD on! She clung to her kayak as we floated along locating an appropriate place to get her ashore. It was about 10 minutes before we found a suitable place. Jerry luckily had his nifty hand pump. Others had dry clothes to warm her up. The "crew" all worked together to solve the problems.

Once again, we were Off! More stringers and such. Cheering squads emerged to help everyone handle the stream issues. Then, my gosh, over goes Steve!! Again, I am grateful that he had his life vest on. His kayak takes in much water and once again the "Team" takes on the role of finding a landing strip, tugging the kayak to a tiny patch of land (almost capsizing another vessel in the process) and Jerry and his trusty pump are once again to the rescue. (His arms were growing weary, no room for anyone else to help out.) They get launched again and we are underway.



The group was growing weary. Luckily, we were nearing the end. We keep hearing, "How will we know where to take out?" We alleviated fears by indicating the bridge where the cars were waiting for us. Then, low and behold we were there!! Yea! One and all keep thanking us for a great trip. I certainly won't forget this one!! 12 in and 12 out (and 1 dog). What an adventure we had!! Thank you all for "stepping up to the plate".

(and I did not have my camera!!)

#### **BUCK MOUNTAIN, FORT ANN, NY, July 24, 2011, by Sue Thomas, leader**

Hot, muggy and AWFUL was the consensus by the small group brave enough to assemble at the park on Saturday. Even having a "new" car with AC for the first time in years\* did not make the prospect of slogging up the mountain appealing. So the decision was unanimous to reconvene the following day, when the weatherman had promised cooler temps and air that did not feel like a cotton-batting overcoat.

Good choice! Sunday was a beautiful clear day and we were rewarded at the summit with spectacular views of Lake George and the Adirondack High Peaks, which we enjoyed while munching wild blueberries. Amazingly, we had it all to ourselves for quite a while. We watched the paddle wheel tourist boat chug up the Lake, reminisced about Barb's rattlesnake encounter at Tongue Mountain across the Lake, and I, for one, would not have traded places with the "beautiful people" at the ritzy island resort down below.

\*A note to the many friends of Bob the Car - Bob is enjoying a well-earned retirement in the country on a nice farm where he can run with all the other Neons.

#### **SHAFTSBURY STATE PARK, July 31, 2011, by Larry Walter and Viv Bebee, leaders**

Five of us made the trip over to this wonderful little 80 acre pond. There's a full picnic and swimming area on the east shore, complete with showers, boat rentals, toilets, grills and a little short-order establishment. The weather was very warm, but a nice breeze kept us comfortable. Just perfect for a quick trip around the pond on the nature trail (about a mile does the circuit). The trail runs along a pretty good stretch of wooden walkways elevated over the swampy portions of the shore. We were impressed with how well-maintained the paths and walkways were. We brought a collection of boats along, so we toured some of the wetlands on the far western side of the pond (a brief portage was necessary) where we encountered geese, cedar waxwings, a heron, woodpeckers, and several other, unidentified critters. The water temp was heaven and the swimming area had a nice, sandy bottom. Walking, paddling, reading, swimming and, of course, eating made for a relaxing day. Shaftsbury Lake is definitely worth a return trip next summer. Thanks for the company.

#### **RATTLESNAKE POINT, SALISBURY, August 14, 2011, by Larry Walter, leader**

The weather didn't look that promising for the day's hike, but the big thunder cells held off long enough for us to reach the point and get back off without getting sprinkled on. The new bridge at the Falls of Lana was impressive. It looks like it'll be there for a while. The falls are always beautiful.

It was muggy, but our deliberate pace up the Aunt Jenny Trail put us at the south-facing vista just before lunch. From there we took in a very nice view of the Greens along with a good portion of Silver Lake. We worked our way around to the west-facing lookout just in time to watch a sailboat race on Lake Dunmore.

Our return followed the same route until we reached the penstock where we bailed off westerly to the highway and a quick trip south along the same to our cars. If you know where to look, there are inscriptions left by the settling family close to the penstock and another very nicely chiseled homage to Aunt Jenny by her son, down by the northerly parking lot. Seven in and seven out. A good day.



## Killington Section Directors' Meeting

Minutes of Directors' Meeting

June 21, 2011

By Allison Henry, Secretary

(Edited by Viv Bebee - For complete transcript of these Minutes, contact Allison Henry)

Present: Wayne Krevetski, Steve Williams, Allison Henry, Sue Thomas, Vivian Bebee and Herb Ogden..

Meeting called to order at 6:55 p.m. Minutes approved from 3/26/11 meeting.

Report from Allison Henry on highlights from Main Club Annual Meeting on 6/11/11:

- Change to By-Laws, allowing businesses or organizations to have voting rights as GMC members.
- Welcome to Will Wiquist, new Executive Director
- Trail relocation in Duxbury area due to Winooski River crossing.
- Should Main Club have a fund specifically to address legal costs (i.e. Lowell Wind Project)?
- Volunteer picnic 9/17/11 in Londonderry.
- Displays given to each Section, includes photos, literature, etc.

Highlights of Trails and Shelters report by Wayne and Herb:

- Bog bridging needs installation at Keiffer Road and Canty Trail.
- Pico Camp was recently worked on by Killington Section.
- Confusing road crossing just south of Governor Clement.
- Killington Section earned \$7.00 from bottle returns from Cooper Lodge.
- G.E. Green Team to work on draining project on the Trail north of the Lottery Road.

Smoke and Blazes report by Viv Bebee: Positive feedback on the newsletter, especially the photos on the front page. Reminder to send in your hike reports! Option to receive S&B via email.

Deb Waggett, webmaster, wants more information for Killington Section website, newer pictures, links to YouTube and Facebook.

Outings report by Sue Thomas: Space needed for Fall potluck as Godnick Center not available.

Other business:

- 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration events discussion.
- Discussion of possible candidates to fill vacant seat on Board of Directors. Dave Coppock will replace Jennifer Wright.
- Dinner at Inn at Long Trail on National Trails Day: 30 plus people attended, raised over \$300 after costs, as well as over \$100 from the raffle. Discussion on making this an annual event and having dinner on a day other than National Trails Day (i.e. Sunday evening rather than Saturday evening) due to difficulty with finishing trail work and getting to the dinner on time.
- James P. Taylor series: discussion on whether or not to sponsor a presentation.
- Sections to enter their own Hike Schedules on Main Club calendar through use of a code given by Main Club.
- Town of Killington working on new town trail system to link up with the AT near Thundering Brook Falls; asked for Killington Section collaboration.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. Next meeting date not set.



Viv Bebee, Editor  
14 Belmont Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join **Killington Section, Green Mountain Club**

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual .....\$40  
Family .....\$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer .....\$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_publications, \_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**3 September, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.****Bird Mountain, Castleton****Tom Copps 774-5144**

A steep climb with some bushwhacking, rewarded with a great view.  
Moderate, 4 miles.

**10 September, Saturday, 9:30 a.m.****Shrewsbury History Hike, Shrewsbury**

We will visit Picnic Rock and the old firing range. Moderate with a bit of bushwhacking

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573****17 September, Saturday, 3:00-5:00 p.m.****Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, Londonderry**

If you have pitched in maintaining the Long Trail, manning an information booth, selling raffle tickets or serving on the Board, this day is for you! See the Long Trail News for details or call Mari to RSVP at (802) 244-7037 x24 or [mzagarins@greenmountainclub.org](mailto:mzagarins@greenmountainclub.org)

**24 September, Saturday, 8:30 a.m. (rain date September 25)****100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event, Killington via the historic Summit Hotel Road**

Local historian, Justin Lindholm, will guide us up to the site of the old hotel and share his experiences in discovering and mapping this historic abandoned road.  
Difficult, bushwhacking and steep, 7 miles.

**Sue Thomas 773-2185****1 October, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.****Bromley Mountain, Peru**

Climb to spectacular views from an observation tower. We will follow the LT/AT south from Mad Tom Notch. Moderate with climbing, 5 miles.

**Allison Henry 775-1627****8 October, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. (rain date October 9)****Around Chittenden Reservoir, Chittenden**

Starting at the site of the abandoned town of New Boston, we will travel old roads down to the Reservoir and Lefferts Pond. Moderate, 4 miles.

**Sue Thomas 773-2185****15 October, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.****Slack Hill, Coolidge State Park, Plymouth**

A nice hike through a mix of hardwood and conifer forest with view of Mt. Ascutney from the vista.  
Moderate, 550 feet elevation gain, 4-5 miles.

**Vivian Bebee & Larry Walter 775-3855****22 October, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.****Shrewsbury Peak**

Climb to the 3,700 foot summit via the Black Swamp Trail for views of the surrounding mountains. Moderate with steep climbing, 1,300 feet elevation gain, 5 miles.

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**



**30 October, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Pico Peak, Killington**

Ascend via the Sherburne Pass Trail to the summit at 3,957 feet. There may be snow at the top, so be prepared. Difficult, 6 miles.

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

**5 November, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. (rain date November 6)**

**Work Party**

Help put the trails to bed for the winter. Wear sturdy shoes and bring work gloves. Tools will be provided.

**Herb Ogden 293-2510**

**12 November, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. (rain date November 13)**

**Burlington Bike Path, Burlington**

A safe hunting season walk along the shore of Lake Champlain, with stunning views of the Adirondack Mountains. If it is too cold and windy to walk, we will visit the ECHO Lake Aquarium & Science Center on the waterfront instead (entrance fee). Possible stop for dinner on the way home.

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

**19 November, Saturday, 5:30 p.m.**

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event**

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall**

**Hillside Road, Rutland City**

Our annual Fall potluck this year will be a celebration of the Killington Section's 100<sup>th</sup> year, with displays and a slide presentation. Please contact Barry Griffith or Sue Thomas if you have anything of interest to contribute. All are welcome. Bring your own place setting and a dish to share.

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

**27 November, Sunday**

**Road Walk**

Another safe hunting season walk on dirt roads. Call for time and place **Diane Bargiel 413-687-1109**

**4 December, Sunday,**

**Merck Forest, Rupert**

We have not yet decided which trails we will be taking, but the hike will be moderate with some steep climbing, 4-5 miles.

**Vivian Bebee & Larry Walter 775-3855**

**THURSDAY HIKES SCHEDULE – 2011**

Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of hikes at less strenuous pace, typically cover 2-4 miles, moderate elevation gain and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9 am** at the Godnick Center on Deer Street to car pool. Call hike leaders if you have questions. All are welcome.

**Sept. 1 Bald Mountain—Aitken State Forest, Mendon**

**Lyn/Jerry Ash 775-3481**

This challenging hike offers panoramic views of mountains, valleys, Rutland City.

**Sept. 15 Hawk Hill, Brandon**

**Edith Kellogg 775-1246**

Follow the forest trail to the site of old Brandon and surrounding area. Moderate.

**Sept. 29 Emerald Lake State Park, North Dorset**

**George Butts 483-2891**

Explore the trails on varied interesting terrain around Emerald Lake. Moderate.

**Oct. 13 Big Branch Bridge, Mt. Tabor**

**George Butts 483-2891**

Explore the Big Branch area on the Long Trail. New suspension bridge.

**Oct. 27 Chittenden Brook, Chittenden**

**Edith Kellogg 775-1246**

Follow an old wood road along the course of a pretty stream. Moderate.



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 64, Number 4

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

December 2011



Carol Wright, Larry Walter and Ruth Hare on Baker Peak



Connie Youngstrom and Phoebe on Shaw Mountain with Sue Thomas and Carol Wright



The Long Trail wipe-out between the Cold River Roads



Larry and Barry marching up Coy Hill in Middletown Springs

Merry Christmas K section



Mount Cardigan, early winter October 2005



Prickles joins our Pot Luck. Artwork by Sue the Artist



**Killington Section Directors:**

Term expiration 2012

Wayne Krevetski\*

Gerry Martin

Herb Ogden

Term expiration 2013

Vivian Bebee

Tom Copps

Steve Williams

Term expiration 2014

Dave Coppock

Allison Henry

Sue Thomas\*

\*Second consecutive 3-year term. Not eligible for re-election.

**Killington Section Officers:**

Wayne Krevetski

President

Steve Williams

Vice President

Allison Henry

Secretary

Gerry Martin

Treasurer

**Committee Chairs:**

Bob Perkins

History

Sue Thomas

Outings

Herb Ogden

Trails &amp; Shelters

Wayne Krevetski

Trails &amp; Shelters

**Delegates to GMC Board:**

Allison Henry

Director

Steve Williams

Alternate

**Smoke & Blazes:**

Vivian Bebee

Editor

Larry Walter

Assistant Editor

Tom Copps

Photo Editor

**Web Site:**

Deborah Waggett

Web Master

**Editor's Note: If you would rather receive Smoke & Blazes by email, please contact me. Contact information is listed below. Thank you.**

Past and present Presidents of Killington Section



(l to r) John Martin, Herb Ogden, Janet Martin, Sue Carey, Rob Carey, Barry Griffith and Wayne Krevetski

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## This n' That

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event, by Vivian Bebee

For those of you who were not at our Fall potluck this year, you missed a special treat indeed. Cindy Miller and Barry Griffith gave us a wonderful, historical slideshow and commentary presentation. There were seven (past and present) Presidents of the Killington Section in attendance: Wayne Krevetski, Barry Griffith, Herb Ogden, Rob Carey, Sue Carey, John Martin and Janet Martin. Also, Bob Perkins, Rob Carey and Herb Ogden shared with us most interesting reminiscences of their "collective" years as members of the Club. Last, but very not least, Allison Henry created an imaginative and edible "Prickles Porcupine," which included a cheese ball with pretzel sticks for quills and black olives for eyes, and Sue Thomas created a chocolate cake of the Killington Section of the Long Trail (miniature, of course) with white chocolate chips for the LT, blue M&M's for side trails and many artistically-detailed signs, depicting a Patch Hollow miniature Barry Griffith in grass skirt, Sink Hole, "commodious commode" outhouse, Churchill Scott shelter and Pico Camp, to name just a few, and a bridge of toothpicks and string over Clarendon Gorge. Many thanks to all those mentioned above, as well as to the "cooks," for their hard work, time and effort so graciously given.

## Outing Reports

### SNAKE MOUNTAIN, April 2, 2011, by Allison Henry, leader

When I put this hike on the schedule in January 2011, I was dreaming of sunny, 70 degree weather. You never know, it could happen. We woke up to a grey, damp day with questions of "should we even go?" Since there was no voracious downpour or freezing rain, the answer was, of course, "yes." Two groups met at the Mountain Road (west side) trailhead for a total of five happy hikers. At the trailhead, the weather was sunny and in the high 50's. YAY! The second most exciting part of the hike occurred here. In the middle of the parking lot there was a giant femur. Other bones were nearby. There turned out to be a whole animal carcass (cow?) wrapped in plastic in the woods beyond the lot. Probably an enterprising dog had dragged some of the parts into the parking lot, no doubt called off by a horrified owner. Off we went to the trail, admiring Sue's house along the way. We followed the carriage road up to the summit, which was a mix of frozen mud and long section of old, packed snow. Snowshoes were not really needed, but stepping off the previously-trodden, packed snow resulted in sinking up to your knees in soggy, wet snow. The summit was sunny, but very, very windy. A group of college-age students were sunning themselves on the slab, but we older folks did not prefer such extreme conditions. The first most exciting part of our trip occurred at the summit. Despite the sun, we could see that it was getting suspiciously darker. Huddled on the summit slab, we could see a giant, dark, swirling cloud of snow hovering over the Adirondacks, inching toward us. We made our way down the side trail a ways to the pond and had a quick lunch, watching the swirling cloud get closer and closer. The sun disappeared and one or two snowflakes fell as we descended. A few moments later, the sun reappeared and the sky turned blue again. We could still see out over the valley from the trail, and there were no angry clouds or snowflakes in sight. The rest of the hike was uneventful, and upon reaching our cars, we were reluctant to leave. A good time was had by all. Make no bones about it! If you don't like the weather in Vermont, wait five minutes.

### KILLINGTON SECTION ANNIVERSARY HIKE, August 7, 2011, by Allison Henry

This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club. To commemorate the occasion, we arranged an "end to end" hike of the portion of the Long Trail that the Killington Section maintains, from Route 140 to Route 4. We did about 23 miles over three days. I was joined by member Joe Minard and friend Kathi, as well as the very famous Prickles Porcupine! Prickles had been shuttled down to Rutland the day before by one Dave Hardy, himself. Our Outings Director, Sue Thomas, joined us for the first half of the trip, and Section President, Wayne Krevetski, showed up a little later on the first day and participated for the rest of the journey. The purpose of this hike was not only to mark the Killington Section's anniversary, but also to give us a chance to admire our beautiful Section. Part of the reason for scheduling this hike for August was to informally spread word among the many hikers, LT end-to-enders and AT thru-hikers along the Trail about the Green Mountain Club and our mission. Our Section was in great shape, not only due to our efforts, but also due to work in current and previous seasons by the Long Trail Patrol and even VYCC. To further celebrate our anniversary, we took the "historic" route of the Trail after crossing Route 103, which means we went up an old road past a Crowne Point Road marker rather than climbing the "Great Gulch." As a result, we ended up at Clarendon Shelter campsite ahead of some very speedy thru-hikers, who had gotten off the Trail for a few



hours to go to the Whistle Stop. They did a double-take when they saw we had arrived first! At the campsite that night, there were 14 tents: AT and LT northbounders and southbounders, a few weekenders and us, for a total of 22 people. Sue seemed disappointed to leave us the next morning as we headed through the fields of the Lottery Road area. We had lunch at Governor Clement and admired last year's improvements. Killington was a long, difficult climb that literally took ALL DAY. During our toil up Killington, we met Kim aka Bliss, the Coolidge Range ridgerunner. We finally reached Cooper Lodge in the late afternoon and found ourselves engulfed in a cloud. In the shelter, we encountered two SOBO AT hikers, Whisky and J-Tree, who are veterans of the Long Trail Patrol. Turns out they had already met Prickles and had been in the car with her on her shuttle to Rutland. Kathi, Prickles and I opted to spend the night in Cooper Lodge, since its days are numbered, and had it to ourselves except for one tiny toilet paper-thieving mouse. The gentlemen tented on the platforms. Unfortunately, it started raining soon after everyone turned in for the night, which meant a soggy trek out in the morning. I especially enjoyed the section from Cooper north to Jungle Junction because it is a beautiful, remote-feeling section of trail and I am the section checker. To maintain the historic nature of our hike, we walked out on the Sherburne Pass Trail aka "The Old Trail." Long Trail Ale was waiting for us at the trailhead courtesy of Phil Henry Shuttle Services, Inc.!

#### **HAYSTACK (PAWLET), August 20, 2011, by Steve Williams, leader**

Thanks to Sue Thomas' guidance of a Rutland contingent, the complete group assembled with Steve Williams and Diane Bargiel from elsewhere at the Waite Hill Road trailhead just about on the nose of 10:00 a.m. About an hour and a quarter took the group to the summit via a short portion of Tunket Hill Road, followed by a Nature Conservancy trail almost to the summit, thence by what seems to be a generally recognized right-of-way on a limited section of private property to the summit itself; an easy trail with only one brook crossing, and a steeper pitch towards the summit. From the fortunately cleared summit, there are fine views of the Mettowee Valley, Lake St. Catherine, Killington and the eastern Adirondacks. Using the leader's as yet unrecognized expedition efficiency index ("EEI") (equals the rewards divided by the required effort to reach a given location), a high result was expected for the summit and was indeed measured. After a refreshing lunch break at the summit, a one hour ramble returned the group to the trailhead.

#### **FALL HIKES AFTER IRENE, September 24, 2011 and October 8, 2011, Sue Thomas, leader**

Our hikes this Fall of 2011 have involved a good deal of improvisation and last-minute rerouting, thank you Irene (grumble). She fuddled both the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary trek up the historic Killington carriage road and my October hike around Chittenden Reservoir. Both areas remained off-limits due to storm damage and the minor detail of access roads that were no longer there. That Irene was nothing if not thorough.

So, in September, we decided that if we couldn't climb Killington, we could at least look at it from a distance and settled on Grandpa's Knob in Hubbardton. We could see when we got there that Irene had had her way with Belgo Road, as well, but repairs had been made and we had a very nice hike to the ridge top.

In October, I chose Moscow Pond and Glen Lake as a substitute destination. It was one of those gloriously warm, blue sky days that we think about while scraping the ice off our windshields in December, and what better place to be than a trail along the lakeshore. Ahhh! We checked out the beaver lodge on Moscow Pond, enjoyed lunch at the Glen Lake overlook and basked in the sun at each and every peninsula along the shore, where the water reflected the brilliant blue sky and gold autumn leaves. A stop for ice cream at the country store completed our perfect day. You may now resume ice scraping.

#### **PICNIC ROCK HISTORY HIKE, September 10, 2011, Barb and Barry Griffith, leaders**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene's destruction from two weeks before, we were wondering if we should cancel this trip, but decided to go forth knowing that we would have to change the hike parameters and modify the trip a bit. The CCC Road being closed and gated, we obtained permission to park in Karen and John Lorentz's driveway. Having to walk in to our starting point added another three miles to this adventure. Being a democratic society, the participants were polled as to whether they wanted to do the climb to Picnic Rock or a walk out to the firing range as we knew we could not do both. The vote was cast for the rock, and we ventured forth. The day was glorious; 11 individuals set out to learn some history of the CCC Road, picnic area and such. Within ½ mile, Shrewsbury Peak rose in the distance at a height of 3,737 (not our destination today). We would soon be on its NW slope.



The Griffiths pointed out old insulators in trees on the south side of the road that they understand were to bring communications to the firing range. Meeting House rock was next on the agenda, where some of Shrewsbury's earliest church services were held. The natural amphitheater was evident. We paused for reflection. Soon the group was at the Picnic Pavilion where, today, only a chimney stands, remnants of the grand building from yesteryear. A photo of the area was passed around showing the former building, the well house and the clearing all around.

We proceeded up Russell Hill to the Russell Hill Shelter, hiking along the side trail to Shrewsbury Peak. From here, there were a few rights and lefts along trails, snowmobile paths, Catamount Trail paths and logging roads until we reached our destination at Picnic Rock. (To be accurate, we went left off the CCC Road, left off the Peak Trail, right off the Vast Trail, left off the logging road, right off the secondary logging road, right into the Rock.)

After much admiration of what we believe is Shrewsbury's largest glacial erratic, the party celebrated a picnic in memory of all the picnics that had gone before. A measuring tape was produced and the dimensions of the boulder were recorded as 25 feet tall and 100 feet in circumference. Doing online research, a cubic foot of granite weighs 165 lbs. (some rock is heavier than others are). Playing with these numbers, our estimate is that Picnic Rock weighs a whopping 1,237 tons (more or less).

Our return trip was a stroll through the old CCC-built picnicking sites. Remnants of fireplaces are still in use. We even came upon a swing and enjoyed more leisure time before heading back out to our vehicles. Our next history hike will be to the firing range, outhouse and stone shelter on October 22. This too has been modified. We planned on Shrewsbury Peak, but the Black Swamp Road has washed out. Perhaps the Peak in the spring of 2012!

#### **WORK PARTY, November 5, 2011, by Herb Ogden, Trails & Shelters Committee Co-Chair**

On a beautiful, sunny fifth of November, eight people showed up to help put our trails to bed. If we'd had twice the number, we could have done it pretty thoroughly. As it was, two people cleared waterbars from Wallingford Gulf to the top of Bald Mountain, two cleared from Clarendon Shelter to the Lottery Road, two cleared from US 4 to the Tucker-Johnson shelter site and then out the AT and Sherburne Pass Trail south to Sherburne Pass, and two went to the Keiffer Road to lug the bog bridging, which had been left there in the Spring, into the brook to install it. All but the last two did fine. The last two searched high and low and right and left for the lumber and finally reluctantly concluded that someone had stolen it. All they could do was shim up some of the existing, rotting bog bridging and improve the side ditching just south of the road. They then scouted a possible relocation of the Long Trail south of the Upper Cold River Road.

What a lack of volunteers left undone was the entire Cauty Trail up Blue Ridge Mountain, the Sherburne Pass Trail south of US 4 to the ski trail, and the Long Trail from Jungle Junction. to Shrewsbury Peak Junction. The first two, especially, have scores of waterbars. Please, if you have the time and energy, consider borrowing a hoe from Co-Chair, Wayne Krevetski, and clearing waterbars before the snow is too deep.

The Honor Roll for this work party was Tom Copps, Allison Henry, Cindy Miller (Ms. Gorp), Cindy Oas-Kirk, Herb Ogden, Gregg Rickert, Sue Thomas and Larry Walter.

### **Killington Section Directors' Meeting**

Minutes of Directors' Meeting

September 27, 2011

By Allison Henry, Secretary

Present: Wayne Krevetski, Steve Williams, Gerry Martin, Allison Henry, Tom Copps, Sue Thomas, Dave Coppock, Herb Ogden and Vivian Bebee.



Meeting called to order by Wayne at 6:08 p.m. It was unanimously passed that Dave Coppock be officially appointed to the Board. Welcome to Dave, new Director! "*Close the door before he bolts!*" Minutes approved from 6/21/11 meeting.

We discussed the format of the minutes, both for on-record and for publication in *Smoke & Blazes*. The Editor of *Smoke & Blazes* has abbreviated the minutes at times due to space constraints. Allison offered to provide the Editor with a short version and a long version, but following discussion, it was informally decided to stick with current procedures: Allison will write minutes as usual and provide copies to the Board; Vivian will either print the minutes as is or edit for space.

#### Treasurer's Report by Gerry Martin:

- donation of \$100 from the Killington Section (from Raffle at Inn at Long Trail dinner in June) was acknowledged with a thank you note from the Main Club.
- cds will roll over in mid-October; will keep accounts as they are. Yield painfully low.
- Kirk Funds paid out for lumber.
- Discussion regarding Kirk fund: Can we use only the interest? What is the principal balance we need to maintain? Can we draw from this fund for post-Irene repairs? Still can't find a clear answer in previous records or minutes. Herb suggested that he speak with Barry and Barb to get a summary of what they know; Allison and Sue will re-check old minutes.
- Report approved by Ogden/Williams.

#### GMC Main Club report provided by Director, Allison Henry. Highlights:

- Long Trail Patrol was off the trail due to Irene; instead worked in local communities for flood clean-up, including Waterbury, Jamaica and Newfane.
- Auditor has visited again; found "no red flags." Recommended better segregation of duties as well as clear documentation of use of restricted donations because donors expect it.
- Lowell Project Update (this refers to the Wind Project in Lowell near Belvidere Mountain): Appeals are in progress, but the company is "ignoring" them for now and proceeding with the project. No further role for GMC at this point. No word yet from FAA on light system (lights are required on some of the tallest turbine towers; new technology is available that would allow the lights to turn on only when a plane is in range rather than blinking all night and destroying the view). A State energy plan has been put out. It can be viewed and the public can make comments at [vtenergyplan.vermont.gov](http://vtenergyplan.vermont.gov). Make comments as a private citizen; GMC will make its own statement. We still need to work on the wording of our wind power policy.
- This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Taylor Series; Sections are encouraged to hold an event. Can be held at no charge to the public; option to solicit donations.
- Current membership, 10,177; lots of positive media exposure this year including the Winooski project, new Killington Map, the renewable energy design of the Main Club HQ, and the new trail in the Northeast Kingdom. The Washington Post even covered the Long Trail Patrol.
- The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held at Jay Peak resort.
- The GMC is now responsible for all of the Appalachian Trail in Vermont. Care of the Long Trail from VT Route 12 to the Connecticut River was recently handed over to us from the Dartmouth Outing Club and approved with a Board vote. According to the O-Section, this section of trail "needs work but is comparatively undemanding."
- New trail in Northeast Kingdom has been built—ground broke on July 11; one and a half miles built in eight days. Hoping to eventually go 17 miles to Island Pond.

#### Trails and Shelters Report by Herb and Wayne:

- Most of LT/AT is open except for 103 to 4 and some side trails. Worst damage is in Shrewsbury area. Several bridges are out along the Trail and local roads, and a section of the trail has slid into Sargent Brook north of the Gould Brook crossing. Partnering with Forest Service on relocating and eventually reopening in this area. Safety is a concern. There are rumors of mud and landslides.



- Shrewsbury is looking into FEMA funds for bridge on Governor Clement Road.
- Dave Hardy in conjunction with some of our local people has proposed a road walk to circumvent the area, with signs posted. Once the Forest Service lets us back in, we can scout out and build a relocation, which is expected to cover about four tenths of a mile. Herb expects this would be an afternoon project for about half a dozen people. The Manchester section has also offered assistance. There was a motion to approve Dave Hardy's road walk, then once the area is reopened, Herb and Wayne would then work with Dave on a relocation (Ogden/Thomas); this was approved by the Board. Our proposed road walk was: West on the Cold River Road to the Wilmouth Hill Road; North on the Wilmouth Hill Road; East on the Upper Cold River Road; North on the Gilman Road; East on the Gov. Clement Road; and North on the LT to Gov. Clement Shelter, fording the W. branch of Sargent Brook, if necessary, where we lost the pedestrian bridge.
- Sherburne Pass Trail is not in restricted area, but no report of conditions. The Bucklin rail is okay—both bridges are there but there is a relo needed on a section between the bridges where the trail has been washed out.

#### *Smoke & Blazes Report by Vivian Bebee:*

- Thank you for timely submissions. We have a lot of material.
- Discussion of web site. Do we need any changes? Could use an update in photos and material. Schedule has been updated. Vivian and/or Wayne will take to our web person.

#### *Outings Report by Sue Thomas:*

- Hikes can be changed to work parties, especially if previously scheduled hike is in a closed area.
- Discussion; 10/15/11 hike changed to a work party.
- If you do cancel a hike, be sure to go to the park to make sure no one is waiting there. Also, if you cancel a hike due to lack of access, call Herb or Wayne ahead of time in case they want the hike changed to a work party.
- 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary potluck—our potluck will once again be at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on November 19. Barry will be doing a presentation. Hoping to have past K-Section presidents attend.

#### *Other:*

- Killington Trails Leadership Team: Wayne went to a meeting in July re: a Killington town trail that provides a loop walk in the Thundering Falls area. We expect this is now on a back burner due to Irene. Wayne mentioned that the Thundering Falls boardwalk is heavily damaged. A piece of it even ended up in Bridgewater and is being used to shore up someone's driveway!
- Taylor Series event? Traveler, Pete Lain, will be in area in February and has offered to do a presentation. Wayne will look into.
- Club Days this weekend at Eastern Mountain Sports. Looking for folks to man a table to talk about the Club, our activities, membership, etc.
- Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association is having their gathering in North Adams, MA October 7-9. The GMC Main Club is trying to get a table at this event and will need volunteers. Wayne will be attending, but will have other obligations. If interested, speak with Wayne.
- Herb is looking for people to compile data from old Trail Registers, especially usage numbers. Tom Copps agreed to compile the Sherburne Pass Registers and Herb gave them to him. Herb is still looking for folks to compile the Upper Cold River Road and Canty Trail Registers. We need the data for the Forest Service, among others.

Next meeting will be Saturday, November 19, at 4:30 before the Potluck to discuss any changes in trail conditions and any work that needs to be done due to Irene damage. Next regular meeting will be in January. Meeting adjourned at 8:06.



Vivian Bebee, Editor  
14 Belmont Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual .....\$40  
Family.....\$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer.....\$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_publications, \_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



**KILLINGTON SECTION, GMC      OUTING SCHEDULE      December-March, 2012**

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**10 December, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Pico Peak, Killington**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

Ascend via the Sherburne Pass Trail to the summit at 3,957 feet. Snowshoes required. Difficult, 6 miles.

**7 January, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Bald Mountain, Mendon**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

3.5 miles with some steep climbing and excellent views.

**15 January, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Annual Hot Dog Roast**

**Larry Walter & Viv Bebee 775-3855**

Location to be decided; perhaps Bomoseen State Park, Emerald Stake Park or Lake St. Catherine State Park. Bring what you wish to roast and drink. Chips, cookies, condiments and fire wood to be provided by leaders.

**22 January, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Lowell Lake, Londonderry**

**Allison Henry 775-1627**

A 3-mile, moderate snowshoe around Lowell Lake, past a Revolutionary War-era cemetery.

**28 January, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**High Pond, Sudbury**

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

Snowshoe and explore winter wildlife habitat at this pretty Nature Conservancy preserve. Moderate, 4-5 miles.

**4 February, Saturday, 9:30 a.m.**

**Trail/road hike, Rupert to West Rupert**

**Larry Walter & Viv Bebee 775-3855**

Begin by doing a short section of rail trail and paved road in Rupert, to a back road (dirt) between Rupert and West Rupert. Have option of finishing on rail trail from West Rupert back to cars, or may get a ride for drivers at Viv's Mom's house to pick up cars in Rupert. Easy 4-5 miles.

**11 February, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Lily Pond, Bomoseen**

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Snowshoe past beaver meadows, old quarries and other habitat to a remote pond. Moderate, 3.5 miles.

**18 February, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. Rutland or 10:45 a.m. Country Club**

**Lake St. Catherine Country Club, Poultney**

**Diane Bargiel 413-687-1109**

Snowshoe on woodland trails, options for short or longer routes.



**26 February, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Jockey Hill, Shrewsbury**

Snowshoes required for this 4-mile trip, which will include some bushwhacking and some climbing. Difficult, 4 miles.

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

**4 March, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Black Mountain Ponds, Dresden, NY**

Snowshoe to a chain of remote beaver ponds at the base of Black Mountain.

Moderate, 6 miles.

**Allison Henry 775-1627**



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 65, Number 1

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

March 2012



Terri Wilson and Cheryl Martin on Cook mtn.,  
Ticonderoga, NY April 25, 2009



Alison Henry, Steve Williams, Cindy Oas-Kirk  
and Dorothy Sullivan on their way to Canada,  
August 2, 2008



"Partridge" (Ruffed Grouse)  
trail day June 6, 2009



Thundering Brook upper falls. August 2, 2009

Spring mouse  
on the way to  
Boiling Springs,  
June 20, 2009



Watch out! The hobblebush are coming!  
The hobblebush is coming!





**Killington Section Directors:**

Term expiration 2012

Wayne Krevetski\*

Gerry Martin

Herb Ogden

Term expiration 2013

Vivian Bebee

Tom Copps

Steve Williams

Term expiration 2014

Dave Coppock

Allison Henry

Sue Thomas\*

\*Second consecutive 3-year term. Not eligible for re-election.

**Killington Section Officers:**

Wayne Krevetski

President

Steve Williams

Vice President

Allison Henry

Secretary

Gerry Martin

Treasurer

**Committee Chairs:**

Bob Perkins

History

Sue Thomas

Outings

Herb Ogden

Trails &amp; Shelters

Wayne Krevetski

Trails &amp; Shelters

**Delegates to GMC Board:**

Allison Henry

Director

Steve Williams

Alternate

**Smoke & Blazes:**

Vivian Bebee

Editor

Larry Walter

Assistant Editor

Tom Copps

Photo Editor

**Web Site:**

Deborah Waggett

Web Master

**Editor's Note: If you would rather receive Smoke & Blazes by email, please contact me. Contact information is listed below. Thank you.**

Sue Thomas and Prickles, August 2011

**Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>**

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Steve Williams

682 VT Route 30, West Pawlet, VT 05775, 645-9529, [voorburg00@comcast.net](mailto:voorburg00@comcast.net)



## This n' That

- ◆ **Friday and Saturday, April 13 and 14, Eastern Mountain Sports "Club Day Sale"**
- ◆ **Saturday, March 31, 6:00 p.m., Killington Section Annual Meeting at Godnick Center on Deer Street in Rutland City** (pot luck supper, bring dish to share)
- ◆ **Saturday, June 9, GMC 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting at Jay Peak Resort** (see Long Trail News or GMC website at [www.greenmountainclub.org](http://www.greenmountainclub.org) for details of scheduled events for June 8, 9 and 10)

### A Note from Killington Section President, Wayne Krevetski

Just a short note to bring you up to date on what has been happening on our section of the trail since Irene. To start with, we have a section north of Gould Brook that has been scouted for a relocation of the trail that washed into Sargent Brook. We are looking at putting the trail on higher ground to get it out of the wet areas just south of Upper Cold River Road. It is preliminary at this point and more scouting will be needed after spring thaw. Sticking with the trail in Shrewsbury, there recently was a meeting at the Shrewsbury Town Office with Town Officials, the GMC, Engineers, National Forest Staff and FEMA officials concerning bridge replacement in the Town. The good news is that there are plans to rebuild the bridge across Sargent Brook, maybe this Summer.

Late this past Fall, a relocation of the Bucklin Trail was flagged and brushed out. It is in the State Forest, and before it can be made permanent, additional permitting needs to be done. Again, we are also waiting for spring thaw to make some fine adjustments to keep a dry treadway. This relo will also bring you to higher ground above and to the north of Brewers Brook to avoid current wet areas on the trail.

If you have not heard, an individual has just been charged with burning down the Tucker Johnson Shelter. It is sad that it happened, but good to see that justice will be done. On the bright side, there has been scouting done for a better location for a replacement shelter. The Club, ATC and National Forest people seem to agree on a preliminary site a little north of the present site, off and above the trail. More to come on that in the future.

So, you can see there will be lots going on in our neck of the woods this Summer, and we also have Eastern Mountain Club Day in April.

If you are interested in helping out with trail work, or Section outreach, please contact me at [wkrevetski@hotmail.com](mailto:wkrevetski@hotmail.com) or call 282-2237.

Thank you and safe hiking.

## Outing Reports

### LOWER POULTNEY PADDLE, August 27, 2011, by Barb & Barry Griffith, leaders

With Hurricane Irene careening up the East Coast, we were wondering if we'd get this paddle in. Those who did call vacillated whether they should stay at home and batten down the hatches or get out on the water before the soaking rain attacked. Well, we had eight participants and two dogs who appeared to defy the Hurricane (the dogs had no choice).



This is usually a wonderful paddle on calm wide waters. We were not disappointed!! It is a bit difficult to describe where our "put in" spot was since the road system in West Haven, Vermont is a bit of a mystery without a map.

This day was the "calm before the storm." Throughout the trip, paddlers voiced concerns that they return home in time to prepare before the hurricane arrived. Weather alerts were still trying to track the path of Irene and what the impact would be on land-locked Vermont. We were oblivious to the destruction that was soon to be wreaked upon us! The Lower Poultney is a nice, quiet paddle. The river tends to be shallow and is much wider to paddle on than Otter Creek. A lot of the land in this area alongside the Poultney River is owned by the Nature Conservancy. As one paddles along downstream (south), Vermont is to your right and New York is on the left bank of the river. We had a wonderful day and welcome camaraderie, with no major (or minor) catastrophes!

On this day, the trip was fast. We managed to drag out for a muddy lunch spot. A cemetery was pointed out on a knoll. This being rattlesnake country, no one wanted to venture into the overgrown field. There were numerous water birds along the way. The riverbanks were lined with cottonwood and silver maples. We put in on the New York State side and took out in Vermont, near the Galick Farm.

#### **BURLINGTON BIKE PATH, November 13, 2011, by Sue Thomas, leader**

This year for our "safe" hunting season hike, the Killington Section ventured with great trepidation into the wilds of Burlington, more frightening for some of us than any African Safari. (Give me a charging Rhino any day, over a honking Lexus minivan).

Once parked and on foot, we felt much more at home, and the bike path proved an interesting change from our usual hikes as it followed the lake shore, and waves crashing on the rocks gave it an ocean feel. We were treated to a close-up view of a pileated woodpecker, and the more distant High Peaks of the Adirondacks across the lake.

We arrived at the bridge spanning the mouth of the Winooski River just in time for lunch at a small waterside park, then continued on past Colchester Bog and out onto the causeway, which connects the mainland with the Island of South Hero. By now, the sun had emerged and the sky turned blue, making the walk out into the Lake on the causeway scenic, if windy. Surprisingly, we had it mostly to ourselves, though a bicyclist whizzed by us in an awful hurry and in spite of the break in the causeway (where in summer a bike ferry transports people across) mysteriously never returned. We decided he had either been eaten by Champ or picked up by a Russian submarine.

All in all it was a great day, and we logged almost seven miles of hiking without hearing a single gunshot – only leaf blowers, which transformed mild-mannered Larry into Mr. Hyde. Fortunately, the things are so loud that the operators failed to hear the insults he hurled their way. Otherwise, he likely would have been beaten senseless with the hose attachment. Once he had been subdued and buckled into a straitjacket, all was well.

#### **ANNUAL HOT DOG ROAST, LAKE BOMOSEEN STATE PARK, January 15, 2012,**

**by Larry Walter and Vivian Bebee, leaders**

We were a little doubtful that anyone would be crazy enough to participate in an outdoor cookout on the breezy west shore of Lake Bomoseen, especially since the projected high was 6°. Turns out we had four hardy souls besides us show up, so the gig was on. I secured a nice little expedition sled from Dave Coppock (Thanks Dave!) to drag our food and wood into the chosen campsite. There was just enough snow to make it an easy pull. It was a little windy, but we found a nice little shelter in the sun, with a decent fire pit on the down-wind side of the shelter. It was a good thing we ended up close to the entrance road, because we just managed to catch Steve Williams before he gave up on trying to locate us from all the tracks. The campground is a popular destination for the locals, who in turn manage to keep things picked up and orderly. In times past, we've left someone back with the fire while the rest of the group went for a hike, but it was close to lunch anyway, so we burnt some meat and flour-based products in quick order, cleaned up and readied for a hike. There's a nice little loop hike just to the north of the entrance drive that works its way up through the woods. It was just the right grade to keep us warm and occupied with some nice scenery. We noticed there were several fishermen on the lake, but they were all on foot. Much of the water was still open. Pretty strange winter so far.



### **HIGH POND, SUDBURY, January 28, 2012, by Barbara Griffith, leader**

The Nature Conservancy trailhead to High Pond Preserve is on Ganson Hill Road in Hubbardton. High Pond, itself, is in Sudbury. The hiking trail was constructed by the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps in 2005. One word of caution about this trip – you hike in and down to High Pond. Which means that you have to climb up and out at the end. The last time we did this hike there were “feet” of snow on the ground. This day, there was none due to the mild winter pattern Vermont has been locked in. Just ice to contend with. Some hikers wore spikes, others just proceeded cautiously (tried to). Two had their breath knocked out when their feet went out from under them on the slippery slopes. Otherwise, the day was great weather, and we picnic-lunched in a sunny spot above the Pond.

Conservationist, Douglas Burden, started buying parcels of land here in the 1930's. Eventually, these lands came under the care of the Conservancy in the early 1980's. The Preserve now includes nearly three thousand acres in Hubbardton, Brandon, Pittsford and Sudbury. There is quite a history about the site that one can now access online.

### **RAIL TRAIL/ROAD HIKE, RUPERT TO WEST RUPERT, February 4, 2012,**

by Vivian Bebee and Larry Walter, leaders

The morning of the hike looked to be shaping up like most of the VLB/LW outings: Really nice during the previous test-hike and awful for the official event. There wasn't anything in the forecast about snow, but it was definitely painting the road white at 0700. Things started clearing up as soon as we hit the road, and by the time we were nearing the kickoff point, it was sunny and about 20°. Not bad.

Viv spotted a couple strange vehicles at a RxC crossing on Route 153. Turned out to be some of our hiking mates. We had an excellent turnout with 14 people, including 4 newcomers. The entourage continued on down Vermont Route 153 toward Rupert and pulled over near the first crossing of the old railroad bed across the highway (within Rupert Town boundary). I'm not normally a big fan of rail to trail routes since the rail lines were extremely well engineered, hence almost devoid of detectable curves, horizontal or vertical. But this section runs by a lot of nice wetlands, with a little brook draining the same. It's supposed to be closed to motorized vehicles, although we spotted one heading towards Salem the week before. The brook had managed to get pretty wild, probably during Irene last summer, with several recently destroyed farm bridges and even the remains of an old barn along the way. We flushed the same grouse seen the week before. Lots of beaver activity. The ground was bare. No snow anywhere. Cold temperatures made the walking easy.

We left the rail trail after about 2+ miles for a brief tramp on Routes 153 and 315 in downtown Rupert to Youlin Road where we hooked a right and headed south up the hill. This road winds its way up an increasing grade, with little or no traffic, to connect to the Lang Road. There are only a handful of homes up this way, so the hike is pretty much non-motorized. A nice little surprise was the sighting of a couple bluebirds right along the road. I always forget how amazingly beautiful those little birds are. Seemed a little out of season to see them in VT, but there they were. We had lunch on the stone wall by the Hatch driveway at the top of the hill and continued southerly on the downhill slope of the Lang Road. There were some structures missing from the landscape that Viv remembered being there pretty recently. Seems the new owners removed any and all traces of the house and barn where Viv's childhood friends lived with their parents on a working dairy farm.

We continued on the Lang Road to West Rupert, turning right onto East Street, passing what used to be the two-room school house where Viv attended grade school (which is now the location for the Rupert Town Office, and also passed her grandparent's old place (a previous site of the Rupert Town Office), and eventually ending our hike at Viv's Mom's house. A quick trip in Mom's car delivered the drivers back to retrieve their auto's.

### **LILY POND, BOMOSEEN, February 11, 2012 (Sue Thomas, leader)**

Hello GMC! My name is Patches, and this is my report on my first ever hike with the Killington Section. Oh boy, did I have a blast! I know I've only been around for four months, but it was the best time I've ever had! Everyone was so nice, but I did have my paws full keeping track of them all and had to run back and forth all day to make sure I didn't neglect anyone.



The best thing was I made two new dog friends – that Burdock knows everything there is to know about chasing varmints. I want to be just like him when I grow up!

I had such a great day! There were sticks to chase and chew, fascinating smells to be smelled, and I even tok a toboggan ride down an icy hill that was so much fun I went back up and did it again!

I almost couldn't believe my eyes, but all the folks actually sat down in the middle of the day and got FOOD out of their packs. Wow! That was awesome! Burdock says that's his favorite part of hiking with the club.

I couldn't understand why they all circled around Lily Pond though, since the other dogs and I had much more fun running across it on the ice. I guess people are strange sometimes.

Anyway, it was the best day ever, I couldn't stop wriggling. . .til I got in the car to go home, and then I was out like a light. I hear that happens with the people too.

Prickles, Allison, Kathi and Joe – Killington Section Anniversary Hike, August 2011







In case there are some of us who have forgotten what winter really looks like, this is a picture from a club hike in West Rupert, February, 2011. Tom Copps, Vivian Bebee and Sue Thomas are enjoying the view, while Larry Walter takes the picture. We believe we witnessed a bald eagle flying in the valley just below our eye level off this summit.



Vivian Bebee, Editor  
14 Belmont Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701



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Senior/Student/Volunteer..... \$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_ trail work, \_\_\_ shelter work, \_\_\_ sign making, \_\_\_ publications, \_\_\_ leading outings, \_\_\_ publicity, \_\_\_ education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions.

**10 March, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.****Plymbsbury Ski Trails****Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

Explore cellar holes, stone walls and an intriguing hold in the ground; moderate, 4 miles.

**17 March, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.****Mystery Hike, Rutland area****Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Approximately 5 miles on trails and old wood roads. Moderate.

**25 March, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.****D&H Rail Trail, Castleton/Poultney****Tom Copps 774-5144**

Follow the route of the old Delaware & Hudson railroad. We can choose a segment either 5 miles or 8 miles, depending on weather conditions and interest. Easy.

**31 March, Saturday, 6:00 p.m.****Killington Section Annual Meetingr, Godnick Center, Deer St., Rutland****Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Bring a dish to share and your own place setting for a potluck supper, followed by a short business meeting and election of officers. Main Club Director of Field Programs, Dave Hardy, will fill us in on Tropical Storm Irene damage to the Long Trail.

**7 April, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.****Split Rock & Bald Peak, Pittsford****Tom Copps 774-5144**

We'll try out two of the scenic trails in Pittsford, through pasture and woodlands, with a spring pond and a rocky outcropping. 3-4 miles, choose an easy piece, or a more challenging, but short, climb.

**14 April, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.****Slack Hill, Coolidge StatePark, Plymouth****Vivian Bebee/Larry Walter 775-3855**

A nice hike through a mix of hardwood and conifer forest with view of Mt. Ascutney from the vista; moderate, 4 miles.

**21 April, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.****Natural Bridge, Dorset****Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Climb on old roads to this geological oddity and descend via bushwhacking along the course of a beautiful marble streambed with sculpted gorges and waterfalls; moderate, 4 miles with 900 feet elevation gain. Some very steep grades.

**29, April, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.****Moreau Lake State Park, South Glens Falls, NY****Allison Henry 775-1627**

Climb to an overlook; moderate, 5 miles, with short, steep portion.



**6 May, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Spring wildflower hike**

**Connie Youngstrom 492-3502**

Location to be determined. A slow-paced hike to a locale of the leader's choosing to identify spring wildflowers and returning migrant birds.

**12 May, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. (rain date May 13)**

**Long Trail Spring Cleaning**

**Wayne Krevetsky 282-2237**

All are welcome to help prepare the trail for the summer hiking season. This year, the after effects of Tropical Storm Irene will be a challenge, so all help will be appreciated! Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes and lunch. Tools will be provided. Have fun while doing a good deed.

**20 May, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Stove Pipe City, Mendon**

**Larry Water 775-3855**

Hike from Brewers Corners south and east up Eddy Brook to the northeast slope of Mendon Peak and from there to the summit of the Peak. Some bushwhacking; difficult, 7 miles.

**26 May, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Boiling Spring, Chittenden**

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

Follow old wood roads through the New Boston area to find this unusual site where water bubbles up from the ground. Moderate, 7 miles.

**2 June, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**National Trails Day Maintenance, Killington**

**Herb Ogden 293-2510**

**Wayne Krevetski 282-2237**

Volunteers all over the country will be out today clearing brush and waterbars, cutting blowdowns and painting blazes, readying trails for the summer hiking season. Join us to work on our local treasure, the Long/Appalachian Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, lunch and bug spray. Tools will be provided.

**9 June, Saturday**

**Green Mountain Club Annual Meeting, Jay Peak Resort, Jay, VT**

See your Long Trail News for details and registration information



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 65, Number 2

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

June 2012



Pittsford from the Split Rock trail



Blast from the past, microburst near Stratton Pond.  
August 27, 2005 Steve, Barry, Cindy and Lynda



Erstwhile Tucker Johnson with Lynda Hutchins,  
Rick Brown and Tom Shanahan



Bridge at Peru Shelter. Allison Henry, Cindy Kirk and  
Tom Shanahan



**Killington Section Directors:**

Term expiration 2013

Vivian Bebee

Tom Copps

Steve Williams

Term expiration 2014

Dave Coppock

Allison Henry

Sue Thomas\*

Term expiration 2015

Gerry Martin\*

Barry Griffith

Hillary Coolidge

\*Second consecutive 3-year term. Not eligible for re-election.

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President

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Vice President

Allison Henry

Secretary

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**Smoke & Blazes:**

Vivian Bebee

Editor

Larry Walter

Assistant Editor

Tom Copps

Photo Editor

**Web Site:**

Deborah Waggett

Web Master

**EDITOR'S NOTE: IF YOU WOULD RATHER RECEIVE SMOKE & BLAZES BY EMAIL, PLEASE CONTACT ME. CONTACT INFORMATION IS LISTED BELOW. THANKS.**

**April 12, 2012:** Larry, Shawn and Gail clear a blow-down from the LT between Route 4 and Maine Junction.

**Contact Information – Web Site – <http://web.mac.com/gmckillington>**

Vivian Bebee  
Hillary Coolidge  
Dave Coppock  
Tom Copps  
Allison Henry  
Wayne Krevetski  
Gerry Martin  
Herbert Ogden  
Bob Perkins  
Sue Thomas  
Deborah Waggett  
Steve Williams

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## This n' That

### TRAIL MAINTENANCE REPORT, Tuesday, April 17, 2012, by Barbara Griffith

With a hoe, small saw and hand clippers I spent the day clearing water bars, trimming back small brush and picking debris on the LT/AT. My intent was to park on the Governor Clement Road and head north to the top of Little Killington. It was a glorious day, not too warm and a bit of a breeze. The trail was in amazingly good condition. Barry and I had been out last Fall cleaning water bars from the road into Clement shelter, so the first section I did wasn't too complicated. Saw my first snake of the season. It was a pencil thin, tiny, 10-inch garter snake basking in the sun. It moved away quite quickly when I disturbed it's peace. My next critter was a good-sized toad that was in the mucky mud of one of the water bars with a little wooden log bog bridge leading to it. Luckily my hoe didn't hack away any of it's appendages. I decided to be more careful of my digging techniques for the rest of the day. The trail and the woods were dry, and the understory was oh so dry.

The brook crossing to Clement, which is usually a challenge for me, was doable. Someone had put rocks across, so with hoe in one hand to balance and a pole in my other I was able to cross quite easily. A "thank you" to whoever facilitated that! (I suspect it was "Plans to Much.") It was now much later in the day than I had anticipated (Takes a lot of time cleaning water bars!), and I was wondering if I would make it to the top of Little Killington.

I continued up the road/trail, snagging off the road at the top of the rise. This section of the trail was a bit damp. There are multiple seeps along the side of this section, but still not the mucky, muddy state it usually is in. These water bars had not been cleaned last Fall so my job was a bit more challenging here. In the past when I had been in with a hoe, I had been in a hurry and had not taken the time to clean out the multiple "rock bogging" sections. The mud and leaves had hidden these rocks over the years, so I cleaned around, between and made the drainage more doable. This took a lot of time.

A large flat rock loomed ahead and had "lunch spot" written all over it. My arms were a bit sore, so I decided it was also a good time for a break. So quiet out there by myself, yet not so quiet. As I sat listening, I heard a barred owl hooting in the distance. Off and on, a Pileated Woodpecker was hammering away, and I heard it or them calling their kikkikik throughout the day. A little mole or mouse moved around in the leaf litter. Several different butterflies flitted around. The hillside was aromatic with the profusion of ramps. I decided I needed a few for my salad tonight so broke off a couple of leaves.) April 17th and the understory was alive with wildflowers. Trilliums were ready to bloom, but the weather is to turn colder, so I imagine they will be delayed for a while. Also budded were squirrel corn, trout lily, and a plant I could not identify (will have to look up when I get home). In bloom, I was delighted to see spring beauties, colts feet, and yellow violets. Earlier in the day, I checked out the area of the Trail where I have seen lady slippers every year, but they were not up yet.

Continuing up, I now knew I would not make the top at the speed I was traveling. That was OK. I made it to the "Ear Tree." (Those who know this section know what I mean. It's that tree with a limb that looks like an ear. I suspect it hears many stories throughout the hiking season.) I wandered along this ridge another 20 minutes not encountering any water bars or debris. I cut out 2 small trees that hikers had been going off trail to maneuver around. At this point, it was time to return home. I had accomplished most of what I had intended (except the top). It had been a wonderful day "on the trail" and, oh, it does take a long time to clean water bars!

## Outing Reports

### JOCKEY HILL, February 26, 2012, Barry & Barb Griffith, leaders

A group of nine hikers and two dogs gathered on the site of one of Shrewsbury's original settlers, Thomas Stewart, now known as the former site of the Tin Shanty, ready to hike in to our first destination. It was the first snowshoe of the season for most people. In fact, when people called to confirm, I warned them to dust off their snowshoes and they were incredulous that there would be that much snow (there was). We hiked up the Tin Shanty Road, donning our "shoes," snagged the snowmobile trail and continued to shoe in to the bottom of Jockey Hill. We passed by the Orey Wright Lumber Mill site where Barry pointed out that the lumber for the Northam Church had been milled here in the 1840's. On our return trip, we went in to look at the cellar hole and the stone wall in the stream bed that must have been a dam for said saw mill over 150 years ago.

At this point, we snagged an old logging road to the left and headed up the hill meeting the first real challenge of a stream crossing. (Later in the day we would hike in to the headwaters of this stream.) The snow was pristine, the skies were eggshell blue, the camaraderie calming. As we climbed, we started shedding layers of clothing. At the beginning of the day, it had been cool and a bit of a chill with the wind, but we warmed up quickly with the increased exercise.



Eventually the promised bushwhack commenced as we ascended at a greater slope grade. There sure were plenty of bushes whacking us and at different times, we had to pull two people back up from the snowy depths when they fell over. As we climbed, the snow became deeper and deeper, never losing its splendor. Upwards to the "rock on the rock"!

As always, just when you wonder if you'll ever make it, we reached the top of the hill at 2,641 feet elevation and were rewarded with great views to the east. We then climbed down to the rock and our lunch spot. Could this be an old Druid or Celtic worshiping site? Is the boulder a glacial erratic or is it a "dolman" balanced on those "peg stones" by cultures gone by? On the summer solstice, does the sun really shine past the pegs and align the beam? What is truth, what is fiction, and what is just imagination? (We saw no gnomes, but were they watching us?) Perhaps the magic was the glorious day that had wrapped itself around us.

Lunch being over, we took off for the next destination that Kathy Pingree had reminded us about earlier, the beaver dam meadow site. Off we slid down through the fluffy snow finding an abundance of animal tracks. Jerry pointed out fisher tracks. So far today we had seen the tracks of white-footed mice, voles, coyote, and squirrel. Once at the beaver dam site, we had great views to the north of Mendon, Little Killington and some more of the Coolidge Range.

From here the return trip started. We hiked out and eventually made it back to the old logging road that we had started in on, re-crossed the stream (no casualties), out to the snowmobile trail at the base of Jockey Hill and back to our vehicles. Before departing, we discussed the death of a hiker who died in January while out on the Emily Proctor Trail. I stressed the need for everyone to leave a note where they were or might be going and an intended return time. Alas, this did not help the young hiker in January.

#### **BLACK MOUNTAIN PONDS, March 4, 2012, Allison Henry, leader**

The network of trails on the east shore of Lake George is easily accessible and in my opinion, never too crowded. People seem to gravitate to the summit trails on sunny weekends (Black Mountain, Buck Mountain) leaving the more remote pond trails pretty quiet. We have done the Black Mountain Pond areas several times as a winter hike, but it is always a good choice—easy drive, plowed trailhead lot, and usually not too icy. We had a cloudy day for this hike with temperatures in the 30s. Our group included three regulars and two friends of the leader from NY. There was a little fresh snow, but mostly packed down, old snow. Like almost all of our hikes this winter, only microspikes or yaktrax were needed. After the slight climb from the trailhead, we paused at the turnoff for the Black Mountain summit trail, but with no takers we continued on as planned to the pond area. We reached our destination, Millman Pond, in time for lunch. The shelter is a marvel of caretakerdom. There are handmade shelves and storage nooks, frying pans, tools such as rakes and brooms and a well-built fire pit. The outhouse is a site to behold. Outhouse-themed comics and poetry on the walls, a built-in storage compartment for TP and, most of all, a red toilet seat labeled "Millman Pond hot seat," which is a close second to Minerva Hinchey's glory. After a dessert of rolo brownies (just what it sounds like—brownies festooned with chopped up rolo candies) our slog out was a bit slower thanks to full tummies and melty snow.

The most exciting part of our hike was during the drive home. On Washington County Route 6, Larry exclaimed, "Did you guys see that huge porcupine?" I made Sue turn the car around to go check it out. Back we went, necks craning, until Larry said, "Look! There!" and Sue turned the car around again. There certainly was SOMETHING there....a shaggy black animal who looked to weigh at least 40 pounds, clinging to a log in a wetland. "That's not a porky! It's a.....a.....I don't know!" At first, I thought it was a baby bear. It turned out to be a big, black, shaggy.....housecat. Sue got out of the car for a better look, and Mr. Kitty glaaaaaaaraaaed at her before slinking below the log, tail twitching.

#### **PINE HILL TO PROCTOR, March 17, 2012, Sue Thomas, leader**

With no leaves yet on the trees the woods were open and bright in the warm spring sunshine. Our merry band of hikers skipped happily along accompanied by the lovely trill of birdsong, oblivious to the peril ahead. Suddenly, the sky darkened and the peace was shattered by the deafening cries of hundreds of menacing birds! Their black bodies blocked out the sun as wave after wave passed overhead, and we cowered, grabbing for Burdock lest he be carried away in the cruel talons of...well, OK, they were just starlings, but it was impressive to see several huge flocks, very Hitchcock!

Nostalgia had inspired me to lead a hike on the old stage road from Pine Hill Park to Proctor before it becomes a more "civilized" mountain bike trail later this year as part of the ongoing expansion of the Pine Hill trail system. A large group patiently waited while we dropped some cars at the Proctor end. The first hill reduced our number by one and another turned back before we reached Rocky Pond. At that rate, I was afraid by the time we got to Proctor there would be no one left but me and the dogs! But the remainder of the group proved more hardy, climbing hills, negotiating a few muddy spots and endlessly tossing a Frisbee for our most tireless (four-footed) hiker, who logged more miles than the rest of us put together. We stopped for lunch at a small reservoir. One hiker who grew up in Proctor remembered coming there to swim and picnic when it was maintained as a town recreation area. We opted to picnic and skip the swim.



We emerged from the woods near the rusty remains of the old Proctor ski tow, glad to have spent a great day outside and also grateful not to have been dismembered by vicious birds – always a goal of the Killington Section.

**SLACK HILL, April 14, 2012, Vivian Bebee and Larry Walter, leaders**

We had an impressive turnout for this hike up through Coolidge State Park (Route 100A) with a head count of 18. The weather was near perfect. The bugs were few, but potent. More on that later. A non-democratic decision (meaning Larry decided) was made to make it a true loop by parking down by the highway. After organizing somewhat, the head of the monster launched itself up the paved road towards the check-in station (now vacant), passing some nice lodges and some decent views to the northwest. This many people are always challenging, but the GMC ethic kicked in reliably, allowing some of our slower hikers to catch up. It was good to see some returnees by newer participants, as well as some young friends of ours including, Peter, who will be graduating from college soon. Yikes! Peter has hiked with the GMC since he was 15. Larry tortured some of the latter with stupid tree ID questions. They nicely feigned to have (a) confidence in, and (b) a tepid interest in Larry's shaky dendro-knowledge.

The trailhead for the Slack Hill trail began just past the entrance station. About 2/3's of the way on the trail, Jerry Parker slid off to the left side to an old cellar hole, nicely signed "In Memory of Dick" (dated in the early 50's). Different theories were kicked around, including a pet dog once owned by Tom Copps. Once we returned to the trail, we had another steep section to finish before looping around the summit of Slack Hill, followed by a short descent to a small but very nice view to the south, with a bench. Since we weren't all going to fit on the bench, most of the group sat in the surrounding grass and brush. Our chief tick-magnet, Ms. Thomas, managed to produce one specimen crawling upon her person. This discovery produced the usual arms-up, airport security sort of scene, but no other eight-legged critters were discovered. I guess that's a heads up for the rest of the season. Normally there would still be snow on this trail in April, but not a trace of the stuff was to be seen, except up on the mountain resort trails. From the viewpoint, there's an easy hike down to an open field and picnic area with some more nice views. The trail then re-enters the woods and eventually crosses a major stream before heading down an old access road to the cars. Larry was called upon for his "near photographic" trail memory at one junction for a right or left opinion. Fortunately, Viv had a clearer memory and chose the correct direction that avoided Larry's hiking into a dead-end tent platform area. There's an interesting old CCC lodge site across a flood-damaged bridge near the parking area. Some of the stone work, including the old fireplace and retaining walls, are worth seeing. The remains of the original roof trusses are stacked nearby, but they're too far gone to be used again. Some pretty nice joinery went into these old places.

**NATURAL BRIDGE, April 21, 2012, Sue Thomas, leader**

Up the ridge to the natural bridge

We climbed and we climbed and we climbed.

"For that little bridge we climbed this @\*!! ridge?"

Gasping for breath we whined.

"How nice to see" they said to me,

"Green things not seen since last Fall."

"What flower is it? It's so exquisite!"

And Stella, she sat on them all.

Down the ridge from the natural bridge

There in the underbrush thick.

Rocks piled in an arch, we halted our march

And Herb poked inside with a stick.

We readied to flee, but no beast did we see

From winter's slumber awake.

T'was but the steep grade of the old road that made

Our knees to tremble and quake.

**MOREAU LAKE STATE PARK, April 29, 2012, Allison Henry, leader**

Moreau Lake is a New York State Park just off the Northway, between Saratoga Springs and Lake George. When I lived in Saratoga, I used to go there for walks around the Lake. This past winter, I was invited on a hike there with friends and thought, "This really isn't all that far for a GMC hike." Thus, the hike made it onto our schedule. It was a nice day for a hike - sunny, windy and low 50's. Very few bugs! We had six "regulars" on this hike plus a pal of the leader, plus two pals of the leader's pal. One of our regulars immediately commented that yours truly was not our "token young person" on this particular hike.



Our fearless leader had followed the maze of trails in the park with friends and via sight, but navigating the park map (it cost \$2, but was vastly superior to the tiny black-and-white internet printout initially used) was in itself an adventure. Red trails, white trails and trails that were not even on the map all added up to the fun of "I know where we are and how to find our way back to the car, but how do we get over THERE from HERE?" We followed a slowly rolling, ever climbing ROR trail (Red Oak Ridge) just above the campground road, until reaching a turnoff to the Overlook Trail. You might recall from the summary in the schedule that this hike included a "short steep section." Well, this was it, a half-mile climb with not one, but two steep sections that I'd call "talus fields" going nearly vertical. Hands down, this was the toughest part of the hike. Literally, hands-down. The overlook is just what you'd imagine, an overlook, looking east over Moreau Lake toward mountains in the distance which were probably some Taconics and some Greens. At the overlook, conveniently in time for lunch, our chatty group likely disrupted several individuals who had probably hoped for a quieter break on the summit. These folks were easily brought to the dark side with offers of brownies and chocolate eggs.

After coming carefully down the way we came up, with no casualties, we heard something coming through the woods above us and we turned in anticipation, hoping it was a deer or even a bear. It turned out to be a running man in green spandex, wearing a number and carrying a map. At first I thought he had gotten REALLY off course from the Lake George Half-Marathon, which was also taking place that day. He ran right past us and appeared not to have even noticed our group. We started seeing more and more such folks as we headed toward the Lake. Turns out they were participating in an orienteering race called the Billy Goat. They were zigging and zagging up and down the trails as well as bush-whacking through the woods in search of orange flags. We moved a few of the flags to make it easier for the competitors (just kidding).

Once down from the ridge, we made our best attempt to follow some of the trails around the Lake and wetland areas, once again with some head scratching, map rotating, and "how do we get there from here" from our leader. We saw lots of beaver work including a recently chewed tree more than twelve inches in diameter, and a beaver lodge right on the shore of the pond. One member of our party actually scaled the beaver lodge for closer inspection, probably causing the poor beaver family inside to believe that the apocalypse was imminent.

The end of our hike included crossing a causeway for gorgeous views of the Lake, tromping across the playground, beach and picnic area, and briefly considering a group crashing of the Billy Goat's post-race party. Instead, we followed the lake shore back toward the parking lot. For a finale, we followed a herd path right along the edge of the water, which involved some dodging of tree branches lest one step off the lakeshore into the Lake. I was hoping someone would fall in so I could add it to this hike write-up, but the end of the hike remained uneventful.

## **Killington Section Annual Meeting**

March 31, 2012

By Allison Henry, Secretary

(Edited by Vivian Bebee – For complete transcript of these minutes, contact Allison Henry)

Present: President Wayne Krevetski, Secretary Allison Henry, Treasurer Gerry Martin, and Directors Sue Thomas, Tom Cops, Vivian Bebee, and Dave Coppock. Also present: 20+ other K Section members and friends.

Minutes from 2011 annual meeting approved (G. Martin/Barb Griffith; passed)

Treasurer's report from Gerry Martin:

- About one thousand dollars ahead of last year
- Returns on CDs continue to be very minimal, but will continue to roll over; questioned looking for higher interest rate, but higher rate would result in some risk to the principal. Board does not want this.
- Membership numbers are up—have we actually added people or is there a new definition of members, i.e. businesses or additional family members counted. (Note: A. Henry offered to get in touch with Main Club to ask)

Treasurer's report accepted (Barry Griffith/A. Henry; passed)

Dave Hardy, Director of Field Operations, made a guest appearance to update us on the condition of the Long Trail in and around our area, especially after Irene. Of note, paraphrased: The Killington Section has the honor of having "The only



piece of the Trail still closed due to Irene." A section of the trail from Cold River Road to Governor Clement is still closed by the Green Mountain National Forest. A road walk is posted. A site visit with local club members, Dave, Forest Service folks and possibly a grant writer is scheduled for early April. Also, the town of Shrewsbury may or may not replace washed out bridges. Possible trail adjustment or relocation in an area near Lottery Road-- a flagline has been set.

Forest Service is prosecuting the alleged perpetrator of the burning of Tucker Johnson Shelter. A potential new site is being scouted—a little north of the old site, off the trail.

Wind project in Lowell—is moving forward, but will have a radar-operated lighting system, as the Club had hoped. Lights are required on the tallest turbines, but now will only switch on when a plane is in range rather than staying on all night. The Club learned a lot from participating in the public hearings and other pieces of the project, and we have been able to bring our "expertise" to other projects such as the new towers in Deerfield.

Thundering Falls boardwalk—destroyed by Irene. Forest Service looking for support in fixing/replacing. Also damaged/gone: bridge in Kent Brook area, Stonybrook bridge. This has been a low water year and a lot of debris from Irene has not been moved yet so it might be best to wait on some repairs until another high water event moves things around again.

Bromley tower—built in early 60s (Bromley Ski Area) was condemned after inspection last summer by engineer and will be disassembled/destroyed. GMC will work with Bromley and be primary fundraiser on replacing it. Trail will not be moved off the summit of Bromley.

Main Club summary from representative Allison Henry, with some notes provided by alternate Steve Williams:

- Lowell Wind Project under some appeals but still moving forward.
- Main Club Annual Meeting is the weekend of June 8-9 at Jay Peak resort
- Main Club looking for copy of the 1922 Long Trail guide. Historical Society might lend us copy.
- Fiscal Year 2013 budget passed unanimously
- Still working on Winooski Project. Recent appeal raised \$50,000.00
- Club involved in discussions of safety and search and rescue on the Trail, following the death of a young hiker on the Emily Proctor Trail. State of VT looking at updating their response protocol—many areas not covered and responsibility falls on State Police. Resources often not available for dangerous or nighttime rescues.

Nomination and Election of Directors:

- Confusion due to lack of a list available of current directors eligible/ineligible for re-election. Discussion ensued with the election going forward under the assumption that Tom, Sue, Allison, Vivian, Dave and Herb were the existing Directors whose terms were not yet up, leaving three positions to be filled. Nominations were made and seconded; following paper ballot, Hillary, Gerry and Barry were elected to fill three vacant positions.

The Directors old and new then met to elect officers (still discussing who was actually off the Board due to term expiration. Officer nominations made and seconded as follows: President, Herb Ogden; VP, Barry Griffith; Secretary, Allison Henry; Treasurer, Gerry Martin. Allison Henry remains our rep for the Main Club, with Hillary Coolidge elected as alternate.

Next Board of Directors' meeting scheduled for June 12, 2012 at 7 pm at the Henry House.



Vivian Bebee, Editor  
14 Belmont Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

Your Invitation to Join

### Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual .....\$40  
Family .....\$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer .....\$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_publications, \_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677



**KILLINGTON SECTION, GMC      OUTING SCHEDULE      June-September, 2012**

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions. **HIKE LEADER HAS DISCRETION TO REFUSE ANYONE WHO IS NOT ADEQUATELY PREPARED.**

**16 June, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Birdseye Mountain, Castleton**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

Climb to a rocky overlook; some steep pitches and some bushwhacking. Difficult, 5 miles.

**23 June, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Quimby, Stockbridge**

**Herb Ogden 293-2510**

We will hike south from Stockbridge on old roads; then along the Appalachian Trail to Notown. Moderate, 7 miles.

**30 June, Saturday**

**Mystery hike**

**Diane Bargiel 413-687-1109**

Moderate, 4-6 miles. Call leader for location and starting time.

**8 July, Sunday**

**Winona Lake, Bristol**

**Vivian Bebee & Larry Walter 775-3855**

Canoe or kayak on this beautiful, small lake (a/k/a Bristol Pond), with abundant bird life. Call leaders for start time.

**22 July, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.**

**Mount Ascutney, Windsor**

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Climb to the summit of this 3,150-foot monadnock for spectacular views from the fire tower. Difficult, 6 miles, 2,520 feet of elevation gain.

**28 July, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Annual Poultney River Paddle**

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

A relaxing paddle along the scenic Vermont/New York border. Bring canoes or kayaks; flotation devices required.

**5 August, Sunday**

**Mystery Hike**

**Larry Walter 775-3855**

Difficult, 8-12 miles. Call leader for location and starting time.

**12 August, Sunday, 8:30 a.m.**

**Hunger Mountain, Waterbury Center**

**Allison Henry 775-1627**

Ascend via the Waterbury Trail for great views of the Green and White Mountains from the 3,539-foot summit. "Bring your bow & arrows for the Hunger Mountain Games." Difficult, 5 miles, 2,290 feet of elevation gain.

**18 August, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Silver Lake, Ripton**

**Tom Copps 774-5144**

Hike to this beautiful Lake via the North Branch Trail and out the Goshen Trail. Cool off with a swim at the beach. Moderate, 5 miles.



# Smoke & Blazes

Volume 65, Number 3

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

September 2012



Annual cold dog cookout, this time at Bomoseen



Lake Bomoseen from Gramps



Trip around (and high above) Lake Moreau over in New York State



Our favorite baby weasel



Larry about to jump off from Mendon Mountain



Kayaking on Bristol Pond



The wall at Aldrichville on the LT-AT near Little Rock Pond



**Killington Section Directors:**

Term expiration 2013

Vivian Bebee

Tom Copps

Steve Williams

Term expiration 2014

Dave Coppock

Allison Henry

Sue Thomas\*

Term expiration 2015

Hillary Coolidge\*

Barry Griffith

Gerry Martin\*

\*Second consecutive 3-year term. Not eligible for re-election.

**Killington Section Officers:**

Steve Williams

President

Barry Griffith

Vice President

Allison Henry

Secretary

Gerry Martin

Treasurer

**Committee Chairs:**

Bob Perkins

History

Sue Thomas

Outings

Herb Ogden

Trails &amp; Shelters

Wayne Krevetski

Trails &amp; Shelters

**Delegates to GMC Board:**

Allison Henry

Director

Hillary Coolidge

Alternate

**Smoke & Blazes:**

Vivian Bebee

Editor

Larry Walter

Assistant Editor

Tom Copps

Photo Editor

**Web Site:**

Deborah Waggett

Web Master

**Little Rock Pond, August 2012**

Gerry, Teri, Chryl, and Larry



Barry, Chryl, Gerry, Sue, Teri, Larry, Tom, Barb

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Steve Williams

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## **This n' That**

Friday and Saturday, October 5 and 6, Eastern Mountain Sports, "Club Day Sale"

### **HIGHLAND WORK PARTY, Saturday, June 2, 2012, by Herb Ogden**

This year, the Highland Work Party was appropriately named not only because we worked at high elevation in the Coolidge Range, but also because the weather was what the Scotch Highlands are famous for: chilly and rainy. Nevertheless, six people showed up and joined the Honor Roll: Dave Coppock, Tom Copps, Allison Henry, Wayne Krevetski, Herb Ogden and Sarah Shanahan. The day before, Sue Thomas had finished clearing the many waterbars on the Sherburne Pass Trail and Cindy Taylor-Miller had cut weeds in Patch Hollow.

While Allison and Sarah dug out two miles worth of waterbars south from US 4 to Churchill Scott Shelter on the LT, Wayne delivered some bog bridging to the bottom of the Cauty Trail with the gracious cooperation of its new owners. Then he and the rest of us brought sixteen 8' hemlock planks and two sills up to the Alpine Pipeline crossing on the Sherburne Pass trail using Wayne's truck. By the time we had lugged them the remaining .4 mile to Jungle Jct., the rain was becoming steadier and the trail slipperier, and we decided not to lug any farther. We installed one bog bridge, but left for another day the task of carrying 14 planks about a mile south on the LT to fix broken bog bridges. If you know of any carriers with strong backs and ambition, let us know.

### **Paddling Otter Creek (aka "Tree Kayaking"), July 1, 2012, (not a Club trip), by Barb Griffith**

We wondered what this trip would be like as we unloaded the kayaks and equipment for the paddle. I have never seen the "Crik" so low! The last paddle we did on this section was just after a tremendous amount of rain and we zoomed along at a fast pace ending in about three hours time! Today, we dragged the kayaks down to a cavity in the bank and each developed their own launching technique. What was most difficult was extricating our feet and sandals from the mud. (This would be a common theme throughout the day.) We put in to Otter Creek at 11:30 a.m. Our spirits were high and the weather was perfect, sunny and breezy; the trees lining the banks of the Creek gave us shaded relief. However, there wasn't much of a current so we were forced to paddle downstream without much help from the forces of nature.

The first hour of the paddle went without much ado. We did not encounter any snags or stringers. Life was good. We were giddy with the day. Barry chose our lunch spot, but when he got on shore, he hit quicksand or quick mud and started sinking. Once again he extricated himself and crawled back into his watercraft with both crocs intact. Another 15 minutes along, we found a real sand bar and enjoyed a leisurely meal. The whole day was proving to be leisurely. That was soon to change as we started our encounters with maneuvering around, over and under snags left by Hurricane Irene.

As in our initial launching we each developed our own techniques to get our kayaks and selves over each barricade. This prompted a lot of teamwork to get the kayaks over without going over into the water....which did happen by the way. I wasn't available with my camera to document the "tip overs". Rats!!

The snags kept a coming. So, not only did we have no current, we also had river blocks coming at us. This was not going to be a 3-hour trip today. Our spirits were high even though our paddling arms were growing weary. We flushed up a mother duck and about 9 ducklings who could not fly yet, chasing them down stream all day long. (Bet they slept well that night.)

Wish we had kept track of the number of snags we had to get over. I will say "many". After awhile we started to call it "tree kayaking", and we finally made it to our take out spot with thunder in the distance. We all marveled at our time on the "Crik" and for what a perfect day it had been. It was 4:30 p.m. The trip had taken us 5 hours!

What an awesome stupendous day we had!! We survived intact, (already discussing our next kayak adventure), but we did learn that "tree kayaking" TAKES A LOT LONGER than water kayaking.





## Outing Reports

### BOILING SPRINGS, CHITTENDEN, May 26, 2012, Barry & Barb Griffith, leaders

Our last trip into the Springs was June 2009. As always with these out-of-the-way locations, we attempt to hike in every few years to keep the spot current in our minds. The weather was perfect, the trekkers waiting with bated breath to achieve the destination and marvel at the boiling water. (We had to explain that the "boiling" here did not mean hot). We were 11 hikers, two dogs. This is a rather long hike, but level terrain with a slow uphill elevation gain making it downhill on the return.

Wildflowers were abundant. We came upon an Oven Bird's nest. Would have missed it entirely if our commotion had not made Mama Oven Bird un-nest and try to lead us away. The nest was on the ground on the side of the logging road and carefully camouflaged by wrapping living ferns around the top. Quite clever! We quickly strode by to leave her to get back to incubating her eggs.

We attained the Boiling Spring site by noon. The Springs made quite a show for our lunch. As you can see in the photo, we were captivated as it bubbled away! One must see it to believe. We wondered if there are other "boiling springs" in Vermont and, if so, where. There were other geological questions left unanswered.

There were new participants who joined us. It is always nice to have new input. For those who called the leaders, I advised food, water, proper footwear and the ability to hike 7+ miles. For some, that was a challenge towards the end of the trip. The heat and humidity rose throughout the day. The mud we had to plow through threw a curve ball to some. However, all made it in and out.





**WINONA LAKE (a/k/a BRISTOL POND), BRISTOL, July 8, 2012, Viv Bebee & Larry Walter, leaders**

Despite the very early start time, Linda, Teri and Sarah joined us with their kayaks for a very pleasant, early morning paddle. We started early not only to avoid the heavy traffic at this "fishing" site and beat the heat, but also in hopes of seeing more wildlife. We were definitely rewarded for our effort. Not only did we see turtles, ducks, gulls, herons and bald eagles, we were also treated to a rare sight. As we paddled down the peaceful channel that leads to the main pond, directly in front of us only a very few feet away, male and female sandhill cranes walked out of a marshy area with two juveniles following close behind, swam across the narrow channel and walked into the marshy area on the other side. They made sounds like a soft, rattle/purr. What a sight! Further out in the pond, we saw some fat, happy snakes sunning themselves on a little island. Needless to say, we all stayed in our canoe/kayaks and did not venture onto the island. Also, there were only a couple of other boats on the water, so we did not have to avoid areas where others were fishing. Note: On the front cover, picture of kayakers, Linda and Sarah.

**MOUNT ASCUTNEY, WINDSOR, July 22, 2012, Sue Thomas, leader**

Mount Ascutney fits the definition of a monadnock – rising from the valley floor all on its own, with no surrounding mountains or ridges for company. Poor, lonely Mount Ascutney. But the thing about a monadnock is, as you approach from any direction, it looms in front of you in all its intimidating glory, and any sympathy you might have had for it fades as you gaze at its enormous bulk and realize that nary an elevation line was gained by car. Lucky you, you get to climb every inch. Gulp!

Having blue skies, a relatively cool day in the midst of a steamy summer and great companions eased the way as we slogged up the Windsor Trail. We stopped for a breather at Gerry's Falls, not very impressive in a dry year, but any excuse will do on an unrelenting climb!

By the time we reached Halfway Springs, we felt at least 155 years old, so thought we might as well take the 1857 route, now a spur trail, to check out an old cabin, which looked about as rundown as I felt. We found a family there taking a break on their way up. Their little girl seemed not the least bit winded, and with a mouthful of Skittles told us all about the series of candy breaks that had fueled her climb. We ran into them again when we crested the ridge, and she regaled us with the tales of pizza all the way to the summit tower, atop which she clutched a small bag of M&M's and led a discussion about everyone's favorite donut flavor. I hope she took a moment to notice the view, which is of course spectacular, taking in the Windsor/Cornish covered bridge over the Connecticut River in the foreground, to the distant White Mountains and our own Greens.

As we ate our lunch at the base of the tower, our little friend disappeared down the trail, still talking . . . which may explain the overpowering urge we felt for ice cream when we reached the trailhead. A stop at the Brownsville store was just the thing, where we had a scoop each and marveled over the elaborate model train set up in the back room. Extremely detailed, it featured eco-friendly construction sites complete with solar panels and outhouses, a cop car lurking behind trees in a speed trap and even the Old Man of the Mountain resurrected. A fun way to end a great day.

**MYSTERY HIKE, August 5, 2012, Larry Walter, leader**

I had originally planned to ascend a Green Mountain high peak, but in light of weather forecasts predicting morning thunderstorms, thought better of it. Evidently, most other people thought the same since the phone was pretty silent (no calls for time and place of hike).

Sue, Tom and I decided to limit our hike to something short, with water at the end for swimming to cool off. Silver Lake fit the bill. We came in from the east (easy) side and reached the Lake just when the wind was picking up and the clouds were gathering. Tom and I stuck to the plan and attempted to backstroke through 1 ½-foot-high whitecaps. Sue wisely decided to limit her involvement to a casual wade near shore.

The return trip to the car left us all wishing we were in the water again, so we compensated with a visit to the Brandon ice cream shop on the way home.



## Killington Section Directors' Meeting

June 12, 2012

By Allison Henry, Secretary

Present: President Steve Williams, VP Barry Griffith, Secretary Allison Henry, Treasurer Gerry Martin, and Directors Sue Thomas, Dave Coppock, Tom Copps, Vivian Bebee, and Hillary Coolidge. Also present: former President/Trails and Shelters Co-Chair Wayne Krevetski.

- Meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm.
- We confirmed Steve Williams as section President. He had been named as President by our Board via email/phone discussion following some confusion as to who is actually on the Board and whose term was up (please refer to minutes from 3/31/12).
- Minutes from Directors meeting on 3/6/12 and Annual Meeting on 3/31/12 were approved (Griffith/Martin and Copps/Bebee, respectively).
- Treasurer's Report by Gerry Martin
  - Membership numbers up, has generated income. Recent expenses include Godnick Center rental and lumber.
  - Recent audit went well
  - Steve requested clarification re: use of Kirk Fund. Gerry and Barry suggested he refer to Barry's article about the Kirk fund written in Smoke and Blazes several years ago. Gerry will add sentence to Treasurer's report about the use of the restricted fund
  - Group "THANK YOU" to Gerry for excellent work!
- Main Club Highlights from Allison Henry, Director to Main Club:
  - Working with Ski Areas along Long Trail to set up official side trails to connect ski areas to LT
  - Lifetime Membership given to Ben Rose
  - Winooski Bridge Project still in progress; next big project could be replacement of Bromley Lookout Tower
  - Main Club continuing to follow progress of wind projects around the State
- Trails and Shelters Report from Wayne Krevetski
  - funding coming in for Irene-related repairs. LT Patrol and VYCC will do most of the work. Bucklin Trail relocation and Cold River Road area being worked on in the coming weeks
  - Main Club might be donating money to Shrewsbury for bridge repairs
  - We are allowed to open up the view at Bear Mountain vista
  - Also noted: Susan Shea is looking for Section reports for Long Trail News—100-500 words with photos. Vivian will call Barb about this.
  - Thank You from Wayne for sending him photos for annual meeting slide show
  - Owner of the Cauty Trail access has given permission for us to access trail through the gate on his property for trailwork. He has asked if trailhead can be moved because even with "No Parking" signs, people still park there and block the gate. Wayne will discuss options with Forest Service (they have been discussing moving the trailhead for years) and with the landowner.
  - Other than Irene damage in Shrewsbury area, "our section is in good shape."
  - Some thruhikers have reported confusion with road walk in Shrewsbury area. Barry will be working on improving signage.
  - Vandalism at Rt. 140 lot—there is no sign there warning folks of potential vandalism
  - Mountain bike tracks from 140 to Minerva Hinchey



- Sue questioned what info can be left in the shelters, "officially." Some items found include phone books and bus schedules. Wayne: commercial ads are definitely not allowed. Unsure of actual Main Club policy.
- Smoke and Blazes Update:
  - Make sure your contact info and term limit info are accurate
  - send any photos of outings to Tom and/or Vivian
  - Group "THANK YOU" for Tom and Vivian's efforts!
  - As always, call Sue SOON if you want to lead outings!
- Other Business:
  - Website: Group discussion: website needs updating. Photos and information are outdated. Not all issues of Smoke and Blazes are available on the site. Hillary offered to get in touch with webmaster Deb Waggett.
  - Publicity: What options are there for communicating outings schedule to public, besides Smoke and Blazes and website? Should we utilize email? We have had difficulty with the Herald's calendar not working properly. Hikes are sometimes advertised in small, local papers such as Mountain Times and VT Country Sampler. Group discussion of importance of publicity vs. safety concerns. Publicity is important to make community aware of our activities, invite new people on hikes, recruit new people for work parties, and recruit new members. However, concern was expressed that if hikes are advertised in "tourist"-type papers, tourists who are unprepared may show up for outings. Hillary offered to get in touch with local organizations such as colleges and libraries for outreach (Vivian will send list of people/groups who already receive our mailings).
  - Hike Safety: We held a very long discussion about situations where individuals show up for hikes unprepared, either unprepared with gear and/or not physically capable of completing the hike safely. Throughout discussion we emphasized that it is ultimately the role of the hike leader to turn someone away if unprepared or not physically capable, although some hike leaders might not be comfortable with the possibility of conflict and/or hurting someone's feelings. We do need to make decisions for individual safety as well as the safety/comfort of the group. If someone is unprepared, hikes at a very slow pace, or gets injured, the entire group could be at risk for being out after dark. A caveat has been placed on the schedule that states that the hike leader can turn someone away if unprepared, but a) not everyone reads it and believes it and b) if someone reads about the hike somewhere other than our printed schedule, this caveat is not included (e.g. newspaper). Should we refrain from listing the start time and/or the meeting place on the schedule, so that participants have to call first? Several cons were raised to this point, including that if someone has to call they might leave it to the last minute and not call and thus not attend. Also, even if the leader is to ask questions about the person's experience and gear, "can you really screen someone in a phone call?" Finally, do we need to make more of an effort to include a variety of hikes on the schedule? Our members do have access already to the Thursday Outings schedule at the Godnick Center. As a group we decided that for difficult hikes, we would list less information as mentioned above, so participants are required to call first. We will discuss this problem at future meetings as well.
  - Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 25 at 6:30 pm at the Bebee-Walter establishment.



**KILLINGTON SECTION, GMC      OUTING SCHEDULE      September -December, 2012**

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City. Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call the leader if you have any questions. **HIKE LEADER HAS DISCRETION TO REFUSE ANYONE WHO IS NOT ADEQUATELY PREPARED.**

**8 September, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Trails Around Middlebury**

**Tom Copps 345-7159**

Follow the TAM trails from town north down Otter Creek to a power dam at the start of Otter Creek Gorge. We will cross the river on a footbridge at a dam and optionally continue downstream toward the gorge and return. Moderate, 2 miles.

**15 September, Saturday, call leader for meeting time (rain date September 16)**

**Supper Hike, Hogback Mountain, Goshen**

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Bring supper along for an easy to moderate 2 ½ mile hike, and enjoy the sunset from a viewpoint on Hogback Mountain.

**22 September, Saturday, 3:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, Waterbury (GMC Headquarters)**

Help celebrate our fabulous volunteers and eat free food! RSVP by September 17 to Mari Zagarins (802)241-8324 or [mzagarins@greenmountainclub.org](mailto:mzagarins@greenmountainclub.org)

**23 September, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.**

**Shrewsbury Peak Loop**

**Barb & Barry Griffith 492-3573**

We will ascend using the Black Swamp Trail. This is a gradual climb for 1.7 miles. However the last 0.3 miles is a steep grade. For our return trip, we will descend using the Russell Hill trail. This is very steep for the first part and one has to climb over rocky outcrops. Not for the faint of heart! Wear appropriate footwear. Bring water and lunch. (Leaders have the ability to refuse ill equipped arrivals.) In the event that the CCC road remains gated, this hike will change a tad bit. **Moderate climb, difficult plunge, 4 miles.**

**29 September, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Glen Lake Trail, Bomoseen**

**Lisa Pettis 265-4816**

A beautiful hike along the shore of Glen Lake to Moscow Pond and Half Moon State Park. Moderate, 6 miles.

**7 October, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Bald Mountain, Mendon**

**Tom Copps 345-7159**

Admire the fall foliage from several viewpoints. Moderate, with a few steep places, 3-5 miles.

**13, October, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Burnt Rock, Waitsfield/Fayston**

**Larry Walter 775-3855**

Steep, big rock croppings and some exposure with a great view. Will be coming in from the Hedgehog Brook Trail. Difficult, 5.2 miles, elevation gain 1,090 feet.



**20 October, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Griffith Lake, Peru**

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Hike in to Griffith Lake from the south on the Griffith Lake Trail, with a stop at Peru Peak Shelter. Easy to moderate, 5 miles.

**27 October, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Work Party, Shrewsbury**

**Herb Ogden 293-2510**

**Wayne Krevetski 282-2237**

Join us to construct a new trail between the Upper and Lower Cold River Roads where the LT/AT was destroyed by Tropical Storm Irene. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes and lunch; tools will be provided.

**3 November, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**

**Mount Antone, Rupert**

**Steve Williams 645-9529**

Follow the trails through Merck Forest and Farmland Center to an overlook with a panoramic view. Moderate, with some steep bits, 5 miles.

**10 November, Saturday, call leader for meeting place and time (rain date November 11)**

**Mystery Hike, Middletown Springs/East Poultney**

**Diane Bargiel (413)687-1109**

We will play it safe on this first day of hunting season and hike the back roads. Moderate, up to 7 miles.

**17 November, Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**

**Pot Luck Supper, Godnick Center, Deer St., Rutland**

**Sue Thomas 773-2185**

Join us for our annual hunting season event. Bring your own place setting and a dish to share for the meal, which will be followed by a slide show. All welcome!

**1 December, Saturday, 9:30 a.m.**

**Shaw Mountain, Benson/West Haven**

**Viv Bebee & Larry Walter 775-3855**

Hike in the Shaw Mountain Natural Area with lots of small ups and downs, rugged and rocky, with a loop around the summit. Moderate, 2.4 miles.

#### **THURSDAY HIKES SCHEDULE – 2011**

The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of hikes for those who wish to enjoy their outings at a less strenuous pace. The hikes typically cover two to four miles, involve limited to moderate elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Bring water and a lunch, wear sturdy footwear, and be prepared for Vermont weather. Meet on **Thursdays at 9 am** at the Godnick Center on Deer Street to car pool. We return in early to mid-afternoon. Call hike leaders if you have questions. All are welcome.

**Sept. 13 Little Rock, Pond, Mt. Tabor**

**George Butts 483-2891**

One of the most beautiful and popular spots on the Long Trail. Moderate.

**Sept. 27 Chittenden Brook, Chittenden**

**Tom Copps 345-7159**

Follow an old wood road along course of a pretty stream. Moderate.

**Oct. 11 Big Branch Bridge, Mt. Tabor**

**George Butts 483-2891**

Explore the Big Branch area on the Long Trail. New suspension bridge.

**Oct. 25 Old Turnpike Road, Mendon**

**Justin Lindholm 773-4249**

Join our guest leader, Justin Lindholm, on a hike on this ancient road where we will visit an old mill site, wetlands and beautiful natural settings. Moderate.



Vivian Bebee, Editor  
14 Belmont Avenue  
Rutland, VT 05701



## KILLINGTON SECTION

### Your Invitation to Join Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

#### ANNUAL DUES:

Individual.....\$40  
Family.....\$50  
Senior/Student/Volunteer.....\$22

Contact us for information on life memberships  
and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I also enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

\_\_\_trail work, \_\_\_shelter work, \_\_\_sign making, \_\_\_publications, \_\_\_leading outings, \_\_\_publicity, \_\_\_education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury - Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677