



FOOTNOTES



VOLUME 39

September – November 2017

OTTAUQUECHEE SECTION

NUMBER 3

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE FOOTNOTES IN AN e-VERSION RATHER THAN BY MAIL,
PLEASE LET HEINZ TREBITZ KNOW at iht63@wavecomm.com.

O-SECTION ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the O-Section will be held on **Saturday, November 11, 2017** at **Damon Hall in Hartland, Vt.**

Directions: Take I 91 to exit #9. Go north on Rt.5 to Hartland Five Corners. Damon Hall is the brick building right across from the intersection of Rts. 5 and 12.

Schedule: We will begin the evening with Social Hour at 5:30 pm. A pot-luck dinner at 6:30 will be shared with members of the Hartland Winter Trails Association.

Pot-Luck-Dinner:

Please bring dishes according to the alphabet, and provide your own plates, silverware and glasses.

- A – G Main Course
- H – O Salad
- P – Z Appetizers or Dessert

ELECTIONS:

After dinner, the meeting will start with the yearly reports of the chairpersons, followed by the election to our section positions.

PRESENT OFFICE HOLDERS:

- President** *Dick Andrews*
- Secretary** *Heinz Trebitz*
- Treasurer/Membership** *Patty Spencer*
- Outings** *Kathy Astrauckas*
- Trails and Shelters** *Heinz Trebitz (Chair)*
- Coordinators** *Bob Hagen*
- Nick Krembs*
- Newsletter** *Inge Trebitz*
- GMC Section Director** *Peter Hope*
- Nominating Committee** *Heinz Trebitz*

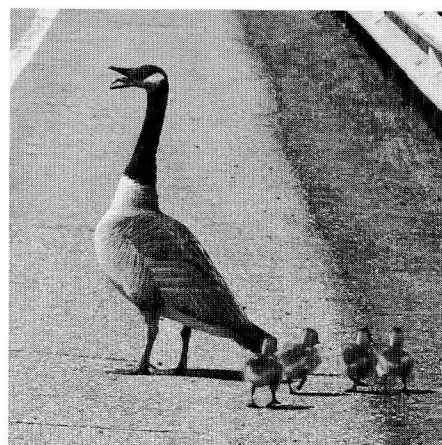
If you are interested in a section position or would like to suggest someone else, please call Heinz Trebitz at 802-785-2129 or e-mail him at @wavecomm.com.

Among the new business items that have to be discussed after the election will be minor changes to the O-Section by-laws (see insert) and a possible name change for our Section.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB ANNUAL MEETING 2018 WILL BE HOSTED BY THE O-SECTION

It was our turn in 2011, and since the GMC has 14 sections, you may think we would be off for some more years. But since some of the smaller sections combine their forces for the planning, our turn has moved up. The dates for the GMC Annual Meeting 2018 will be **Friday, June 1 until Sunday, June 3**. The location has already be secured at the Hulbert Outdoor Center at Lake Morey in Fairlee.

Please mark the date on your calendar. We will need many volunteers to help run this event.



More biking this Fall?

Share the road!

Photo: Heinz Trebitz

Trail Work out West

Every July and August, the Appalachian Mountain Club organizes four weeks of summer camp for adults somewhere out West. This year it was located in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest some miles north of the Columbia River Gorge in Washington State. Skirting our huge campsite is The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), which runs for 2,650 miles from the Mexican to the Canadian border. When the list of daily offered hikes mentioned "A service day on the PCT", I signed up, figuring we would work close by.

Not quite so. It took a winding dirt road of a dozen miles and 2000 feet up to get us to another trail crossing, where Tim, the local adopter, finally stopped his truck. A small triangle marks the PCT, but no further blazes. Tim called the forest service office to register our work crew, then handed out hard hats, gloves and tools. Heavy tools! Sledgehammers and McLeod rakes – (big two-sided blades with raking teeth on one edge) on long wooden handles, loppers and hand saws of different size.

"The PCT is first and foremost a horse trail. It was not built for hikers". We learnt that the path should be two feet wide on the ground, then flare out to eight feet

wide and ten feet high for pack animals. Since this section of trail runs along a steep wooded slope, we had to cut the overgrowth on both sides way back. Natural material like leaves and sticks and pine cones were supposed to be raked off to the downside, mineral stuff like little stones and sand spread out over the trail, clearly defining its upside edge. If possible, rocks that could trip horses should be hammered out. (We volunteers, being used to trails in the East, suppressed a giggle).

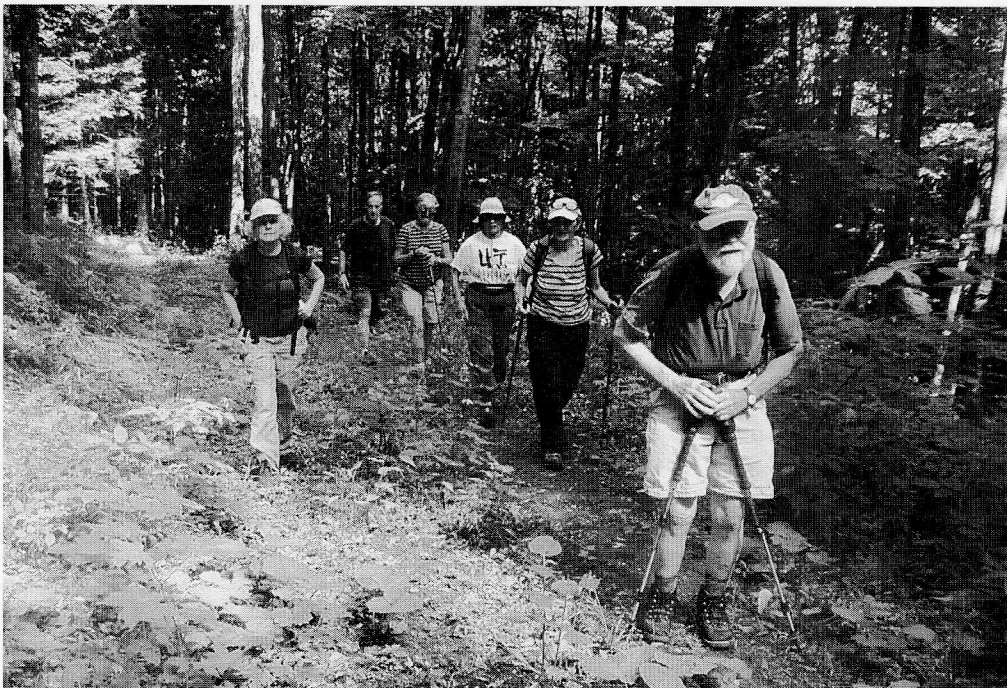
Keeping all this advice in mind, we did not cover too much ground in our labor. The PCT adopter we followed is responsible for ten miles of the trail. He is retired, and he told us that he is trying to work up there once a week. Sometimes he even meets a thru-hiker. One problem with his trail section is a very fast spreading low tree, which he called vine maple. It seems to take over and encroach like our hobble bush in the East. We spent a whole hour sawing and clipping vine maple branches way back on both sides of the footpath. It was late after lunch when we reached our turn-around point for the day: A ledge with a view to Mt. Adams, at 12, 276 feet the second highest in Washington State.

Inge Trebitz

Mt. Kearsarge (2937') the Hard Way – Trip report for July 26, 2017

We got a window of no rain and nice weather for the most difficult route to ascend Mt. Kearsarge. We started on the Lincoln Trail, #11 of the Sunapee Ragged Kearsarge Greenway. It was constructed by teachers and students from Kearsarge Regional High School in the 80's. This leg was steep at parts, but level sections and a canopy of shade helped to ease the pain. Then came the rock scramble – short but long enough. The 360 degree summit view was our reward, before we descended on the Barlow Trail. Considered easy – but lots of roots and rocks – so watch your step!

Duncan Love



Peter Hope's hike in Taftsville, VT on August 15. Hilly, through lovely woods. 3.1 miles, moderate.

Participants were (left to right); Denise Glatzer, Phil Robertson, Judy Barwood, Iris Berezin, Carolyn Waldhauer, and Peter Hope

Photo: Duncan Love

"O" SECTION FALL ACTIVITIES, SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2017

Hunting Season	VT: 10/7 – 11/3 11/4 - 5 11/11 - 26	Bow & Arrow Deer Youth Deer Wkend Deer Rifle Season	NH: 9/15 - 12/8 10/21 - 22 10/28 – 11/7	Deer Archery Youth Deer Wkend Deer Muzzleloader	11/8 - 12/3 Deer Reg. Firearms
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*** Easy on the knees BACK-COUNTRY ETIQUETTE: NO CELL PHONE USE EXCEPT IN EMERGENCY

Sep 2	A.T. Hike w/ Ranger	Boots to Boats: w/ Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Nat. Hist. Park, explore A.T. & landscape history. Tigertown/Podunk Rd south to Newton Lane. Happy Hill Shelter. 5 mi, 700' elev. gain, 1400' descent. Mod. Limit 12; reserve during business hrs. O-Section co-leader Inge Trebitz.	MBRNHP Visitor Ctr 802-457-3368 ext. 222
Sept 2	Hike	Ely Mine, West Fairlee, VT. 4 – 5 mi, includes short bushwhack.	Dick Ruben 802-763-7909
Sept 3	Hike	Climb Bird Mt. (2216'), Castleton(VT). Up from south via woods road, herd path, old & new trail to summit; views! Return the same way. ~5 mi, 1100' elev gain. Moderate. Leisurely pace.	Peter Hope 603-863-6456
Sept 4	Labor Day Hike	Labor Day on Okemo Mtn. (3343') via Healdville Trail, Mt. Holly VT. Fire tower, nice views. Steep but not rough. 6.0 mi, 1900' elevation gain. Moderate.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Sept 5	Bike Ride ***	Bike from Colchester, VT over Causeway, bike ferry (fee) to South Hero & Grand Isle. 30 mi. Bring lunch; swimming possible. Mtn. or hybrid bike needed. Easy. ***	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Sept 9	Hike	Blueberry Mtn (2662'), Glenciff, NH. Out and back. 5.2 mi round trip, 1300' elev. gain. Fabulous views from ledges, maybe blueberries still in season. Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Sept 10	Bike Ride Sun	Tour de Taste Pedaling Picnic sponsored by Upper Valley Trails Alliance. Join GMC group of cyclists. 16 mi. Pre- registration required: www.uvtrails.org	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988 ajaneway@gmail.com
Sept 12	2 Short Hikes ***	1) Butterfield Pond, E. Springfield, NH. Idyllic pond, 1 mi. 2) Esther Currier Wildlife Mgmt Area at Low Plain, Elkins, NH. Beaver dam, bird watching blinds, active wildlife viewing from several vantage points. 2 mi. Easy. No dogs. Rain date 9/13.	Duncan Love 802-226-7697 duncanlove4024@yahoo.com
Sept 12	Planning Meeting	Planning meeting for Winter (Dec-Feb) outings. 7 p.m. at new home of Dick Ruben. Contact Kathy A. ahead w/ ideas if you can't come: 802-785-4311 kabh@myfairpoint.net	Dick Ruben 802-763-7909
Sept 16	A.T. Hike w/ Ranger	Boots to Boats: w/ Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Nat. Hist. Park, explore A.T. & landscape history. Newton Lane to Elm St, Norwich. 2.1 mi, 200' elev. gain. Mostly gentle, w/ steeper down at end. Easy – Mod. Limit 12; reserve during business hrs. O-Section co-leader Nick Krembs.	MBRNHP Visitor Ctr 802-457-3368 ext. 222
Sept 17	Hike ***	Day trip to Lincoln, NH. East Side Trail & Pine Island Trail. 3.1 mi. Easy. *** Inter-active exhibits at Visitor's Center. Possible ice cream stop after. No dogs.	Lynne Miller 802-785-4410
Sept 17	Hike or Trail Run	Rivendell Ramble, starts & ends at Westshire Elem Schl, W. Fairlee, VT. Cross-Rivendell Tr. fund raiser (sugg. \$15/person; \$30/family). Free meal after. Support local trails w/ O-Sect. team.	Marcia Dunning 802-333-4340
Sept 19	Bike Ride Tues	Bridport to Vergennes, VT along Lake Champlain. About 25 miles, all paved, with car spot; 50 mile option also available. Easy to moderate; strenuous if 50 miles.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Sept 23	Volunteer Apprec. Picnic	GMC volunteers (in any and all capacities), come celebrate GMCers' hard work and dedication. 1:30 p.m. GMC Hdqtrs, Waterbury Ctr, VT. RSVP for food planning. kmclane@greenmountainclub.org	Visitor Center 802-244-7037
Sept 23	Conservation Monitoring w/ UVLT	Upper Valley Land Trust easement monitoring blitz! Join UVLT staff & experienced volunteers as we monitor conservation easements, West Windsor, VT area. Learn about UVLT while exploring some beautiful land! Rain date: Sun, Sept. 24.	603-643-6626 contactus@uvlt.org
Sept 24	LT Section Hike	Long Tr south from VT-11. Spruce Peak Shelter, Prospect Rock (views); down Old Rootville Road. 6.7 mi; ~400' elev gain. Moderate. Leisurely pace. Car-spot. Co-leader Inge Trebitz.	Peter Hope 603-863-6456
Sept 26	Hike ***	Mt. Mansfield the easy way: drive up auto road (fee), walk ridge to highest point in VT on Chin (4393'). Views!!! 3 mi. Easy but rocky; all above tree line. ***	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Sept 30	A.T. Hike w/ Ranger ***	Boots to Boats: w/ Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, explore A.T. & landscape hist. Woodstock Stage Rd. to Pomfret Rd. 2.2 mi, 300' elevation gain. Easy. *** Limit 12; call during business hours to reserve. O-Sect co-leader Inge Brown.	MBRNHP Visitor Ctr 802-457-3368 ext. 222
Oct 1	Paddle w/ UVLT	Paddle The Border. Come help Upper Valley Land Trust assist w/ getting boats into the water for 14th Annual Fall Paddle the Border. Then we'll paddle down the river together for 8.5 miles!	603-643-6626 contactus@uvlt.org

Oct 3 Tues	Hike	Rim Rock & Mt Gilman on shoulder of Mt. Cardigan, to Alexandria Four Corners, NH. West Ridge, South Ridge, & Skyland Trails: return on abandoned road. 7.8 mi, 1150' elevation gain, 1800' descent. Moderate. Car spot. Co-leader Tom McCleary.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
Oct 7 Sat	Bike Ride	Loop on paved roads around Lily Pond near Piermont, NH. NH-25 from River Road thru Lily Pond Rd, NH-25C, NH-10, River Rd. ~ 18 mi, 600' elevation gain over first 6 mi. Hybrid bike recommended. Moderate.	Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
Oct 8 Sun	Hike	Bald Knob(2035') & Mt Crosby(2220'), Groton, NH. Loop. Attractive woodlands; great views! 5.2 mi, ~1300' elev gain. Moderate, w/ one short steep uphill section. Moderate. Leisurely pace.	Peter Hope 603-863-6456
Oct 9 Mon	Columbus Day Hike	Imagine yourself an explorer on a hike to remote Griffith Lake, Peru VT, from south via woods road, and Peru Peak Shelter on LT/A.T. 5.3 mi., 480' elev. gain. Easy.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Oct 10 Tues	Hike	Mt. Cube (2909'), Orfordville, NH. Up Cross-Rivendell Trail from Baker Rd; down A.T. to 25A. 5.5 mi, 1500' elevation gain & 2000' down. Moderate. Car spot.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
Oct 14 Sat	Bike Ride	A gentle 25-miler. Road or hybrid bike; maybe a little good dirt road. Mostly along the Connecticut River in the Upper Valley.	Dick Ruben 802-763-7909
Oct 15 Sun	Hike ***	Seyon State Park, Groton, VT area. Beautiful foliage on trail to beaver pond; return along Noyes Pond. Little elevation gain, ~ 3 mi. Easy. *** Poss. extension to Little Deer Mtn. in nearby Groton State Park (2 mi RT). Day use fee. ajaneway@gmail.com	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988
Oct 17 Tues	Hike	From Quechee-West Hartford Road to Rte 14. 3.8 mi (1.5 mi on dirt Clay Road and logging road to A.T., then 2.3 mi to bridge on Rt.14). Moderate. Car spot.	Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
Oct 21 Sat	Bike Ride	Quechee – West Hartford – Pomfret, VT loop. Approx. 20 mi with 2 good climbs but doable! Revel in the 2 looong downs! Moderate. Road or hybrid bike.	Dick Ruben 802-763-7909
Oct 22 Sun	Hike	Hope Forest, Danbury(NH). Explore this attractive wooded hill, which leader's family gave to the Forest Society. Dirt & woods roads; one short steep off-trail climb. ~4 mi; a few hundred feet elevation gain. Moderate. Leisurely pace.	Peter Hope 603-863-6456
Oct 24 Tues	Bike Ride	Loop: Wilder – West Hartford, up Quechee-West Hartford Rd; Old River Rd back to Wilder. Approx. 15 mi. Mostly easy, with one substantial hill.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Oct 28 Sat	Cider Hike	2 - 3 mile hike in the vicinity of the Trebitz home, followed by cider pressing and tasting, and taking some home! Hike is moderate, cider pressing is work!	Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
Oct 29 Sun	Hike	Morton Horse Farm trails, Etna, NH. Explore horse trails for a short 2.5 mile loop hike in Etna. Moderate elevation gain up to ridge. ajaneway@gmail.com	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988
Oct 31 Tues	Hike	Cross Rivendell Trail (Vershire & West Fairlee,VT) from Vershire Center Road to Westshire Elementary School. 6.6 mi, mainly downhill. Moderate.	Tom McCleary 802-295-7592
Nov 4 Sat	Hike w/UVLT	Upper Valley Land Trust's Smith Pond Shaker Forest. Hike a brand new trail (length, elevation yet to be decided). Rain date Sunday, Nov 5.	603-643-6626 contactus@uvlt.org
Nov 5 Sun	Work Day	End the Fall Hiking Season by helping get the trail ready for winter, primarily cleaning out water bars.	nick.krems@gmail.com 802-649-1048
Nov 7 Tues	Bike Ride ***	Election Day circle: Loop ride in Wilder, VT to Wilder Dam. 6 – 7 miles. Easy. ***	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Nov 11 Sat	Hike	Veteran's Day Loop climb on Mt. Peg (1080'), Woodstock, VT. Good views from open meadow at top. ~ 4 mi; 700' elevation gain. Moderate. Leisurely pace.	Peter Hope 603-863-6456
Nov 11 Sat	ANNUAL MEETING (Vet's Day)	Annual Ottauquechee Section (members and guests) Meeting & Potluck Dinner. Damon Hall, Hartland, VT. 5:30 social hour, 6:30 dinner. See details, front page.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Nov 12 Sun	Walk/Hike	Mt. Tom, Woodstock, VT. Enjoy the afternoon on a variety of carriage trails from Billings Farm & Museum to top of South Peak with stops along the way. Easy to Moderate. About 2 hours.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Nov 14 Tues	Hike ***	Albert Schweitzer Trail near DHMC. Attractive little hike, fairly flat but with roots underfoot, in the woods next to the hospital. Easy. ***	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Nov 18 Sat	Hike	The Pinnacle, Westminster/Brookline, VT. Part of Windmill Ridge Nature Reserve. Overlook & shelter. 3.5 – 4 mi, 250' elev. gain. Easy-Mod. ajaneway@gmail.com	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988

September through November 2017 Outings Schedule – continued from page - 4 - (insert)

Nov 19 Sun	Hike	Mimi's Trail, Thetford, VT. Nice views from summit (1450'). 5.2 mi, 600' elev. gain. Moderate. Any hunters here are friendly, but wear blaze orange if you have it.	Dick Ruben 802-763-7909
Nov 21 Tues	Bike Ride ***	Bike from Cloudland Farm, Pomfret to Taftsville, VT. 8 miles (4 miles downhill, 4 miles flat.) All dirt: hybrid or mountain bike needed. Easy. ***	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Nov 25 Sat	Road Walk	Walk off that turkey! 4 – 5 miles.	Lynne Miller 802-785-4410
Nov 26 Sun	Hike	Another chance to walk off Thanksgiving's indulgences. Leader's choice in Quechee, VT area, with social get-together at leader's home after.	Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com 978-578-4198
Nov 28 Tues	Dirt Road Walk ***	Upper Turnpike Road & Needham Road, Norwich, VT. Scenic, bucolic 3-mile dirt road loop. Easy. ***	Inge Brown 802-280-8017



8/8/17 Trip Report: Sterling Pond and Elephant's Head Trail

Midweek – but the parking lot at Smugglers Notch is already overflowing. Some visitors explore nooks and crannies between the huge boulders that provided hiding places for illegal trading of goods and livestock in the early 19th century. Others cross the road and start up the rock staircase and steep trail in drizzling haze. Sterling Pond Trail climbs up 900 feet in one mile, then joins the Long Trail just before it reaches beautiful Sterling Pond. A short side trip to the ski lift of Madonna Peak provides views into the valley; then we stop at the shelter where the LT turns north.

Our group follows the little-used narrow Elephant's Head Trail around the pond. It meanders up and down along the rocky shoreline. Wisps of long grass float on the water, looking like dainty brush strokes in a Japanese painting. Some rocks under water seem to be flecked with gold. Dark spruce trees provide a quiet background to our lunch spot. After another far-reaching view, this time from the ski slopes of Spruce Peak, our group splits: Heinz works his way back down to the parking lot, to drive our car to the end point of the planned hike.

The other O-Section hikers follow the LT/Elephant's Head Trail south, supposedly downhill. Downhill? How come Dick A. records more and more elevation gain? Switchbacks, crossing and recrossing a slide, roots, rocks wet from the fog, steep side hills. From the spur to Elephant's Head Cliff we can see and hear the traffic way below us on Rt.108, yet the vertical distance doesn't seem to change at all. Finally the trail levels out and winds its way to the welcome tables of Smugglers Notch picnic area. Heinz pulls in just as we emerge from the trail, tired and happy.

Inge Trebitz



OTTAUQUECHEE FOOTNOTES

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<http://gmc-o-section.org>

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AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

Who are we? Founded in 1910, the Green Mountain Club was established "to make the mountains of Vermont play larger roles in the lives of people". To meet that goal, the club constructed the 272-mile Long Trail (LT). The GMC is responsible for developing policies and programs aimed at preservation, maintenance, and proper use of hiking trails for the benefit of the people of Vermont.

What is the Ottauquechee Section? Our section, one of 14 chapters of the GMC, is located in and around the Upper Valley. We schedule activities all year round for those who enjoy the outdoors, including hikes, bike trips, canoe outings, cross country skiing and snow shoe hikes. The "O" Section is responsible for the maintenance of 46 miles of Appalachian Trail (AT) between Maine Junction at Willard Pass near Killington and the Connecticut River at Norwich, VT, including four trail shelters.

We invite you to join! If you wish to participate in our activities, meet friendly, outdoors loving people and contribute to the maintenance and quality of Vermont's hiking trail system, the Ottauquechee Section welcomes you. Through the quarterly GMC Long Trail News and the "O"Section Footnotes you will get information about section and main club activities and issues of interest. For more information, call Patty Spencer at 802-333-3571.

For membership, fill out the application below and send to Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677, att. Kristin McLane. Please enclose a check, payable to the Green Mountain Club.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I (we)wish to join the Ottauquechee Section of the Green Mountain Club.

A check for \$_____ is enclosed.

Name(s)_____ Date_____

Address_____

Telephone #:

E-mail: _____

Dues per year are \$ 45.- for adults and \$ 60.- for families