



FOOTNOTES



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UPPER VALLEY
OTTAUQUECHEE SECTION
of the
GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

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MINUTES of the 40th ANNUAL MEETING of the OTTAUQUECHEE SECTION of the GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

1. Welcome and Introduction:

O-Section President *Dick Andrews* called the official meeting at 7:30 p.m., welcoming twenty-five members and guests, including *Mike Debonis*, GMC Executive Director. He also thanked *Andrea Ambros* for arranging our use of Hartland's Damon Hall.

2. Approval of 2017 Minutes: The minutes were approved as presented.

3. Committee Reports (highlights only):

Outings: *Kathy Astrauckas*: The UVO-Section's schedule listed 175 events since the end of October 2017, most of them outdoor activities like skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, paddling or biking. The more socially oriented outings included the Hartland Winter Trails' Tiki Torch, the annual Mt. Ascutney picnic hike, and Debbie Marcus' Super Bowl snowshoe and bonfire at Amity Pond. Among the outings in connection with other like-minded organizations, we led 10 hikes for the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park "Boots to Boats" program, and co-hosted an outing with LL.Bean.

All of our outings were led by club volunteers, a total of 20, last year. The outings were planned during four planning meetings. Other notable events included the traditional Mud Season Social, the Taylor Series presentation at the Montshire Museum of a climb of Mt. Kilimanjaro, and the GMC Annual Meeting which was hosted by our section.

Treasury and Membership: *Dick Andrews* read *Iris Berezin's* report: Key figures for the fiscal year 2018: Revenue \$ 2,305; Expenses \$ 3,117; Opening Balance 2,983; Closing Balance \$ 2,173. According to *Iris'* notes, the lower revenue shown

for 2018 is due to membership dues not yet credited by HQ for the months of September and October. Also, the lower count for voting members (248 vs 288 in 2017) may not include the spouses in family memberships.

Publicity: *Inge Trebitz*: No specific report.

Section Director (*Peter Hope's* report presented by *Dick Andrews*): The club is in good financial shape. The club has bought a property across the road from Wheeler Pond camps to avoid development and to provide better parking for the camps and trails in the area.

Trails and Shelters: *Bob Hagen*, Chair: **Thanks** to our official (and some anonymous) adopters for a great season of monitoring and working on their sections. With their effort the trail, shelters, and privies came through the season in good shape.

During 2018 each of the maintenance coordinators (*Bob Hagen, Nick Krembs, Heinz Trebitz*) organized a workday. In addition, members (including the Special Operations Team - *Dick A., John Detweiler, and Heinz T.*) went out on at least 15 unscheduled site visits to take care of numerous blow downs and other trail needs. Unexpected help came from a team of three goats browsing the open area on Merrill Hill.

Altogether we spent an estimated 40 work hours on each of the three 15 mile AT stretches assigned to our section. This number does not include driving hours.

Additional help came from 7 students of Hartford High School who replaced 96 feet of failing puncheon on the trail off Quechee/West Hartford Rd.

We received positive comments for the work on, and condition of, our 45 miles section of AT between Norwich and Killington, both in conversations with hikers and notes in the shelter logs.

4. Election of Officers: *Heinz Trebitz*, Nominating Committee (of one):

The proposed slate of officers was accepted unanimously:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| President | <i>Dick Andrews</i> |
| Outings Chair | <i>Kathy Astrauckas</i> |
| Secretary | <i>Heinz Trebitz</i> |
| Section Director | <i>Tom Kahl</i> |
| Treasurer/Membership | <i>Iris Berezin</i> |
| Newsletter | <i>Inge Trebitz</i> |
| Trails and Shelters Chair | <i>Bob Hagen</i> |
| Nominating Comm. Chair | <i>Annie Janeway</i> |

5. Recognitions: *Heinz* thanked *Dick Andrews* for his work as Section President. *Dick Andrews* extended the thanks to all of last year's officers and volunteers. On behalf of HQ he gave each section volunteer a special Green Mountain Club water bottle in recognition of their work at the GMC Annual Meeting in June. In addition, *Dick* presented GMC awards to three UVO Section members: Green Mountain Club Award to *Kathy Astrauckas*, and Trail Blazer Awards to *Tom Kahl* and *Tom McCleary*.

6. Comments from Mike Debonis, GMC Executive Director: *Mike* highlighted developments at the main club during 2018, including the election of *Tom Candon* as new President and the hiring of *Keegan Tierney* as new Director of Field Programs. The Club has started a new capital campaign (\$ 4 million goal) aimed at completing outstanding land protection for five to six miles of trail, finishing incomplete renovations at HQ, and improving the endowment funds. Closer to our section, *Mike* praised our hosting of the Annual Meeting in June. He discussed the on-going open area maintenance (brush problems) and plans to relocate the AT crossing over Vermont Rte. 12 in Woodstock.

7. Old Business: *Heinz* brought up the apparent under-reporting of volunteer hours. He also mentioned that the section name change of last year (Upper Valley Ottauquechee of the GMC) so far appears to have had little effect on the section's recognition in our area. More work and different avenues are needed for attracting new and younger people to outdoor activities and our club.

8. New Business - Financial Contributions from the Section: After a short discussion it was decided to again give \$ 1,000 to GMC and a contribution of \$ 200 each to Hartland Winter Trails, Rivendell Trails Association, Upper Valley Trails Alliance and Upper Valley Land Trust.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Note: The meeting package, including agenda and committee reports, are available on request from the secretary. Respectfully submitted: Heinz Trebitz, 10/30/2018



Photo: Tom Kahl

Early Winter: On Mt. Cardigan, Oct. 24, 2018



Photo: Inge Trebitz

Ready for Bivouac? Goodrich Rock, off Greeley Pond Trail, Oct. 30, 2018

"O" SECTION WINTER ACTIVITIES, DECEMBER 2018- FEBRUARY 2019

Hunting Season continues in NH until 12/9 (Deer Reg. Firearms); archery till 12/15 ***** Easy on the knees** **### GMC members only**
in VT 12/1-9 (Muzzleloader & Archery)

BACK-COUNTRY ETIQUETTE: NO CELL PHONE USE EXCEPT IN EMERGENCY

Dec 1 Sat	Hike	Paradise Park, Windsor, VT. About 4 miles. Easy – Moderate. ajaneway@gmail.com	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988
Dec 2 Sun	Hike	Leader's choice in Quechee, VT area, with social get-together at leader's home after. 802-457-9047 Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com	Debbie Marcus 978-578-4198 cell
Dec 4 Tues	Hike ***	Upper half of Ballard Trail, Norwich, VT. Includes the "Grand Canyon" of Norwich. 2+ mi. Easy. *** Car spot.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Dec 8 Sat	(X-C Ski or Hike/Walk	Army Corps of Engineers Union Village Dam Rec. Area, Thetford, VT. Loop from Tucker Hill Rd to Dam & return. 6 mi. Moderate. Option: car spot close to dam for 3 mi. trip.	Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
Dec 9 Sun	(Snowshoe or) Hike	Bald Top (1776') Traverse, Fairlee, VT. Cross-Rivendell Tr, Blood Brook Rd. to Lake Morey. 5.2 mi, ~ 1000' elev. gain. Views (to Franconia Ridge, if clear). Car spot. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas 802-785-4311
Dec 11 Tues	X-C Ski or Hike ***	Colette Trail, Enfield, NH. Out-and-back, 4.2 mi. round trip. Easy. *** If anyone wants only 2.1 mi, could do a car spot for one-way.	Tom McCleary 802-295-7592
Dec 11 Tues	Planning Meeting	Planning Meeting for Spring (Mar. - May) outings at 7:00 p.m. at Cathie Redpath's home. cathieredpath@gmail.com Contact Kathy Astrauckas ahead with ideas if you can't join us: 802-785-4311 or kabh@myfairpoint.net	Cathie Redpath 802-649-3862
Dec 15 Sat	X-C Ski	Backcountry ski on Wilderness Trail, White Mountain National Forest, along the Pemigewasset River. 11 mile loop trip. Intermediate.	Bob Tucker 802-457-2152
Dec 16 Sun	Snowshoe or Spike	Ore Hill section of A.T., Wentworth/Warren, NH. Pretty section of trail from NH 25C to 25A. 5 mi, 700' elevation gain. Moderate. Car spot.	Kathy Astrauckas 802-785-4311
Dec 18 Tues	Hike or Spike	Black Mtn (2830'), East Haverhill, NH. Chippewa Trail. Steep; incredible views, esp. to Moosilauke. 3.6 mi, 1550' elevation gain. Mod-Stren. cathieredpath@gmail.com	Cathie Redpath 802-649-3862
Dec 21 Fri	Moonlight Snowshoe or Spike	First evening of winter in moonlight! Parcel 5, Norwich, VT. Multi-use loop trail, designed by John Morton of Thetford. 5k course (3 mi), hilly, twisty, winding. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas 802-785-4311
Dec 22 Sat	Hike	Thetford, VT area. ~ 5 miles. Gravel road, a little paved road, woods road, field. Mostly gentle.	Lynne Miller 802-785-4410
Dec 23 Sun	Snowshoe or Hike	Hazen Trail, Wilder, VT. Lovely & local. Approx. 2 hours. Some views of the Connecticut River and Ledyard Bridge. Easy to Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Dec 25 Tues	Snowshoe or Hike	Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, Cornish, NH. Interesting grounds of former home of famous sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Pretty woods trails, info markers, & a grist mill. Some short hills. 2-3 miles. Easy. duncanlove4024@yahoo.com	Duncan Love 802-226-7697
Dec 29 Sat	Snowshoe or Hike	A.T. loop with Cossingham Road, Norwich, VT. To Happy Hill Shelter. Lovely woods, lots of short ups and downs. About 4 mi., 500' elevation gain. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas & Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Dec 30 Sun	Snowshoe or Spike	Loop connecting Parcel 5 and Brookmeade Conservation Area to Ballard Trail. Lovely part along Charles Brown Brook. 6.5 mi, 400 - 500' elevation gain. Moderate.	Nick Krembs 802-649-1048
Dec 31 Mon	New Yr's Eve Party	New Year's Eve Party. Pot Luck Dinner at 7 p.m., walk or snowshoe through fields, return for bonfire & dessert and to see the New Year in. RSVP. ### (GMC members only.)	Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
Jan 5 Sat	X-C Ski or Snowshoe	Podunk Pond area of South Strafford, VT. As always, mode of travel depends on conditions. 4 – 5 mi. Moderate. Car shuttle.	Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
Jan 6 Sun Afternoon	Snowshoe or Spike	Afternoon on Crown Point Road & Skitchewaugh Mtn. (1720'), Springfield, VT. Revolutionary War cemetery, CT River Valley view. 2-3 hours, a few hundred ft. ascent. Easy to Moderate.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Jan 8 Tues	Snowshoe or Walk ***	Pine Park Trail loop on Hanover, NH golf course. 2 mi. Easy. ***	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Jan 12 Sat	X-C Ski	Craftsbury Nordic Center offers some 105 km of groomed trails. Trail Fee. Moderate.	Bob Tucker 802-457-2152

Jan 13 Sun	X-C Ski or Snowshoe	Back-country ski, Sharon/South Strafford area, VT. Downer's State Forest & beautiful adjoining conserved land. Snowshoe or hike if conditions don't permit skiing. Moderate.	Dick Ruben 802-763-7909
Jan 15 Tues	Snowshoe or Hike	Lyme Town Forest from Orfordville Rd in Lyme to Rt. 10. Beaver Pond, Western Forest, Waterfall, and Clay Brook Trails. 4 miles, moderate, 500' elevation gain.	Tom McCleary 802-295-7592
Jan 19 Sat	Snowshoe or Microspike	Mt. Cardigan (3121'). Unplowed road to parking lot, West Ridge Trail to summit. 360° views. May return on South Ridge Trail, depending on conditions. 5 mi, 1,400' elev. gain. Moderate.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
Jan 20 Sun	Snowshoe or Hike	Section 5, Quechee, VT. 2 - 3 hours on hilly, maintained trails in woods that pass a cellar hole, ponds and previous blow downs, but does not offer views. Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Jan 22 Tues	Snowshoe or Spike	A.T. loop, Grasse Rd. to Velvet Rocks, Hanover, NH. ~ 4.5 mi, ~ 900' elevation gain. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas & Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Jan 26 Sat	Snowshoe w/ Hartford Cons.Comm	Hartford, VT Town Forest. Lesser known trails. With Hartford Conservation Commission. If no snow, we'll hike or microspike.	Angie Emerson 802-299-5866
Jan 27 Sun	X-C Ski	Lovely backcountry skiing, Moose Mtn area, Etna, NH. Out-&-back on Harris Trail at base of mountain. Little elevation gain; a mildly tricky spot or two. ~ 3 hrs. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas & Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Jan 29 Tues	X-C Ski	Around Lake Pineo, Quechee, VT. Less than 2 mi. Easy. *** You can go around twice, or venture forth on other groomed trails.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Feb 2 Sat	Snowshoe	Groundhog Day on Okemo Mtn. (3343') via Healdville Trail, Mt. Holly VT. Fire tower, nice views. Steep but not rough. 6.2 mi., 2040' elevation gain. Moderate.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Feb 2 Sat	Tiki Torch Trek	X-C ski or snowshoe on the Hartland Winter Trails lit by Tiki Torches, eat a great meal and enjoy the bonfire and music. 5-8 pm. Admission fee; free shuttle from parking area.	Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
Feb 3 Sun	Snowshoe & Campfire	Amity Pond Nat. Area, Pomfret, VT. Fields, woods, town rds. Hot lunch by leader at shelter. Bring bowl/cup/utensils. 3 mi, moderate, with a steady climb. Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com	987-578-4198 cell 802-457-9047
Feb 5 Tues	Snowshoe	Loop on Tucker Mountain, Newbury, VT. 3.6 mi, 600' elevation gain. Moderate. overmtn@charter.net	Kevin Williamson 802-222-5951
Feb 7 Thurs	X-C Ski or Snowshoe	Sharon, VT. Conserved property adjacent to Downer State Forest. Nice views of Killington & Pico from height of land. Moderate. Some ups and downs. ~ 2 hrs. cathieredpath@gmail.com	Cathie Redpath 802-649-3862
Feb 9 Sat	X-C Ski	Strafford Nordic Ctr, VT. Open fields and some woods with elevation, hillside vistas. All levels of difficulty. Trail fee. ajaneway@gmail.com	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988
Feb 12 Tues	X-C Ski (***)	Craftsbury Outdoor Center. X-C skiing, all levels, all distances. Inge does flat & easy, co-leader Dick Ruben 802-763-7909 does fast skate-ski, or choose your own groomed trails. Trail fee; call Inge well ahead to order their special lunch.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Feb 16 Sat	X-C Ski	Zealand Notch, White Mountain National Forest. Backcountry ski on access road and along old logging railroad bed and trail to Zealand Falls Hut. 14 mi round trip. Intermediate.	Bob Tucker 802-457-2152
Feb 17 Sun	Snowshoe/ microspike	On forest road, Granville, VT. Up to 5 mi. Easy to Moderate. May be possible to sled back down (BYO sled) if conditions are right, or if you don't want to sled, walk back down. Cell phone for texts: 802-356-0428	Susan Ogden Mon-Thurs 7:30-4, 603-442-6770
Feb 18 Mon	Snowshoe	Presidents' Day on Mt. Ascutney (3150'). Bicentennial Trail, West Windsor VT. Observation tower. Shortest trail but steep. 4.4 mi., 2200' ascent. Moderate to strenuous, moderate pace.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Feb 19 Tues	Snowshoe	Lyme Hill area, Lyme, NH. Mild tour, some ups and downs (short but steep up Lyme Hill for view of Lyme). Two hour outing. Moderate. cathieredpath@gmail.com	Cathie Redpath 802-649-3862
Feb 23 Sat	Snowshoe/ Microspike	Loop around & over Moose Mtn South Peak on Harris Tr, Clark Pond Loop, A.T. Short side trail to Moose Mountain Shelter. View from South Peak. 4.5 mi, 1,000' elev gain. Moderate.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
Feb 24 Sun	X-C Ski	Stonehouse Farm Trails in Lyme, NH; length and difficulty depending on conditions. Moderate.	Dick Ruben 802-763-7909
Feb 26 Tues	X-C Ski	Northern Rail Trail from Ice House Road to Enfield, NH. 4 miles. Easy. *** Car spot. OR: Lamoille Rail Trail from Marty's 1 st stop on Rt.2 to St.Johnsbury, ~10 mi, moderate	Inge Brown 802-280-8017 Heinz/Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129

The Right Hike for Me?

The hike to Sugarloaf Mountain, NH, scheduled for September 15, had been described as "narrow, overgrown, rocky and steep in parts, in short: interesting! It ends below the summit with a rock climb, aided by rope and ladder. 4.6 miles; moderate to strenuous".

We were six persons. Over the phone I had told the participants that we'd go as far as the rock scramble and decide then who'd want to tackle rope and ladder. *"If you don't feel like it you can wait until the summit team is back, or descend right away to reach your car and drive home"*.



The trail turned out to be in good shape. The weather was beautiful. When we reached the rock scramble, Heinz went up with a belay rope and a harness tied to it for those who'd feel safer with a life line. Denise followed without aid.

Then Inge: two thirds up she decided to be belayed, climbed back down, put on the harness and made the pitch without trouble. Duncan decided that the scramble was not right for him and prepared for waiting. Bob was next. He went up half way (on belay) and back down again. "No good for me!" Kathy said "NO" without even trying.

Bob, Kathy and Duncan took a dim trail at the bottom of the cliffs to a gully that reaches the summit ledges further south without the rock climb. Still, it was an uncomfortable bushwhack and Duncan returned to the agreed-upon waiting point. Bob and Kathy, after a final scramble, arrived at the summit at the same time as the "ladder team". Relief and lots of talking; also lunch and enjoying the views over to the Whites. When it came to going down, Kathy was adamant NOT to use the ladder and ropes, even if belayed. She and Bob decided to follow the yellow marked trail further south and descend when the terrain became less rocky and steep. We agreed to meet again at the foot of the ladder and rock climb. The ladder team returned the way they had come up. At the bottom of the rock climb they found Duncan waiting, and Denise and Duncan went back to their car right away.

Inge and Heinz settled down to wait for the two bushwhackers, somewhat apprehensively. After 15 minutes they heard calls and went down a few hundred yards to meet Kathy and Bob who had come up the trail to re-connect.

Observation: While initially sharing the trail and later continuing in two groups, we all finished the hike in a safe way. But we came off with different experiences (and resolutions):

Duncan, Kathy and Bob: This is not the kind of hike right for us, and we'll not attempt it again. Denise (I guess): I liked it, and the rock climb was o.k. with the added belay safety.

Heinz and Inge: A beautiful hike, doable, but more laborious than 20 years ago. Maybe this is the last time we've been up to Sugarloaf Mountain.

Heinz Trebitz



**TWO TRIP REPORTS – SAME TRIP:
TECUMSEH - 4003', 5.6 mile traverse,
2400' elevation gain. (August 26, 2018)**

Annie Janeway: I loved spending this glorious mountain day with all of you.

Inge Trebitz: I met the Enemy, and it was I.

**DIFFERENCE: 30 years in participants' age
CONCLUSION: I should have known better! –**

Inge Trebitz

Photo: Annie Janeway

OTTAUQUECHEE FOOTNOTES

Upper Valley Ottauquechee Section
of the © Green Mountain Club
<http://gmc-o-section.org>

Ottauquechee Section Editor
Ingeborg M. Trebitz
480 Colby Road N.
Thetford Center, VT 05075
Tel: 802-785-2129
e-mail: ingetrebitz@gmail.com

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

Who are we? Founded in 1910, the Green Mountain Club was established "to make the Vermont mountains play a larger part 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 Upper Valley 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 Upper Valley 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 Iris Berezin at 802-295-2294.

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 Upper Valley 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