



FOOTNOTES



VOLUME 45

March 2023 - May 2023

UPPER VALLEY
OTTAUQUECHEE SECTION
of the
GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

NUMBER 1

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

“The sun was warm but the wind was chill.
You know how it is with an April day
When the sun is out and the wind is still,
You’re one month on in the middle of May.

But if you so much as dare to speak,
A cloud comes over the sunlit arch,
A wind comes off a frozen peak,
And you’re two months back in the middle of March.”

From Robert Frost - Two Tramps in Mud Time



January 7, 2023: Mimi's Trail/Houghton Hill

Photo: Annie Janeway

A BIG THANK YOU From the UVO Section Board to *Judy Danna* for taking over the job of Secretary for the UVO Section.

Judy jumped right in, writing efficient, clear and concise minutes, sending to our members notifications of new events, and becoming familiar with the complicated posting of our Outings Schedule to the main club website.

Feb.6, 2023 The Long Trail in winter:

Clarendon Gorge to
Minerva Hinchey Shelter

**WHEN BOB SEES A DEADFALL
ACROSS A TRAIL
HE JUST CAN'T KEEP
HIS SAW IN HIS PACK!**

Photo and remark: *Tom Kahl*



Wendy Jackson's Trip Report

On Jan. 10, 2023, I led a small group on what was going to be a hike to **Little Rock Pond** via the Homer Stone Brook Trail. Attendees were *Patrick O'Neill*, *Kathy Astrauckas*, *Nick Krembs* and I. There was no snow on the trail, although we did encounter some ice and mud. We could not cross the stream at the ford 1.7 miles in and had to turn back. We won't try that route in future, unless it's August in a dry year! We decided to drive down to USFS Route 10 in Mt. Tabor to see if we could access the pond via the Long Trail. Despite a sign saying the road was closed to everything except snowmobiles because of the lack of snow, the gate was open. We were able to park and hike the two miles in to the pond and took a nice break at the sweet little shelter there. *Nick* tormented *Kathy* by venturing out onto the ice. The Long Trail was quite icy in some spots, but not so bad that we had to put on microspikes. All were glad to be **able to salvage the hike** and make it to the pond.

Photo *Wendy Jackson*

"O" SECTION SPRING ACTIVITIES, MARCH - MAY 2023

*** = Easy on the knees.

Don't forget, if conditions don't seem good for scheduled outing, call leader for "Plan B": change in venue, mode of travel, or both!

BACKCOUNTRY ETIQUETTE: NO CELL PHONE USE EXCEPT IN EMERGENCY

FEB 28 TUES	Planning Meeting	Planning mtg for Summer (June – August) outings. 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, because it works so well. Call or email Kathy Astrauckas ahead with ideas if you can't join us. kabh@myfairpoint.net	Kathy Astrauckas 802-785-4311
Mar 4 Sat	Snowshoe/ Spike	Norwich, VT. Burton Woods Trail to Sugartop Road. 4 miles along snowmobile trail. Moderate. Car spot.	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988 ajaneway@gmail.com
Mar 7 Tues	Walk ***	Town Meeting Day- Vote first, then Mascoma River Greenway, Lebanon, NH. From new tunnel behind opera house to Alice Peck Day Hospital. Tunnel has piano, large murals, skylights. Remarkably pretty & secluded route through Lebanon; a gem under trees. Flat, paved, no cars. 1.5 miles. Easy, easy on the knees. Slow pace. *** CAR SPOT.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 8 Wed	Snowshoe	Strafford, VT. From Moody Hill Rd to Miller Pond Road and car spot at fishing access. We will follow old trails, mainly gently down. 4 – 5 miles. Moderate. Car spot.	Inge/Heinz Trebitz 802-785-2129
Mar 11 Sat	Dirt Road Walk	Quechee, VT loop. Hillside Rd, covered bridge, Ottauquechee River, Sugarbush Farm (see & taste late season sugaring); guaranteed mud. 6 or 7 miles. depending on group preference. Moderate.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
Mar 14 Tues	Walk ***	Remember: Daylight Savings Time has started on March 12! Along Lake Morey, Fairlee, VT. Starting at Fire Station. Paved, flat, little traffic. ~ 2 miles. Easy, easy on the knees. Slow pace. *** CAR SPOT.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 15 Wed	X-C ski	Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, West Danville, VT. Explore a new section north of Joe's Pond on x-c skis. Distance depends on condition of snow and participants. Easy.	Inge/Heinz Trebitz 802-785-2129
Mar 18 Sat	Hike	Lipfert Forest, Cornish, NH.. Rolling terrain on old logging roads with some steep sections. Overlook of Mt Ascutney and Connecticut River. May also enter Cornish Town Forest via connecting trails. ~5 miles. Moderate. kpmhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
Mar 20 Mon	Hike	First Day of Spring on Lost Mine Trail . in Chester, VT Town Forest. Nice loop trail, varied terrain, view of Ascutney. 2.2 miles, 700' climb. Moderate.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Mar 21 Tues	Walk ***	Northern Rail Trail, Lebanon, NH. 1 mile in, 1 mile return. Flat, smooth footing. Easy, easy on the knees ***. Slow pace.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 24 Fri	Dirt Road Walk	Taftsville, VT. From Taftsville Covered Bridge, uphill along brook on Happy Valley Rd, Sugar Hill Rd, Hartland Hill Rd; return via Happy Valley Road. The highlight is the brook. ~ 6 mi. Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Mar 26 Sun	Walk/Hike	Thetford & Norwich, VT. Gravel & woods roads. ~ 4 mles, ups/downs. Car spot.	Lynne Miller 603-643-6194
Mar 28 Tues	Hike	Moose Mtn South Ridge Trail (NOT the summit). Views!!! possibly including Mt. Washington; great view over Mascoma Lake at turn-around point. 7 mi, 1000' elevation gain, but all short, mild ups and downs, mostly gentle ridgeline. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Mar 28 Tues	Walk ***	Mascoma River Greenway, Lebanon, NH. From Miracle Mile to Alice Peck Day Hosp. Flat, paved, no motorized traffic. Easy, easy on the knees. Slow pace. *** CAR SPOT.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 31 Fri	Road Walk	Lovely, bucolic Dogford Road from cemetery in Etna to Hanover Center, NH. 4.7 miles, all paved, some hills. Moderate. Short car spot (~ 2 mi).	Kathy Astrauckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Apr 1 Sat	Hike	Smith Pond, Enfield, NH. From Montcalm side to beautiful pond and Little Dog Falls. 3 miles. Easy. ajaneway@gmail.com	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988
Apr 3 Mon	Hike	Parcel 5, Norwich, VT. Multi-use loop trail designed by John Morton of Thetford. 3 miles, hilly, steep, twisty, winding. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Apr 4 Tues	Walk ***	Wilder, VT bike path to US-5 & return. ~ 2 miles. Paved & flat, no traffic. Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Apr 8 Sat	Dirt Road Walk	Downer Forest Road, South Strafford, VT. 5 miles, ups & downs. Moderate. CAR SPOT.	Lynne Miller 603-643-6194
Apr 11 Tues	Hike ***	Wilder Dam, Wilder, VT. Loop over meadows & wooded paths, plus some road walk, on the flat. ~ 2 miles. Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017

Apr 15 Sat	Hike/spike	Avoid mud on paved Mt. Ascutney (3150') road, no cars, views; to summit if dry trail. 7.4 miles, 2250' elevation gain. Summit trail adds 1.4 mi and 400' elevation gain. Moderate. kpmhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
Apr 17 Mon	Road Walk	Scenic walk, Etna, NH. From Trumbull Hall, up Ruddsboro Rd to King Rd to Etna Rd back to cars. Start with long uphill by beautiful brook, end w/ long downhill w/ great views. ~ 6 mi. Mod.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Apr 18 Tues	Hike ***	Quechee Gorge, Quechee, VT. From US-4, hike to Dewey's Pond & return. Less than 2 mi, fairly flat, along Ottauquechee River and its dam (spectacular flow over the dam likely). Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Apr 22 Sat	Hike/spike	Earth Day on Mt. Ascutney Auto Rd. Spring "conditioning" walk. Mt. Ascutney (3150') by unplowed mountain road. Picnic pavilion, views. 7.4 miles, 2250' elevation gain. Moderate. Optional summit adds 1.4 miles & 400' ascent. Probably need microspikes.	Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com 978-578-4198
Apr 24 Mon	Road Walk	River Road loop, Plainfield, NH. From Ferry Hill Rd end of River Rd, along river (some views of river, Mt. Ascutney, and hopefully wildflowers). Uphill on Freeman Road (great views!) Short stretch on NH-12A to return to cars. ~ 6 miles. Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Apr 25 Tues	Walk ***	Quechee Gorge, Quechee, VT. Follow gorge downhill from US-4 to bottom, less than 1 mile downhill, then back up again. Trail is smooth walking. Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace. Car spot.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Apr 28 Fri	Hike	Spend Arbor Day looking at rare (for VT) trees: Black Gum Swamp, Vernon VT. Rare stand of southern trees (aka tupelos) survived the Ice Age. ~ 3 miles, moderate hills. Easy.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Apr 29 Sat	Work Day	Give back to the trail on our section of AT, somewhere between Chateaugay and Cloudland Roads. Bring work gloves, tools, lunch and water. Rain date Sun., 4/30.	Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com 978-578-4198
Apr 30 Sun	Hike	Mt. Peg, Woodstock, VT. View at summit. 2 miles. Moderate due to climb and uneven footing.	Lynne Miller 603-643-6194
May 2 Tues	Hike	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Union Village Dam Recreation Area, Thetford, VT. Loop on trails and old farm roads, lots of ups and downs, beautiful views of river. 4 – 5 miles. Moderate.	Inge Trebitz 802-785-2129
May 2 Tues	Hike/Walk ***	South Royalton, VT. Hike to stone chamber thought by some to be 4,000 years old (< 0.5 mile), then walk on lovely paved paths around St. Joseph's Church on the grounds of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon) church (~ 1 mile). Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 3 Wed	Wildflower Hike	Ripton, VT. On USFS 67 (near Middlebury College's Breadloaf Campus) from Widow's Clearing to Sugar Hill Reservoir. 6 - 7 miles. Moderate. To contact use cell phone texting only (NO voicemail): 802-356-0428 RAIN DATE: Thursday, May 4.	Susan Ogden susanstarchild58@gmail.com
May 5 Fri	Dirt Road Walk	Galaxy Hill Road & Webster Hill Rd, Pomfret, VT. From Pomfret Town Hall, out-&-back on Galaxy Hill Road (scenic views & lovely farms). Short walk on Webster Hill Road affords other views and an interesting cemetery. ~ 5 miles. Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
May 6 Sat	Hike	Coolidge State Park, Slack Hill, Plymouth, VT. Lollipop loop from Rt 100A through mixed hardwood forest with couple of views. 5 miles, 1,000' climb. Moderate.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
May 7 Sun	Hike	Langwood Farm Trails, Cornish, NH. Top of the World loop, plus others, great views of Ascutney, tree farm trails, unique features. 2+ hours. Moderate.	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988 ajaneway@gmail.com
May 8 Mon	Hike	A.T. in Pomfret, VT: Cloudland Rd. to Joe Ranger Rd; Thistle Hill Shelter. Hopefully wildflowers! 3.8 miles, 600' elev. gain. Field with view at end. Moderate. Car spot.	Kathy Astruckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
May 9 Tues	Dirt Road Walk ***	Hawk Pine Hill, Norwich, VT. A peaceful loop walk on dirt road with gentle ups and downs, barely noticeable. Less than 2 miles. Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 11 Thurs.	Wildflower Hike	Woodstock, VT. Spring ephemerals on Mt. Tom trails at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. 3 - 4 miles. Easy – Moderate. RAIN DATE: Fri, 5/12	Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com 978-578-4198
May 13 Sat	Work Day	Give back to the trail on our section of A.T., somewhere betw. Cloudland Rd. & CT River. Clear water bars & blowdowns. Tools provided, or bring your own. Bring work gloves, lunch, water.	Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
May 14 Sun	Hike	Mother's Day on Montshire Museum of Science's Ridge Trail and Hazen Trail, Norwich and Wilder, VT. Rolling hills along "planet walk", through forest & farmland, some views. 3.4 miles out-and-back. Moderate. Trail fee.	Inge/Heinz Trebitz 802-785-2129
May 15 Mon	Walk	Scenic dirt roads bordering Saint-Gaudens National Historical Site, Cornish, NH (St. Gaudens Rd, Lang Rd, Platt Rd, NH-12A) ending with Blow-Me-Down Trail through the park to our cars. Map of U.S. made from license plates, unique outhouse, great views! ~ 6 miles. Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294

2023 Spring Outings Schedule continued from Insert (Page - 4 -)

May 16 Tues	Hike***	Thundering Falls loop, Killington, VT. Board Walk (0.5 miles) & viewing falls, then short hike up steep, rocky hill; dirt road downhill to complete loop. ~ 2 mi. Easy, easy on knees *** Slow pace	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 19 Fri	Hike	Velvet Rocks, Hanover, NH. Greensboro Ridge Nat. Area, A.T., Velvet Rocks Shelter. Lovely moss-covered ("velvet") rock formations. Good bobcat terrain. 4+ miles, ~ 1000' climb. Several sections difficult footing on steep rock ledges (up & down). Moderate AND Challenging (footing).	Kathy Astrauckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
May 20 Sat	Hike/Pancake Breakfast	Hanover, NH. Hike, eat, hike more. Breakfast is a fundraiser for the Rotary Club; fee. Easy to Moderate.	Lynne Miller 603-643-6194
May 21 Sun	Hike	Mount Sunapee White Cliff Overlook and Lake Solitude, Newbury, NH. Out & back on Newbury Trail. Amazing views. 4.8 miles, 1,584' climb. Moderate. kpmhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
May 23 Tues	Hike ***	Wildier, VT. Through woods and meadows. Almost 2 miles, uneven ground, away from traffic. Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace. CAR SPOT.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 24 Wed	Bike Ride	Plainfield, NH along River Road. Lollipop loop, 12 miles total. Hybrid bike needed. Mostly paved with the loop on dirt. Beautiful farmland, some woods. Moderate.	Inge/Heinz Trebitz 802-785-2129
May 27 Sat	Hike	Mt. Ascutney (3150'), Brownsville, VT. Up Brownsville Trail, down Windsor Trail. Old quarry, observation tower with 360° views. 5.6 miles, 2400' climb. Moderate - Strenuous. Car spot or quick ~ 1 mile road walk to return to car at beginning point.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
May 29 Mon	Hike	Memorial Day on Smarts Mtn (3240'), Orford, NH. The less-crowded side of the mountain, out-&-back from Quinttown Road on J Trail (A.T.). 360° views from observation tower on summit. 8.5 miles (0.5 on dirt road), 1900' elevation gain. Steady climb, nothing too steep. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
May 30 Tues	Walk ***	South Woodstock, VT. Visit site of a stone chamber said to be 4,000 yrs. old, followed by road walk downhill. ~ 2 miles. Easy, easy on the knees.*** Slow pace. Car spot.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 31 Wed	Hike	Scenic Griffith Lake & Peru Peak Shelter, Peru VT. From south via Old Job Tr. (a pleasant old woods road), Long Tr., & 0.35 miles. easy bushwhack. 5.5 miles, 550' climb. Moderate.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201



February 5, 2023: Full Moon Ski on Mt. Tom, overlooking Woodstock.

Photo: *Bob Tucker* – Quote: Conditions were quite good, but not as good as our trip a couple of years ago. That was the best! I started up about 5 PM and was back at the car by 7:30.

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 "UVO" 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 "UVO" 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. Rick Dugan/Membership. 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