



FOOTNOTES



VOLUME 47
NUMBER 1

March 2025 – May 2025

UPPER VALLEY
OTTAUQUECHEE SECTION
of the
GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

PREFER RECEIVING THE FOOTNOTES BY e-MAIL? Send a request to HeinzTrebitz@gmail.com

UVO Section Annual Meeting Friday, April 4

At our last UVO Annual Meeting in October 2024, we voted to move future annual meetings to March/April, to be in sync with all other GMC Sections.

so, it's time again:

**Upper Valley Ottawaquechee Section
(members & guests) meeting & potluck
at Thetford Center Community Ctr.
5:30 social hour, 6:00 dinner.**

Meet UVO's new President, *Debbie Marcus*.
See feature article on next page.

Photo: *Inge Trebitz*



From: UVO Website uppervalleygmc.org – *Heinz Trebitz*, Webmaster

At the April 4, 2025 UVO Annual Meeting

I will resign from my webmaster function for the section.

If you are interested to take over, please call *Debbie Marcus* (978-578-4198),
Annie Janeway (413-374-0988), or *Heinz* (802-785-2129).

Note: Most of the work keeping the website up-to-date involves the FOOTNOTES and calender entries, and the Latest News Page which, on average, is revised quarterly.
I'll be available to guide you with the work as needed.

Of course there is plenty opportunity to give the website a new face. Here is your chance to get involved and serve the Upper Valley Ottawaquechee Section with creative work.

Hello Friends,

As the new UVO Section President, I want to reach out to you all and share a bit about myself and my journey.

Why did I agree to serve? The answer is: I was asked. Simple as that. My many volunteer activities through the last 40 years always started that way. I was asked. Indeed, when I was asked to succeed Dick Andrews as President, I typed a polite response declining, as I was over-scheduled already, but suddenly surprised myself by erasing those words and entering a completely different answer. I had purposefully stepped back from some of my leadership roles with AMC-NH in order to devote more energy to the GMC in my own backyard. I knew I would have great support from Dick and the UVO Section officers and members. I am very grateful!

What is my outdoors background? I grew up in coastal Massachusetts, the child of avid birders. My childhood was spent outdoors in wildlife sanctuaries, on trails, in fields, in boats, on beaches, in all kinds of weather, lugging telescopes and binoculars.

My journey with the GMC began around 2002. Chet and I had bought a condo in Quechee in November, 1995. On weekends in Vermont I eagerly explored hiking opportunities with GMC. First, I joined hikes with the O-Section (our section's abbreviated name at the time). Then, inspired by a Montpelier Section trip leader, I started a quest to hike the New Hampshire 48 High Peaks, which I completed in 2009.

I met Peter Hope on a GMC hike to The Pond of Safety in New Hampshire. Peter encouraged me to seek leadership training with AMC-NH, if I intended to lead GMC hikes to 4000-footers. I will be forever grateful to Peter for steering me in this direction, as I told his daughters at his memorial service. I completed Leader Training with AMC-NH in 2010. The training was extensive, difficult, and sound. My fellow AMC-NH hike leaders became special friends with whom I've shared countless adventures, including hiking the New England 67 High Peaks, the New England Hundred Highest, and Mahoosuc Notch. Fifteen years later, I am still an active Leader with AMC-NH. I also served six

years on the AMC-NH Chapter Executive Committee.

A few years ago, Heinz asked (see the trend?), and I agreed, to take on as Section Coordinator for his 15 miles of the AT in Vermont. I have learned so much about trail maintenance from our UVO Trails and Shelters Chair, Bob Hagen. I thoroughly appreciate the training our sawyers must undergo. I am also the adopter for Wintturi Shelter and its spur trail. I'm thrilled to have the new composting privy completed, and I have added privy staining (painting) to my maintenance skills. Along the way, I have developed strong relationships with our GMC staff who are valuable partners—Lorne Currier, Kate Songer, and others.

I must mention the GMC's *Intro to Backpacking* course I took about 15 years ago with GMC's late, great leader Dave Blumenthal. I was hooked! I went on to complete the Long Trail end-to-end in 2015. I have relished every epic trek in Vermont and New Hampshire with backpacking comrades Kathy Astruckas and Terri Wilson. Nothing beats a cup of coffee at dawn out on the trail!

What are important or interesting differences between AMC and GMC? AMC is so much bigger and far more financially endowed. AMC's required online activity sign ups, screening, and "waivers" reflect its serious risk management concerns, especially protecting its volunteer leaders. The GMC's sections, the UVO Section certainly, are far more focused on volunteer trail maintenance on both the AT and the LT and have far more members with significant experience in trail work. The UVO uses its outings to build a wonderful sense of community and friendship, beyond simply having leaders list trips and manage participants. This is a strength!

Both GMC and AMC share a major concern about the future: fewer younger people are stepping up to join organizations, period. Fewer volunteer their time consistently. As our dedicated chapter and section volunteers age, how do we convince younger people to join us? Who will replace us? This is our number-one challenge. That's what I expect to work on as president.

"UVO" SECTION SPRING ACTIVITIES, MARCH - MAY 2025

*** = 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

Mar 3 Mon	Snowshoe	Styles Peak (3394') in Peru Peak Wilderness, near Peru, VT. From end of plowing (snowmobile lot) on Mad Tom Notch Rd. Packed snowmobile trail, Long Trail north to summit & return. 5.4 mi, 1365' climb. Moderate. kpmhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
Mar 4 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 4 Tues	UVO Qtrly & Planning Meeting	Planning mtg for Summer (June – August) outings. 7:00 p.m. via Zoom, because it works so well. Call or email Kathy Astraukas ahead w/ ideas if you can't join us. kabh@myfairpoint.net	Kathy Astraukas 802-785-4311
Mar 7 Fri	Snowshoe or Spike	Mt Ascutney Weathersfield Tr. to Gus's Lookout (2600'), Weathersfield VT. Open ledges with a good view to the south. 4.6 mi., 1750' climb. Moderate to Strenuous, depending on conditions.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Mar 8 Sat	Dirt Road Walk	Bridgewater, VT area. Scenic vistas. About 6 mi. Moderate hills. cell 802 356 0890	Tom McCleary 802-295-7592
Mar 10 Mon	Snowshoe / Spike	Daylight Saving Time on A.T. north from NH-25C. Pretty woods, over Mt. Mist (2220'), lunch & turn around at lovely view overlooking Wachipauka Pond. 5.2 mi, 1100' climb. Moderate.	Kathy Astraukas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Mar 11 Tues	Snowshoe	Stratton Mtn. (3936'), Stratton VT. Fire tower, views, nice trail. AT & LT conceived on summit. From snowmobile trail parking lot on Stratton-Arlington Rd, hike east to IP Road, to Long Trail & summit. Total out-&-back 7.2 mi, 1600' climb. Moderate. kpmhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
Mar 11 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 14 Fri	Snowshoe/ Hike/Spike	A.T., Etna, NH. From Trumbull Hall/Baptist Church/Etna-Hanover Center Rd south to Trescott Rd and return. 3+ mi, 500' of climbing. Moderate.	Kathy Astraukas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Mar 15 Sat	Snowshoe or Spike	Paradise Park, Windsor VT. Spend several hours exploring trails in this mostly wooded gem Windsor began preserving more than 80 years ago. Pond, secluded ravines, streams. Hilly but not vertiginous. Moderate.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Mar 17 Mon	Snowshoe/ Hike/Spike	St Patrick's Day in Town of Killington, VT. From US-4 LT/A.T. parking: LT/A.T. north to Maine Jct, then A.T. northbound to Gifford Woods St Pk/Kent Pond. Ancient hardwood forest. 3.4 mi, 700' climb, 900' descent. Moderate (possibly strenuous, depending on conditions). Car spot.	Kathy Astraukas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Mar 18 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 21 Fri	Hike	2 nd Day of Spring on Lyme Hill Conservation Area, Lyme, NH. Route will depend on conditions: Possibly wetland, viewpoint (steep up), old cemetery, lovely brook, vernal pool. ~ 4 mi, ups & downs. Moderate.	Kathy Astraukas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Mar 22 Sat	Dirt Road Walk	Road walk from Leader's home via River Rd & High Pastures Rd, to Sugarbush Farm; return via Hillside Rd to Leader's home for potluck social & fire pit. 5 mi, hilly. debbie.marcus57@gmail.com	Debbie Marcus 978-578-4198
Mar 24 Mon	Snowshoe/ Hike/Spike	Parcel 5, Norwich, VT. Multi-use loop designed by John Morton. 5k (3 mi), hilly, twisty, winding. Moderate, w/ lots of steep ups & downs. Mode of travel based on conditions.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Mar 25 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Mar 29 Sat	Road & Trail Walk	Loop in Lyme, NH. Seasonal mud guaranteed. Starting at Lyme Green, head south then east on dirt roads. Then north on River Road (paved) & east back to Lyme Green on Lower Grant Brook Trail. 6.3 mi, ~ 400' climb. Moderate.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
Mar 31 Mon	Mostly 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

Apr 1 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Apr 4 Fri	UVO Sect Annual Mtg	At our last UVO Ann. Mtg. in Oct., we voted to move our Ann. Mtg. to March/April, to be in sync with all other GMC Sections. So it's time again: Upper Valley Ottauquechee Section (members & guests) meeting & potluck dinner at Thetford Center Community Ctr. 5:30 social hour, 6:00 dinner. (Details on front page) debbie.marcus57@gmail.com	Debbie Marcus 978-578-4198
Apr 5 Sat	Road Walk	Scenic walk, Etna, NH. From Trumbull Hall, up Ruddsboro Rd to King Rd to Etna Rd back to cars. Start w/ long uphill by beautiful brook, end w/ long downhill w/ great views. ~ 6 mi. Mod.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Apr 8 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Apr 12 Sat	Woods/ Road Walk	Sunapee/Ragged Mountain/Kearsarge Greenway (SRKG) from Sunapee Town Hall to Deer Hill Road, mostly on town roads. Views of Mt Sunapee. 7.3 mi, 770' climb. Easy terrain, but Moderate due to distance. (Trail 3 in SRK Greenway Trail Guide) cell 802 356 0890	Tom McCleary 802-295-7592
Apr 14 Mon	Hike	Moose Mtn south ridge (NOT the summit). Views!!! possibly including Mt. Washington; great view over Mascoma Lake at turn-around point. 7.0 mi, 1400' climb, but all short, mild ups and downs, mostly gentle ridgeline. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas/Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
Apr 15 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk on Tax Day in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Apr 18 Fri	Road Walk (mostly dirt)	Plainfield, NH. River Road on the Ferry Road end, Freeman Road (hills & views), short stretch on NH-12A to return to cars. River Rd is flat with some possibility of seeing early wildflowers. 5 - 6 mi. Mostly dirt road. Moderate.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Apr 19 Sat	Hike/Spike/ Snowshoe	Avoid mud on paved Mt. Ascutney (3150') road, no cars, views; to summit if dry trail. 7.4 miles, 2250' climb. Summit trail adds 1.4 mi and 400' climb. Moderate. kprhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
Apr 21 Mon	Dirt Road Walk	River Rd, Woodstock, VT fr. Billings Farm & Museum overflow pkg to High Pastures Rd, to Otis Hill Rd, back to River Rd & return. Views of Ottauquechee River; beautifully manicured horse farms. Mostly flat except for short walk up High pastures road. ~ 6.5 - 7 mi.	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294
Apr 22 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk on Earth Day in local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
Apr 25 Fri	Hike	Arbor Day on Mt. Ascutney Road, Windsor VT, to picnic pavilion. Nice views, mostly northwestward: Windsor, Moosilauke, Presidentials if lucky. 4.0 mi round trip, 1200' climb. Snowshoe trail breaking unlikely. Moderate.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
Apr 26 Sat	Work Day	Give back to the trail on our section of AT, somewhere between Chateauguay & Cloudland Rds. Bring work gloves, tools, lunch & water. Reblazing for those interested. Rain date Sun., 4/27. Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com	Debbie Marcus 978-578-4198
Apr 29 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 3 Sat	Work Day	Give back to the trail on our section of A.T., somewhere between Cloudland Rd. & CT River. Clear water bars & blowdowns. Tools provided, or bring your own favorites. Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Rain Date Sun, 5/4.	Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
May 4 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 6 Tues	Hike	Smith Pond Shaker Forest, Enfield, NH. Upper Valley Land Trust trails. Loop highlighting remnants of Shaker's old dam & canals, 2 waterfalls, Smith Pond. 6.1 mi., ~ 1000' climb. Moderate with a couple steep areas.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
May 6 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 9 Fri	Wildflower Hike	Mt. Tom, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Nat. Hist. Park, Woodstock, VT. Spring ephemerals (wildflowers that disappear after blooming). ~ 6 mi on a variety of trails. Easy – Moderate. Leisurely pace to ID the wide variety of flora (23 different species last year!) Rain Date Sat. 5/10. Debbie.marcus57@gmail.com	Debbie Marcus 978-578-4198

2025 Spring Activities - continued from Insert (Page 3 & 4)

May 11 Sun	Hike	Honoring our mothers with a hike on Deer Leap. View!! Starting at Inn at Long Trail up Sherburne Pass North Trail to Deer Leap, then southbound on LT/A.T. to US-4 parking lot. 3.3 mi, 700' elev. gain. Moderate. Short car spot. ajaneway@gmail.com	Annie Janeway 413-374-0988
May 12 Mon	Hike	A.T., Lyme, NH. From Dartmouth Skiway to Trapper John Shelter, Holt's Ledge & back. Views to NE. Some steep sections. 3.4 mi, 1100' elev. gain. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
May 13 Tues	Hike	Mount Sunapee White Cliff Overlook & Lake Solitude, Newbury, NH. Out & back on Newbury Trail. Amazing views. 4.8 mi, 1,584' climb. Moderate. kpmhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
May 13 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 16 Fri	Hike	Webb Forest, New London, NH. Explore & learn about this northern hardwood forest on Webb Forest Interpretative loop. 4.1 mi, 850' climb. Easy - Moderate. Optional post hike stop/lunch at New London pub.	Tom Kahl 207-692-7495
May 17 Sat	Work Day	On A.T. stretch from Killington to Stony Brook Rd. to clear blowdowns, open ditches, clip brush. Meet 9:30am at place TBD. Bring work gloves, hand tools, lunch & water. Rain Date Sun, 5/18.	Nick Krembs 802-649-1048
May 19 Mon	Hike	Big Deer Mountain, Groton State Forest, VT. Loop fr north: Big Deer Mtn. Trail to Big Deer Mtn, Coldwater Brook Trail to Lake Groton Nature Center; return on Hosmer Brook Trail & Osmore Pond Loop Trail. Stunning view of Lake Groton to the south. 5.5 mi, 380' climb. Moderate.	Tom McCleary 802-295-7592 cell 802 356 0890
May 20 Tues	Hike	Pico Peak (3957'), Town of Killington, VT. Out and back from Sherburne Pass, on Sherburne Pass Trail (former LT/AT). Good views. 5.8 mi, 2077' climb. Moderate. pmrobertson50@gmail.com	Phil Robertson 802-457-7357
May 20 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 23 Fri	Hike	Loop trail around Lowell Lake, Londonderry VT. Attractive state park with pretty lake views and Revolutionary War-era cemetery. 3.3 mi, 250' climb. Easy.	Dick Andrews 802-885-3201
May 24 Sat	Hike	Mt. Ascutney (3150'), Weathersfield VT, via Weathersfield Trail. Cascades on the way, observation tower on the summit. 5.8 mi., 2360' elevation gain. Moderate to Strenuous. kpmhoneill@gmail.com	Patrick O'Neill 802-291-3208
May 26 Mon	Hike	Memorial Day on Smarts Mtn (3240'), Orford, NH. The less-crowded side of the mtn, out-&-back from Quinttown Rd on J Trail (A.T.). 360° views from observation tower on summit. 8.5 mi (0.5 on dirt rd), 1900' elev. gain. Steady climb, nothing too steep. Moderate.	Kathy Astrauckas/ Bob Hagen 802-785-4311
May 27 Tues	Walk ***	Short walk in the local Upper Valley area of Vermont. Slow pace, less than an hour. Easy, easy on the knees. *** Please call Inge Brown for location and time.	Inge Brown 802-280-8017
May 30 Fri	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. Unique outhouse, great views! ~ 6 mi. Mostly dirt road, a small bit of easy trail. Moderate. *****	Iris Berezin 802-295-2294



Starting April 1st, 2025 there will be new signs aimed to draw the attention of hikers on the trail.

Photos: Phorest: *Dick Andrews*; Mt. Mist: Source: *Bob Hagen*

OTTAUQUECHEE FOOTNOTES

Upper Valley Ottauquechee Section
Of the ©Green Mountain Club
<https://uppervalleygmc.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 Vermont mountains play 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 the 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, attRick Dugan/Membership. 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