



RIDGE LINES

"Canoeing trips and easier walks along the AT can be planned by those who are interested. We will leave for home on Sunday, August 15."
Advanced reservation fees for the campground are essential prior to June 15. If you are interested in all or any portion of the trip, contact Fred Smith (985-3613) before June 15.

ANNUAL MEETING

Main Club. May 29-31.
Shirley Strong has all the details. Here are some of the essentials.
The annual meeting of the entire club will be held in the church-town-hall in Weathersfield Center, Vermont, on Saturday, May 29. Hikes and other activities are planned for Sunday and Monday, including displays and swapshops.
Camping is available at Ascutney State Park where Sunday breakfast will be served, Connecticut Section style. Members are encouraged to come and spend the entire weekend, if possible.

Volume 1, Number 1
Burlington Section/Green Mountain Club
May 1971

Events

DON'T MISS THIS

Betty Myers announces the premier of the new GMC slide show.
"You can get an early look at this new GMC slide show by being at St. James Episcopal Church in Essex Junction at 7:30, Wednesday, May 5. This show is aimed at educating new hikers in the wise use of Vermont trails from the boots on up. It also points out aspects of hiking in Vermont -- botany, geology, ecology -- that you, as veteran hikers, may never have noticed.
"So come and take a look at familiar faces, on and off the screen."

THINK SPRING

Bill Degroot wants volunteers for a work hike in the Jonesville-Bolton area on GMC day, May 15.
Workers, equipped with shovel, empty pack-frame, plastic garbage bag and lunch, will meet at 9 A.M. at the UVM Dairy Science Building.
Remember boots; it may be wet.

ATTENTION: PEAK COLLECTORS

(And all AT enthusiasts and lovers of the Maine woods.)
Fred Smith outlines the agenda for his August outing in Maine.
"We will leave Thursday, August 5, for Katahdin Stream campground where the group will stay until Sunday. Climbs for North Brother on Friday and Baxter and Hamlin Peaks on Saturday are scheduled.
"On Sunday, August 8, we shall leave for Kingfield, Maine (south of Flagstaff Lake). Base camp for the coming week will be the summer home of Francis Bliss.
"Climbs will be scheduled for eight peaks along the AT, including two Bigelows, Sugarloaf, two Crocketts, Mt. Abraham and two Saddlebacks.

INTERSECTIONAL

Its official title, "Intersectional," sounds foreboding, like an operation or a diagram from a how to project.
Forget its title. An experienced GMC'er says, "It's lots of fun."
A ten day get-together for members and guests, it includes hiking (all kinds), sightseeing and entertainment.
Four seminar/workshop events are a new idea this year. "Hike Leadership" will discuss the business of leading hikes. A full scale sign-making workshop will be set up for those who wish to try their hands at making signs. Two sessions will be devoted to improving skills in "Map and Compass Reading." "Outlying Mountains and Trails" will be an up-to-date review of the trail situation on mountains in Vermont not connected with the Long Trail system. For the most part, these will be evening programs.
Intersectional is scheduled for August 28-September 6 and will be held at 4-H camp Ondawa in Sunderland, which is just south of Manchester. Watch the Long Trail News for more details.

Other News

THE AVERAGE HIKER IS?
A newly organized conservation committee under Chuck Hadden is offering ALL Burlington section members a chance to participate actively in a meaningful conservation effort.
The committee has already made several recommendations which will be implemented this summer to protect Mt. Mansfield. In order to make long range recommendations, a complete study of the mountain is being organized.
Your help is urgently needed to make traffic counts and take hiker surveys. Participants will be stationed on the summit weekends this summer to fill out questionnaires on hikers using the mountain. Also needed is someone to coordinate publicity and educational news releases on this important project.
Please call Charles Hadden, 862-6877 (48 Forest St., Burlington), to leave your name or request further information.

CARETAKER PROGRAM

Burlington Section will expand its caretaker program this summer to cover its four main shelters. Three caretakers have been hired at this time. Kenn Boyd sends in these thumbnail sketches.

From the Bronx comes Martin Hanft. Taft Lodge should be quite a change! A senior in journalism at NYU, Martin is a GMC member at large. He has hiked on the Long Trail, in the Adirondacks, along the AT and in Harriman State Park.

Caretaker at Butler will be Victor Henningsen, who is a history major at Yale. Previous similar experiences include work for the Sierra Club as well as work as a camp counselor, leader of a trail crew and an instructor in the Outward Bound Program.

A life time member of the GMC, John Page (Taylor Lodge) has a background of scouting and counseling as well as much experience camping and hiking on the Long Trail. Presently a teacher's aid at Thayer School in Burlington, he was a member of Boy Scout Troop One for five years, earned the rank of Life Scout and was Junior Assistant Scout Master.

Kenn says, "All of our caretakers are interesting and responsible young men doing a difficult job. They will need all the cooperation we can give them this summer."

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Don Wallace of the New York Section of the GMC has offered to run an American Red Cross Standard and Advanced First Aid Course with emphasis on "Problems Encountered in the Mountains." Anyone interested in this course should contact Kenn Boyd, evenings, at 864-5455 for further information.

NEW TERRITORIES

If you're looking for hiking ideas, you'll be interested in the series of Outlying Trails Bulletins prepared by George Pearlstein. The series of five is entitled "A Hiker's Guide To" and covers the following areas: Mt. Norris; Lake Willoughby; Worcester Mountains; Essex Fire Tower Trails; Mt. Cushman and Scragg Mt.

Each bulletin includes a map and detailed trail descriptions. They sell for 25 cents each or five for one dollar. Write to GMC, Box 94, Rutland, Vermont 05701.

WHO DUNNIT

We (Alice Boyd, Newell Briggs, Madeline Miles, Sally Spear) did with lots of help. Special thanks to the contributors, the mailing gang, and the mimeo machine man; and to Anne Clark, and Madeline for art work.

We plan to see you again in the fall so before then give us your ideas and suggestions. Our motto is -- short news and Long Trails!

ORIGIN OF THE MASTHEAD

In preparing the masthead for RIDGE LINES, Anne Clark borrowed Roy Buchanan's collection of shelter photographs. Her original was a photo of Sucker Brook shelter. To complete her composite picture, she used a Cambridge view of Mt. Mansfield, the portion of the Long Trail maintained by the Burlington Section.

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