



# RIDGE LINES

## IN MEMORY OF ANNE CLARK

Members of the Burlington Section of the GMC were saddened by the loss of Anne Clark. We searched for an appropriate expression of our sympathy and after talking with many members established the following memorial:

We of the Green Mountain Club have known and loved Anne Clark -

her appreciation of nature,  
her zest for the out of doors,  
her enthusiasm for life,  
her warmth for people,  
her respect for youth, and  
her willingness to share all she had.

These are the qualities that have given much to us as individuals and much to the Green Mountain Club.

Therefore in her memory we have made individual contributions toward the work of the Green Mountain Audubon Society's Nature Center so that those things which she appreciated most can be shared by all.

It was impossible to contact all members who might wish to share in this expression of love and appreciation. Therefore we hope those who feel so inclined will join us now in this memorial. Contributions may be sent directly to Mrs. Oliver R. Eastman, Treasurer, Nature Center Committee, Green Mountain Audubon Society, Oakledge, Burlington, Vermont 05401.

## HOW DRY I AM

Dot Pirkanen

"Our raincoats evidently are only waterproof when the sun is shining!"

That statement is taken from our Long Trail Log Book entry of October 10, 1971. Believe it or not, it was the first rain we had experienced since starting the LT in August, 1968. An what an introduction to hiking-in-the-rain it was! We walked 17.2 miles for 9 hours in a torrential downpour and were not only soaked to the skin, but were made completely aware of how ill-equipped we were for rain.

We were prompted to send to the Frostline Company, P.O. Box 2190, Boulder, Colorado 80302 for two Rain Parka kits. One can order kits for any camping item from this company ranging from tents to down mittens. A catalog costs 25¢.

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GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB  
BURLINGTON SECTION

## HIKERS' REACTIONS TO SNOWMOBILES

Madeline Miles

Recently I was hiking with a group of GMC'ers when two snowmobiles hove into view. My response was much like the rest: I hated the noise, I hated the smell, and I wished they would go away.

Brad Perkins was the one friendly voice in the wilderness. His response was "in a case of emergency I've seen these snowmobilers really come thru." He left our group to chat with the unwelcome guests. He learned that the snowmobilers hadn't known that Duck Brook Shelter existed and I'm sure they didn't know who built it or how it was maintained. The gleam in their eyes indicated that they had made quite a find.

How will they use Duck Brook Shelter? Did we lay any foundation for their respect for either our building or our club? Did we offer them a cup of soup, extend our hospitality or do any public relations work to let them know the volunteer hours that keep such shelters available for the use of all? I fear not. Maybe we could have even enlisted the aid of these strangers to help us keep the area clean. (It is easier to lug garbage on a snowmobile than on one's back.)

I commend Brad Perkins for his friendliness and I am ashamed of my own behavior. Next time I see a snowmobiler I hope I recall the shame I feel today and act differently.

I tackled Pirk's parka first and we are both completely satisfied with the end result - a large, red nylon rain parka with a heavy Urethane coating that is lightweight and can be easily folded into a small package. I must confess we also bought the rain chaps kits but I've not been prompted to sew them yet. They should be relatively easy since they are nothing more than two legs that attach to a belt at the waist.

All pieces are pre-cut and the kit contains every necessary item right down to a Frostline label, velcro, zipper, special waxed heavy-duty thread and seam waterproofing. Thirty-eight steps are required for the parka and I found the instructions to be explicit and easy to follow. On the one or two steps where I was uncertain as to my interpretation of the instructions, I did the logical thing and called upon Pirk to decipher them.

A basic knowledge of sewing would probably be necessary to tackle such a project. I thoroughly enjoyed constructing Pirk's parka in spite of the fact that my 35-year old sewing machine isn't designed for modern materials such as urethane coated nylon.

When the parka was finished it looked quite professional, was a fairly good fit, but the big question was yet to be answered: was it waterproof? We put it to the test by hiking 11.3 miles for 7 hours in heavy rain, snow, sleet, hail and wind last November. Pirk remained dry; I ended up drenched once again.

So now I'll oil up my trusty old sewing machine and start on my parka.



#### CANTILEVER ROCK

Any hiker in the Green Mountains knows the strange things that nature does with rocks. Cantilever Rock is one of them.

Sometimes natural forces shape the earth with sudden, explosive violence. Sometimes, and more often, the shaping process is slow and imperceptible but just as inexorable. Cantilever Rock was created by this slow wearing away process.

Rain, snow, ice and wind over a long period of time widened a natural fissure in the metamorphic rock until this long shaft dropped free. Its base wedged under the cliff edge, the rock juts out for thirty feet from the lower west face of Mt. Mansfield. It weighs an estimated 75 tons. A four-foot rock on the ground beneath is believed to have once been its tip.

What a breathtaking moment -- to have been there when the rock swung free! The GMC, Burlington Section, has a date with Cantilever Rock May 13th.

#### NOTES ON OUTINGS

##### New England Trail Conference

March 24 at Smith College. See Rod Rice or Newell Briggs for forms, map, details.

Highlights: lecture "Designing a Multi-purpose Trail System," 2:00 p.m.; 4 rotating workshops - Education of Trail Users and Trail Traffic Control; Train Maintenance, Tools and Techniques; Advance Trail Layout and Construction; Role of Citizens Advisory Committee on Trails in the State, 2:30 p.m.; film - "Flora of the Alpine Zone," Al Oxton, Mt. Washington Observatory, 7:30 p.m.

##### Public Opinion Poll

Skiing, sliding, eating and general partying at the Underhill Snow Bowl on New Year's Eve? If the idea is popular, the Outing Committee will investigate arrangements. Costs would be divided and a definite commitment sought in the fall. Please indicate your feelings on sugar-on-snow announcement and return to Hollie Johnson.

##### Bike Hike April 21

A word of reassurance: bikes will be transported to Isle La Motte for the outing.

#### RECUPERATING

Best wishes to Larry Dean, who is home after four weeks in the hospital with a broken leg.

#### NEW MEMBERS

Carlene Whitcomb

We welcome the following:

Mrs. Susan H. Barre, Michael, Greta and Gabriel Barre; Betty Burbank; Fred Butler, Steven and Lindsay Butler; Doris J. Farenkopf; Paul Gabso; Mr. and Mrs. Roger M. Griffith; Anne Hoover; Myrtle Lane; Ann J. Macy; Lee Slocum.

#### RIDGE LINES

Newell Briggs, Janice Lange, Corky Magoon, Madeline Miles, Dot and Pirk Pirkanen, Sally S. Spear, Carlene Whitcomb.