RidgeLines
Green Mountain Club
Burlington Section
Spring 2025

New RidgeLines Editor

Hi! I'm Janette Williams, the newest editor of RidgeLines. My family were members at large when we lived in New Jersey. We joined the Burlington Section when we moved to Vermont. If you have any ideas for articles you would like to see, or anything else you can reach me at ridgelinesbtv@gmail.com

Section Presidents Message

Greetings all! I would like to thank the membership for their support as I begin my term as Burlington Section President. I would like to thank Jonathan Breen who held the mantle as section President for the last 5 years! Much has been accomplished during his tenure and the Burlington section remains strong.

A little bit about me. I have hiked many stretches of the Long Trail as a day hiker. My one and only overnight was on top of Bromley Mountain over 10 years ago. However, my goal remains a career end-to-end of the Long Trail. My wife, Janette and I moved to Vermont in 2016. I have been able to fill in some gaps in that time but look forward to more extensive hikes to get closer to my goal in the next few years.

Clearly, I am not one of those who sign up for the difficult hikes but I am an avid supporter of the Green Mountain Club and the Burlington Section. While we have many excellent and experienced people on our leadership committee, we can always use a few more! I see my role as one to keep the section moving forward. We and the main club continue to face many blowdowns that seem to literally and figuratively come in front of us both on and off the trail.

A focus for me will be to raise awareness and try to grow section membership. Raising awareness is one area where I have spent significant time over the last 6 years as a volunteer ambassador for the club at the Barnes Camp information center.

Barnes Camp is located just the other side of Route 108 from our section's portion of the Long Trail at the base of Mt Mansfield. I have met a diverse mix of folks from through hikers, section hikers and day hikers from all over the US, Canada and the world. Most marvel that what we have here is something truly special!

I Look forward to meeting many of you in the future, maybe even out on the trail!

Brian Williams
2025 GMC Burlington Section President

Annual Meeting Reports
President's Report

Today's meeting marks my fifth address as your President of the Burlington Section. Being president has been a lot like being a trip leader. While the core reason of the trip was stated in the trip brochure (...*to make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people*…), the actual trip experienced is greatly influenced by events that happen along the way and the people you take it with.

A trip leader needs to pay attention to the map, to impending weather, where to set up camp, and what supplies we have and need. Early on we had to adjust to the pandemic. In that same year we celebrated the 100th anniversary of Taft Lodge. Later on we replaced the roof on Puffer Shelter and repaired the deck at Taft Lodge. Many cords of wood have been stacked at Bolton and Bryant Camps.

This past Long Trail Day 2024 the Burlington Section team raised over $1,100 for the GMC.

Coming on the horizon Taft Lodge needs a number of logs replaced so it can continue to offer us shelter. Our club is also reviewing its governance structure and our section will need to provide its input to the process.

A trip leader also has to recognize the strengths and interests of those on the outing. A couple years ago I attended an End-to-Ender's panel discussion and was struck by the many different hikes that were desired by the panelists. Some hiked fast and light all in one take, others in sections, one carrying paper books doing lots of reading, and another focusing on photography instead of miles per day. They shared a common core of hiking the entire length of the LT, but they all did things their own way. Likewise Executive Committee volunteers and section member volunteers sign on to help in ways that bring them joy and fit into their lives. Providing space and opportunities for volunteers to contribute in their own way makes the trip better.

Lastly, a trip leader has to recognize that being on the trip is a choice and the makeup of the group may change along the way. I would like to thank John Need, our previous website guru and RidgeLines editor for the many hours he spent redesigning our website, a key resource of our Section which helps us organize activities, stores a lot of our history, and increases our visibility to the public. Paul Beliveau Co-chaired our Trails Committee for many years. Paul's talents were instrumental to maintaining our equipment, running our May work trip outings, and he was always ready to head out with a chainsaw to keep our trails cleared.

Ellen Cohen, Membership Chair, moved to Vermont not long ago and attended several outings I led. When Dot Meyer needed to step down, Ellen stepped up and continued welcoming new members to our section. Thank you all for your years of service.

About eight years ago I started going on Burlington Section hikes and among the people I met was Ted Albers, then president of our Section. I tagged along with the Executive Committee for a while, and then decided to step up and take a turn as our trip leader. The experience has been positive and rewarding. Now is the time for me to step aside and we are fortunate to have Brian Williams take over the lead. I plan to continue on this trip, just with a different focus, and look forward to the experiences to come.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Breen
President, Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club

Vice President Report

The role of VP for the section has two main responsibilities: identify (request, cajole, arm twist …) potential new board members as some of our fine board volunteers move on. The other is to be willing to accept the president's role when the current President is ready to step down.

In the first part of the role, I would like to thank Paul Beliveau for his 7 years as co-chair of the trails committee. Paul has led our volunteers on many, many trail maintenance hikes each May to make sure the Long Trail and the many side trails in our section are ready for the opening of hiking season each year.

Paul has also responded to in-season requests to address blowdowns identified by hikers. Peter Saile has agreed to take on this role and join Scott Albertson as a trails co-chair. Peter has led many hikes for our section and is well-known for his past Monroe Skyline 1-day through hikes in late June for many years.

John Need has filled the webmaster role and provided the section with a fantastic upgrade to the content on our website. He also took on the Ridgelines editor role in 2024. Although John has stepped down from these roles due to other commitments, he will still be involved with his ongoing shelter history project so be on the lookout for more shelter historical information updates on the Burlington Section website.

Corinn Julow has stepped down from her Young Adventurers club responsibilities. She has agreed to remain on the board in the Webmaster role. Thank you, Corinn, for stepping into the Webmaster role!

My wife, Janette, and I have held the Annual Meeting co-chair roles since 2017. We will be stepping down as Janette will be taking on the Ridgelines Editor role. I will be moving on to President of the section as Jonathan moves to the coveted Past President role (unless Jonathan would like to extend his time …).

Janette and I will be available to train the next volunteer(s) for the annual meeting setup and execution as this position remains open as we approach the annual section meeting. The most important requirement we learned from Past President Ted Albers? Always take the plastic wrap off of the lasagna before putting the trays into the Blodgett oven!

Speaking of Ted, we are also looking for volunteers to learn from Ted as co-chairs of the Education & Taylor Series and section historian.

In addition to the Annual Meeting, two other roles remain open as of the filing of this report: Young Adventurers Club leader and Section Vice President. Please let any board member know if you are interested in either of these positions as well as the co-chair roles with Ted and the Annual Meeting chair.

As for the second part of the section VP role, I hope to continue the great service of our past presidents as I move into the President's role. As the main club mission states, we need to continue making the mountains play a larger role in the life of all Vermonters and all those who enjoy the results from the efforts of our section and the main club.

As some know, I will continue with my volunteer role at Barnes Camp (2025 will be year number 8). I love this role as it is a great opportunity to have a direct impact upon trail users' experience and highlight all that the Green Mountain club does to promote our great hiking opportunities. More volunteers are always welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Williams

Directors Report

Report on GMC's Main Club

1. RothBerg-Birdwhistell Visitor Center

Construction was completed on the new Visitor Center in Waterbury with the building housing a new visitor center, education space, staff offices, historical archive, and a base of operations for the club's field programs. The new building is fully ADA accessible. A grand opening celebration is planned for June 2025.

2. Financial Condition

After seven months of the fiscal year, the club remains in a tight fiscal environment with key pressures from rising costs, including healthcare. However, staffing reductions and cost saving measures in the 4th quarter improved the overall financial position of the club. For the May-November 2024 period, revenues were $1.62 million (72% of budget) and expenses totaled $1.8 million (71% of budget). The unexpected receipt in September of a 2nd disbursement of the Wissman Bequest totaling $966,000 allowed for a boost to the endowment fund as well as a significant allocation of funds to one-time strategic priorities. Once again, Long Trail Day was a great success and raised $60,000. As of the end of November 2024, the Endowment value stood at $8.3 million, up from $6.6 million one year ago.

3. 2024 Field Season Highlights

With 70 weeks of work over a three-year period, a top-to-bottom rehabilitation of the Burrows Trail on Camel's Hump was completed. The new Bromley Mountain Observation Tower opened in September. The 40-foot steel tower leads to sweeping views from the 16-by-16-foot platform at the top, including Killington, Okemo, Stratton, and Glastenbury Mountains. The field team was tasked with handling severe weather incidents in 2024.

Two massive floods: one on July 10-11 that caused widespread damage in central and northern Vermont, and another on July 30 that wreaked havoc in the Northeast Kingdom. These follow other major floods in July and December 2023. The trails saw widespread moderate erosion and damage, but no major infrastructure losses.

The last pit privy in the Long Trail system was replaced at the end of October. All 73 privies in the system are now efficient, sanitary, and environmentally sustainable composting toilets.

4. Land Conservation

Middlebury College donated a 1.5-mile trail right-of-way across their Snow Bowl alpine ski area in Hancock, which legally protects the Long Trail in perpetuity, secures public access, and formalizes GMC's management rights and responsibilities. With the Middlebury College grant, the Long Trail is 98% protected with just 4.5 miles unprotected. There are currently 66 active Corridor Monitor volunteers, with just 2 sections of the Long Trail corridor and 1 section of the AT corridor looking for new volunteers. With these dedicated volunteers, GMC was able to track all 84 easement and fee owned properties in 2024.

5. Governance Review

A Governance Review Committee was formed in 2024 to work on the following areas of governance: 1) Board size and composition, 2) Board structure and function, and 3) committee structure. A Board self-assessment has been completed. Consultant candidates have been identified to provide legal and organizational support.

The Committee will develop recommendations for governance changes to be presented to the Board of Directors. Work is scheduled for completion in 2026.

Susan Tobin (representative to main GMC club)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 12/31/24

Ellen Cohen

Memberships 344
Memberships with 2 voting members: 354
Total number of voting members 12/2024:1,052

Total number of voting members 2023: 1,076 (2022: 1,135). This is a net decrease of 24 voting members, 2.2%, below the prior year. Prior year net decrease was 59 voting members, 5.4%.

At this time, we do not have data on the number of new, dropped or lapsed memberships. We do know the data includes lapsed members that have not yet been officially removed from membership by the GMC. If those lapsed memberships had been reviewed prior to our meeting, our 2024 figures would likely have been lower. Our section currently has: 2 memberships from Canada and 70 from States other than Vermont, including NY, NJ, NH, MA, ,MT, OR, WV, CO, MS, FL, TX and even HI and PR. Within Vermont: Burlington 134.

Burlington 67, Essex/Essex Jct. 67, Williston 50 and Shelburne 41 make up more than half our Section's memberships.

The largest membership categories are Individual at 233 and Family at 194. Membership categories of Sponsor through Lifetime, and Friends total 271.

Outings Report 2025
David Hathaway

We had a strong outings schedule in 2024, with 84 regularly scheduled trips (vs 85 in 2023), including our four spring work trips in May. There were other trail work, wood stacking, and shelter maintenance trips not posted on our schedule and not included in the above numbers. Most encouraging (to me) is the fact that we had five first time trip leaders, the same as in 2023, and more than in any other year since I became outings chair. So we seem to be doing well getting new folks involved.

The following trip leader statistics include all hikes scheduled by a trip leader, including cancelled trips, as we still appreciate the effort entailed, even if the weather or other circumstances intervene. I normally include hikes led as a substitute leader, but I don't believe we had any of those in 2024.

Our five new trip leaders were: David Golubock (4 trips), Tom Nuovo (3 trips), Philip Werner (3 trips), Deb Lane (2 trips), Ira Powsner (2 trips). Other leader's totals: David Hathaway (14 trips), Chris Luczinsky (8 trips), Ted Albers (6 trips), Jonathan Breen (6 trips), Jill George (5 trips), David McColgin (5 trips), Michael Mortelliti (5 trips), Scott Albertson (4 trips), Paul Beliveau (4 trips), Lisa Hardy (1 trip), Mary Lou Recor (3 trips), Loren Tindall (2 trips), Kevin Burke (1 trip), and Pete Saile (1 trip). If you're a trip leader and you think I got your numbers wrong, let me know.

As usual, we are offering trip leader gifts to anyone who was a new trip leader or who scheduled or led at least 4 trips in 2024. We are seeing a lot of interest and participation in our trips, and many of our recent trips have been full. We've had many new people joining the trips, many signing up on meetup. So, trip leaders, if you want to get more people to join you, consider posting your trips on meetup.

And although new had a lot of new trip leaders last year, not everyone stays with it, and we also had a few people drop from the trip leader list, so we can always use more trip leaders. All we require is that you are a current GMC member and have an interest in helping people experience and enjoy the outdoors. Since it's good (though not required) to have trip leaders with first aid knowledge, the Burlington section will reimburse one half the cost of Solo Wilderness First Aid classes run through the GMC for section trip leaders who have led at least two trips in the past year and plan to lead at least two more in the following year.

Contact David Hathaway if you are a trip leader and need to be enabled as an meetup event host (required to post meetup trip), if you have any questions about meetup, or if you are not currently a Burlington GMC trip leader and would like to be one or have questions about trip leading.

Young Adventurer's Club

2025 Annual Meeting

2024 in Review
Outings

I scheduled four kid friendly hikes at the start of 2024; two hikes occurred and two were canceled. One hike had participants. There was a marked lack of interest in the offered hikes. This was disappointing after the hikes scheduled in 2023 seemed to be gaining in attendance, even if in small increments. Hikes were advertised as other hikes offered by the BTV GMC. It became apparent that for the YAC program to succeed, promotion outside of these avenues was necessary. This would be time intensive. As the BTV GMC group began to experience turnover in other positions, I decided my level of time commitment would correlate better with other open positions while offering more return to the organization. I transferred to Website Chair in October. The YAC Chair position is currently vacant.
Submitted by Corinn Julow 1/19/2025

Website Burlington

2025 Annual Meeting

Corinn Julow

https://gmcburlington.org/

2024 Highlights:

Website Chair transition: Corinn Julow took over the role from John Need.

Stats for 2024 (Feb-Dec)

Total Views:
2023: 10,185
2024: (Feb- Dec) 18,764February: 1,390

Best Overall Day: June 20, 202- 374 views
All-time Views: 31,605

Education & Taylor Series Report

2025 Annual Meeting

Ted Albers

ted@ted-albers.net

In July 2024, the Burlington section hosted Jim Andrews at the Richmond library. Jim is the coordinator of the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (VtHerpAtlas.org) and Chair of the Vermont Reptile and Amphibians Scientific Advisory Group. Jim presented photos and audio of common and several unusual and rare species, and showed the fascinating atlas. Here, anyone can report sightings throughout the state. Jim asked that "in terms of help, what we need the most are people taking photos of what they see while hiking (or around their neighborhoods and homes) and reporting their sightings."

The Atlas is critical to the state, developers, students, ecologists and other wildlife organizations and informs decisions about roadways, development, habitat and more. Jim encourages all to report sightings. It's easy. Have you seen a snake or lizard, turtle, frog, salamander, or something more exotic? Even the most common species need to be reported to keep track of their prevalence and the importance of local habitats. Want help identifying something? Please report it to: https://www.vtherpatlas.org/sighting-submission-form/ or email whatever information you have (even if incomplete, with or without a photo) to andrews@vtherpatlas.org. The atlas works with Vermont Family Forests (as fiscal agent) and receives funding from citizens, and from the Lintilhac Foundation and The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife - State Wildlife Grants. This is citizen science at work.

In August the Burlington Section was at Centennial Field in Burlington to watch the Vermont Lake Monsters baseball team at their last regular game before playoffs. GMC volunteers sold 50-50 raffle tickets as a fund-raiser when they were not distracted by watching the game, eating the most amazing pizza, chowing down on ice cream and the occasional 'beverage.'
Keep an eye out for a repeat in 2025. This event is a blast to volunteer for and the Monsters will comp your ticket if you do.

RidgeLines Report 2025 Annual Meeting

The spring 2024 issue was produced by John Need and included a redesigned format. Afterwards John needed to step down from the website role and newsletter editor roles due to time constraints. We were not able to produce a summer edition as we looked for a new editor. In the interim Sylvie Vidrine, a GMC member and a colleague of mine at Champlain Housing Trust kindly volunteered her professional skills to produce our fall and winter editions. Thank you, Sylvie, for helping us out. To simplify those editions, we reverted back to the previous format.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Breen

Marketing and Communications Report
2025 Annual Meeting
Barbee Hauzinger

2024 has been an incredible year for social media engagement, filled with growth, experimentation, and exciting new connections. Our audience continues to show a strong preference for dynamic, visual content, with Instagram Stories and engaging reels leading the way as our most popular formats. These insights have been instrumental in helping us shape our strategy and focus our efforts where they have the most impact.

This year, we've seen steady growth across platforms. On Instagram, in the last several months, has reached over 4000 accounts.

While we post to both Instagram and Facebook through an app for efficiency, Instagram clearly takes the lead as our most interactive platform, where users actively engage with and share our content.

A closer look at our audience reveals some interesting trends. 75% of our engaged followers are women, with most falling within the 25 to 44 age range. Our reach remains local, with the majority of our audience based in Chittenden County, which helps us connect deeply with the communities we serve.

Our content strategy this year leaned heavily into video, the preferred medium for social media users. Video posts have allowed us to tell more compelling stories, showcase vibrant experiences, and capture the energy of the outdoors. We've featured a range of topics, including updates from the Green Mountain Club (GMC), hiking adventures, and outings that highlight the beauty and accessibility of our trails. Collaborations with other GMC sections, the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), and local organizations such as VT Land Trust and the Intervale Center have further enriched our content.

Beyond updates and collaborations, we've worked to create a balanced mix of informative and entertaining posts. From hiking preparation tips and trail etiquette reminders to humorous hiking videos and flood updates, our content has been designed to educate, engage, and bring a sense of community to our followers. Sharing content that resonates with their interests and passions has strengthened our connection and encouraged consistent interaction throughout the year.

As we move into 2025, the momentum is strong, and the potential is great. By continuing to prioritize visually engaging content (especially video and reels), fostering local connections, and responding to our audience's preferences, we're poised to build on this year's successes and take our marketing and communications efforts to the next level. The trail ahead is bright, and we're excited for what's to come! Moving into this year, the plan is to post more video to both social media platforms to create even more engagement!

Historian's Report

2025 Annual Meeting

Ted Albers
ted@ted-albers.net

While rummaging through GMC archives donated by Craig Buchanan, we came across a photo of Professor Roy Buchanan's birchbark memorabilia. This birchbark scroll was presented to Roy as he stood by a new "Defecatorium" that he no doubt built. Craig, Roy's grandson, wrote "I have a treasure trove of memorabilia from the start of the Long Trail in my father's things. I had thought that it had all been destroyed, but my stepsister got a hold of me and gave me a lot of pictures and old ledgers from the early days of the Long Trail. My grandfather Roy Buchanan built dozens of shelters along the trail with his sons and his friends and stayed an avid hiker into his 90's. My Dad is Andy Buchanan and he took us on many hikes on the Long Trail and instilled in us the love of the outdoors and mountaineering. Anyway, I have a ton of photos of camps and huts being built and the completed structures photographed apparently by a pro.

I have old ledgers detailing maintenance crew expenses because my grandfather was the head guy for that, too. There's another giant box with a Birch Bark Certificate presented to my grandfather that's still fairly legible. Let me know if it's something you can use."

Thanks to the effort of Jim Pease (GMC Visitor Center staff) this priceless inscribed birch bark tribute is now framed and will be on display at the new GMC visitor Center building in Waterbury Center. The tribute was professionally photographed and reproduced to ensure its permanence.

Writing on the Birchbark says "To the Woodsman Supreme: Maker of outhouses with a nice view, tamer of porkies who try to chew thru, teller of tales.... a few we believe, such a character is hard to conceive. He is a woodsman who brings joy, so today we say thanks to our Roy. Snow shoe hike to Buchanan Lodge, December 1970"
Signed by Larry Dean, Gerry Grow, Madeline Miles, Rod Rice, Emily Rice, Betty Myers and others less legible. Visit the GMC Visitor Center to see this treasure.

More on Roy Buchanan:
This from the February 1967 Long Trail News:
PATROL BOSS ROY O. BUCHANAN RESIGNS
Retired UVM professor Roy resigned as Chairman of the Long Trail Patrol Committee at the October trustees' meeting. He was forced to do this by advancing cataracts which have making it unsafe for him to go on the trail…. This though was most definitely not just the resignation of another committee chairman. This was the resignation of the man who actually started the Long Trail Patrol in 1931, 36 years ago after a suggestion by Mortimer Proctor, then GMC president and later the Governor of Vermont, and by Wallace Fay, then the GMC trails chairman. Roy not only started our Patrol, he ran it for the whole 36 years. He did a great deal of the trail work himself too.
The enclosed camps on our trail are of Roy's design, a design that evolved as he built the first few and tried to make them more efficient. He has had a hand in the building of 37 of the Long Trail camps, some open and some closed. This is over half of the total we have today. This all is a record that no one can ever duplicate. But there is more. Roy had his 85th birthday since the trustees' meeting last October (1969). The Burlington Section organized a celebration! After all, how many of us will still do trail work or wield a creosote brush as we approach our 85th birthday. And don't we all know people who think they are too old for that kind of thing when they are 49, Roy's age when he started the Patrol.

Lest some newer members get the idea that insufficient appreciation of Roy's efforts is shown, the following can be pointed out. Roy was elected a trustee repeatedly, has been president and is now our only honorary trustee. He comes to all of the annual meetings, trustees' meetings and the Intersectional's from beginning to end. He is, most assuredly, Mr. Green Mountain Club... Buchanan Lodge, named after him, is one he helped build. Buchanan Mountain, in northern Vermont, was renamed officially in his honor in 1957. The Long Trail is entirely maintained by the Patrol in this area. It goes over the summit of Buchanan Mt. This club cannot re-name mountains-but we were instrumental. The mountain was renamed in recognition of Roy's trail and shelter activities in northern Vermont.

So, the Patrol now has its second chairman in its 37th year! Jack Harrington has the advantage of Roy's counsel and the trustees still have our honorary trustee (or "ornery trustee," as Roy puts it) and we all look forward to the years ahead.

Jack Harrington (Burlington) will be the new chairman of the Long Trail Patrol Committee. This is good news for the club. The work done by the Patrol is essential to our trail and shelters. The Patrol has primary responsibility for 53 miles of the Long Trail and for 10 shelters. When needed, they also assist the Sections.

Meanwhile, the Burlington Section is holding off on receiving & indexing this collection of documents: "My grandfather, Clarence Cowles, was one of the original founders of the GMC. Do you have a GMC historian whose name and contact information you can send me? Thanks, Alan Cowles, M.D." The Section is waiting for space perhaps in the new Visitors Center where these archives can be safely stored (meaning, totally dry). Several such opportunities arise from year to year. If anyone wants to take over being the section history and archives point of contact, please let me know. ted@ted-albers.net There is plenty of neat archiving work to do.

Shelters Report

2025 Annual Meeting

Steve Titcomb

In mid-May last Spring (2024), David Hathaway informed me that the door on the privy at Butler Lodge had blown off during the winter. He and I met soon after that to go up and try to remount it. Unfortunately, we soon realized that we did not have some necessary tools and fasteners, so we failed to fix it. However, David was able to go back up there to fix the door himself a short time later.

Trails Committee Report

2025 Annual Meeting

Trails Co-Chairs: Scott Albertson & Paul Beliveau

2024 Highlights:

- 4 work outings in May covered the usual stretch of the Long Trail from Rte. 2 to Butler Lodge, along with the regular side Trails. Upper Duck Brook, Nebraska Notch, Clara Bow, Butler Lodge, Wallace Cut-Off, Lake Mansfield.
- 49 total volunteer work days.
- 21 different individuals volunteered (fewer than previous years). Two thirds came out for multiple days with 5 attending all 4 days and 4 more coming 3 times. Very much appreciated!
- We had only 3 new, first-time volunteers, who each did one work trip

Other events;

- Provided assistance to the Montpelier section, with replacement and repair of fence-crossing stile that floated away in the flooding on the LT between Duxbury Road and the Winooski footbridge for a second time in under a year. This effort was led by David Hathaway.

- Multiple firewood stacking events at Bolton Lodge and at the lower woodshed for Bryant Camp

Thank you to everyone who came out to work or to lead a maintenance hike.

2025 outlook

Paul Beliveau has stepped down as co-chair. A big Thanks to Paul for his great work and service over these many years. We will definitely miss him.

Pete Saile Has volunteered to take on the open Co-Chair position for 2025. See separate bio statement.

Significant training needs are anticipated. All our Chainsaw Certifications are expiring and need to be refreshed on both the Game of Logging Sawyer Certification as well as Wilderness First Aid and CPR. The plan is to spread these out over 3 years (2/year pace) and comprises the biggest piece of our Trails budget spending.

The 2025 budget includes getting another set of Chainsaw chaps and Helmet to pair with the third saw along with some maintenance incidentals.

We hope and expect to do more recruiting for our spring trail work days to spread the load and reduce our dependance on the same groups of regulars. Would love to start bringing in younger volunteers to help build for the future. Any help and suggestions people might have here would be welcomed.

2024 Treasurer's Report
Steve Titcomb

Income from memberships and related donations totaled $7,421 which is $540 less than last year, which is slightly less than anticipated. The average for the previous ten years was ($8,603). . The other operating income was from the Lake Monsters game raffle ($130), the annual meeting ($390), Taylor Series ($332), and t-shirt sales ($60). The Burlington Section received a major gift of $24,038 from the estate of Dot Myer.

Given that our operating budget is typically on the order of $8000 for the year, and our total assets were nearly $40,000, we transferred $35,000 to an interest-bearing account managed by the main club. Interest from these funds amounted to $665 by the end of the year. We currently have a bank balance of $4932, and the funds held by the main club total $35,665.

Our Operating Expenses of $8,102 were $1,471 more than last year and $573 less than our budgeted amount. We had budgeted $500 for shelters, but did not use any. For trail maintenance, we budgeted $250, and spent $304. The total expenses for last year's annual meeting came to $1,355 compared to a budgeted amount of $1,000. The annual meeting expenses include a postcard mailing, a fee for use of the venue, an honorarium for the speaker, copying costs, and food. We had allotted $400 for outings, and spent $248. We had allotted $200 for the YAC, but did not spend any. In the education category, we spent $300 of the allotted $500. We hadn't budgeted any funds for special projects, but spent $381 for document preservation and framing. For the Taylor Series we used $50 of the $100 allocated. In the president category we spent $47 of the $100 available.

The treasurer spent $69, which was $44 over budget. $150 allocated to membership was also untouched. The expenses for the website totaled $858 whereas $250 was budgeted. Archives category expenses were $432, and we had budgeted $500.

As usual, the largest expense was printing and postage for Ridgelines, which totaled $4,058 and was near the budgeted amount of $4,500. Ridgelines accounted for approximately half of our total expenses for the year, which is similar to last year. It should be noted that we only published three issues this year compared to the usual four.

The numbers for the proposed 2025 budget are included in the accounting report, and are subject to change pending approval at the annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Titcomb

Treasurer, Green Mountain Club, Burlington Section

Outings Calendar
Spring 2025

Check the website for changes, additions, and cancellations: gmcburlington.org/events. Contact the trip leader for more information about any of these trips. Interested in or have questions about leading trips? Contact outings chair David Hathaway.

March

3/1 (Sat) **Laraway Ice Tour** From the Long Trail parking on Codding Hollow Road we'll follow the Long Trail up to see the ice formations on the rock wall below the Laraway summit, continue to the Laraway Lookout, and return. Microspikes absolutely required, as the ice below the cliffs can be extensive, and snowshoes required since the trail may not be well packed. Moderate to difficult hike/snowshoe. Moderate pace. 4.5 miles. 1600' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 2/27. David Hathaway, david.hathaway.78@gmail.com, 802-899-9982.

3/8 (Sat) **Mt. Moosalamoo** We will follow the delightful Moosalamoo trail from the state park campground as it climbs gently, but firmly, to the summit where there is a limited, but nonetheless thrilling, view north and west. Pet free hike. Moderate Hike/snowshoe. 6 miles. 800' elevation gain. Group limit 8. Mary Lou Recor, mlrecor@myfairpoint.net, 802-660-2834.

3/9 (Sun) **Mt. Hunger & White Rock** from Middlesex we'll do a loop hike over Mt. Hunger and White Rock (via the Middlesex Trail, White Rock Trail, and Bob Kemp Trail). Microspikes and snowshoes with good traction required. Difficult Hike/snowshoe. Moderate pace. 6.5 miles. 2100' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 3/7. Jill George, jillghiker@gmail.com.

April

4/5 (Sat) **Niquette Bay State Park Loop** A hike through the trials of Niquette Bay State Park. Easy to moderate Hike/snowshoe. Relaxed pace. 3.3 miles. 486' elevation gain. Group limit 8. Contact leader by 4/3. Alex Kubala, alexkubala11@gmail.com, 412-719-6371.

4/6 (Sun) **Camels Hump Loop** from the Duxbury trailhead we'll to Wind Gap via the Monroe and Dean trails, then follow the Long Trail to the Camels Hump summit and descend via the Monroe Trail. As for any spring hike, if we run into significant mud season conditions we will cancel or switch to some as of now undetermined plan B. Difficult Hike/snowshoe. Moderate pace. 8.4 miles. 2400' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 4/4. David Hathaway, david.hathaway.78@gmail.com, 802-899-9982.

4/12 (Sat) **Lamoille Valley Rail Trail bicycle** From Cambridge Junction we'll bicycle north along the LVRT (Lamoille Valley Rail Trail) to East Fairfield and return. Moderate Bicycle. Relaxed to moderate pace. 20 miles. 100' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 4/10. Jonathan Breen, ghostman2651@gmail.com, 802-318-8104.

4/19 (Sat) **Sucker Brook Hollow Trail** We will meet at the Sucker Brook Hollow trailhead off of Route 2A and hike to the overlook via the Sucker Brook Hollow Trail. From the overlook, we will take the Five Tree Hill trail all the way to the entrance of Mud Pond. We will go back to the Sucker Hollow trailhead parking lot the way we came. Please leave your canine friends at home. Easy to moderate hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 5 miles. 800' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 4/16. Michael Mortelliti, michaeljmortelliti@gmail.com, 4138845932.

4/27 (Sun) **Spring Comes to Panton Bike Ride** We will meet across from the Panton Town Hall where there is plenty of free parking. From there, we will make our way to the shore of Lake Champlain with stops in Button Bay and Arnold Bay. This is a non-competitive ride for those who like a comfortable pace in good company. Helmets required. 20 miles. Group limit 8. Mary Lou Recor, mlrecor@myfairpoint.net, 802-310-5926.

4/27 (Sun) **Mansfield Toll Road** Hike the Mansfield Toll Road to the visitor center while it's closed to vehicular traffic and return the same way. Good elevation change for a hike during mud season. Moderate Hike. Moderate pace. 9 miles. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 4/25. Lisa Hardy, ndlisa827@aol.com.

May

5/3 (Sat) **Spring Work Trip** Help clear the Long Trail (and some side trails). Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30 AM. Moderate Work hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 5-10 miles. 1000-2000' elevation gain. Scott Albertson, scottalb11@gmail.com. Pete Saile, airhead82@burlingtontelecom.net.

5/4 (Sun) **Shelburne Pond Paddle** We will meet by the boat ramp on the pond access road near the entrance to the H. Laurence Achilles Natural Area. From there we will release our kayaks (or canoes) into Shelburne Pond and paddle around the perimeter of the pond. Easy Paddle. Relaxed pace. ~4 miles. 1' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 5/1. Michael Mortelliti, michaeljmortelliti@gmail.com, 4138845932.

5/4 (Sun) **Lamoille Valley Rail Trail** Starting from Cambridge we'll bicycle the Lamoille Valley Rail trail to Route 15A in Morrisville, with a stop at Lost Nation Brewing in Morrisville on the way back. A fairly long ride, but with very easy grades. Moderate Bicycle. Moderate pace. 35 miles. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 5/2. David Hathaway, david.hathaway.78@gmail.com, 802-899-9982.

5/7 (Wed) **Honey Hollow Loop** A nice loop using logging roads, trail and a dirt road return loop. This affords views through mixed hardwoods and can easily be completed in 2.5 hrs. Please bring H2O, snacks and enthusiasm! Moderate pace. 5.2 miles. Contact leader by 5/5. Pete Saile, airhead82@burlingtontelecom.net.

5/10 (Sat) **Spring Work Trip** Help clear the Long Trail (and some side trails). Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30 AM. Moderate Work hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 5-10 miles. 1000-2000' elevation gain. Scott Albertson, scottalb11@gmail.com. Pete Saile, airhead82@burlingtontelecom.net.

5/11 (Sun) **Mother's Day on Isle LaMotte Bike Ride** We begin this ride in North Hero and end there too. In between, we will drink in the pastoral beauty of Isle LaMotte. This is a non-competitive ride for those who wish to savor a day in good company. Helmets and patience required. 29 miles. Group limit 8. Mary Lou Recor, mlrecor@myfairpoint.net, 802-310-5926.

5/17 (Sat) **Spring Work Trip** Help clear the Long Trail (and some side trails). Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30 AM. Moderate Work hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 5-10 miles. 1000-2000' elevation gain. Scott Albertson, scottalb11@gmail.com. Pete Saile, airhead82@burlingtontelecom.net.

5/18 (Sun) **Pease Mountain Loop** We will meet in the Charlotte Central School parking lot by the trailhead known as ""Entrance Trail"". We will take the Lower Loop trail to the Upper Loop trail to the summit and close the two loops on the descent. Please leave your canine friends at home. Easy to moderate Hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. ~4.5 miles. 750' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 5/15. Michael Mortelliti, michaeljmortelliti@gmail.com, 4138845932.

5/24 (Sat) **Spring Work Trip** Help clear the Long Trail (and some side trails). Bring work gloves, lunch, water. Tools provided or bring your own. Meet at Richmond Park & Ride (Exit 11) at 8:30 AM. Moderate work hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 5-10 miles. 1000-2000' elevation gain. Scott Albertson, scottalb11@gmail.com. Pete Saile, airhead82@burlingtontelecom.net.

5/31 (Sat) **Stowe Pinnacle** We will meet at the Stowe Pinnacle Trailhead in the Pinnacle parking lot. Please note that this is the parking lot off of Upper Hollow Road and not Pinnacle Meadow Road. We will do an out-and-back hike along the Stowe Pinnacle trail. Please leave your canine friends at home. Moderate to difficult hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 3.5 miles. 1600' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 5/28. Michael Mortelliti, michaeljmortelliti@gmail.com, 4138845932.

June

6/14 (Sat) **Charlotte Town Link Trail (with a potential Mt. Philo summit?)** We will meet at the western trailhead in the grassy parking lot off of Common Way Road. We will do an out-and-back on the Charlotte Town Link Trail to the base of Mt. Philo State Park passing through some nice forests, a vineyard, and a little patch of wetlands. Please keep you canine friends at home. Easy hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 5 miles. 200' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 6/11. Michael Mortelliti, michaeljmortelliti@gmail.com, 4138845932.

6/15 (Sun) **Spruce Peak Hike** We'll hike up a ski trail on Spruce Peak in Stowe and look for wildflowers that bloom near the summer solstice. Moderate hike. Relaxed pace. 4 miles. 1600' elevation gain. Rich Larsen, larsen007@aol.com.

6/15 (Sun) **Mt. Abraham** Hike the Long Trail north from Lincoln Gap to the summit of Mount Abraham. There are some steep rock sections near the summit. May extend the hike along the ridge to Lincoln Peak depending on trail conditions, adding 1.6 miles. Moderate to difficult hike. Moderate pace. 5.2 to 6.8 miles. 1600' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Jill George, jillghiker@gmail.com.

6/21 (Sat) **Intro to Corridor Monitoring** I will shamelessly exploit your help as I monitor the boundaries of the GMC's Melzer tract of land, which includes Tillotson Peak and the approach to Belvidere. From Tillotson Road we'll bushwhack along the parcel boundary, checking the boundary flagging and blazing and looking for incursions. Will include informal practice and training in map & compass and following a compass bearing, for those interested. Moderate to difficult hike. Relaxed to moderate pace. 5 to 10 miles. Group limit 6. Contact leader by 6/19. David Hathaway, david.hathaway.78@gmail.com, 802-899-9982.

6/22 (Sun) **Libby's Lookout** Hike in the Preston Pond conservation area of West Bolton to Libby's Lookout. Easy hike. Relaxed pace. 3-4 miles. 500' elevation gain. Group limit 12. Contact leader by 6/20. Jonathan Breen, ghostman2651@gmail.com, 802-318-8104.

6/28 (Sat) **Long Trail Section Hike: Camel's Hump via Bamforth Ridge** This is a strenuous out-and-back starting from the Duxbury window trail parking lot off of Duxbury Road. We will follow the Long Trail up Bamforth Ridge to the top of Camel's Hump. We will do a little loop descending down the Alpine Trail passing by the remnants of a downed airplane before continuing the descent back on Bamforth Ridge. Please leave your canine friends at home. Difficult hike. Moderate pace. 13.6 miles. 4500' elevation gain. Group limit 10. Contact leader by 6/25. Michael Mortelliti, michaeljmortelliti@gmail.com, 4138845932.

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- Website – Corinn Julow
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