



**Green Mountain Club
MONTPELIER SECTION**

**Annual Meeting
Friday, April 10, 2015
Christ Church, Montpelier**

5:30 p.m.: Social Hour
6:00 p.m.: Potluck Dinner
7:00 p.m.: Annual Meeting
8:00 p.m.: Slide Show (John Buddington and Kathy Gohl, "180 Miles on the John Muir Trail")

Note: Your handout includes the minutes of 2014 annual meeting and written reports from the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, and Trails & Shelters Coordinator; the Director reports quarterly in Trail Talk.

Annual Meeting Agenda

Welcome (Reidun Nuquist)

Greetings from the Green Mountain Club (Jean Haigh and Mike DeBonis)

Old Business

1. Approval of minutes of 2014 annual meeting
2. President's report (Reidun Nuquist)
3. Treasurer's report and proposed budget for FY 2016 (Ken Hertz)
4. Trails and Shelters Coordinator's report (Fred Jordan)
5. Membership Coordinator's report (Christie Carter)
6. Vice President's report and annual awards (Kathy Gohl)

New Business

1. Nominating Committee report (Manny Garcia)
2. Other new business, announcements

Montpelier Section officers, 2014–2015

Elected: Reidun Nuquist (President), Kathy Gohl (Vice President), Kenneth Hertz (Treasurer), Steve Lightholder (Secretary), Fred Jordan (Trails and Shelters Coordinator), Christie Carter (Membership Coordinator), Michael Wetherell (Director), Eric Seidel (Alternate Director).

Appointed: John Buddington (Webmaster), Nancy Jordan (*Trail Talk* Editor), Kevin Ryan (Publicity Coordinator).

President's Report, 2015

As the Montpelier Section enters its 60th year, it continues to hold its place as the second largest section of the Green Mountain Club—only Burlington is bigger. Granted, only a fraction of our 375 members (571 voting members) are visible, that is, attend meetings, join outings, or lead trips. If you have not yet hit the trail with us, let us know what kind of outing might appeal to you. We are grateful for your membership, but would like to get to know you better!

Over the past year, we held two membership meetings to draw out more members. In October, our special guest was Mike DeBonis, GMC's executive director. In January, we put on our first *All Stars Show: Our Favorite Outdoor Places*, a slideshow by members for members, directed by Mike Wetherell, at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Last year, we also made our second appearance at the Farmers Market, where Montpelierites—and others—meet on Saturday mornings. We plan to be there again this year, with another information table.

The Young Adventurers Club (YAC) and the Trekkers are section groups that appeal to different demographics. YAC is for young families who wish to instill a love of the outdoors in their children. The Trekkers appeal to (mostly) retired members who go on their own adventures on week days.

The Montpelier Section is lucky to have a core of dedicated officers, most of whom have served in various capacities over the years: Vice President Kathy Gohl, Trails and Shelters Coordinator Fred Jordan, Treasurer Ken Hertz, Secretary Steve Lightholder, and Membership Coordinator Christie Carter.

Just as important to the running of the section are our three appointed officers. Webmaster John Buddington, with help from Ken Hertz, maintains our website where you can find all you ever wanted to know about the Montpelier Section. Publicity Coordinator Kevin Ryan makes sure section events get public attention. This year he added Front Porch Forum, the neighborhood e-mail list, to his “press” list. If you shop at Onion River Sports, you may have seen his handy trifold that lists upcoming events. Editor Nancy Jordan has been putting together *Trail Talk* for 16 years and is simply irreplaceable!

2015 promises to be a busy year for us. In addition to seasonal trail work in Smugglers' Notch and on Bamforth Ridge, we anticipate a major trail relocation in connection with the new Winooski River footbridge. We shall also be working on new trails in Smugglers' Notch. If you haven't tried trail work yet, I encourage you to join us and experience the great camaraderie that goes with it.

And you must all plan to join us on the *shortest* hike of the year, when we again unfurl the 27-foot-long Long Trail banner and march in Montpelier's annual Independence Day parade on July 3.

Reidun Nuquist
President

Treasurer's Report (continued) and Budget Information

The Fiscal Year begins April 1 and is named for the year in which it ends. FY 2015 begins April 1, 2014, and ends March 30, 2015. The budget authorizes the treasurer to pay the named expenses.

Reserve Policy (adopted May 30, 2013). The checking account is to contain 150% of the Section's operational budget at the start of every fiscal year as an operational reserve; and \$3,000 to be kept in savings (CDs) as an emergency reserve. In practice, this is estimated at the winter EC meeting and may limit the budgeted annual donation to GMC.

Actual expenses for given Fiscal Year, as reported at section annual meeting.

Item	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Annual mtg.	192	225	295	482	331	270	527	311	299	300
<i>Trail Talk</i>	732	759	876	833	827	814	784	846	943	1,002
Taylor series	175	125	140	637	222	260	164	259	251	84
Trails	192	112	228	156	121	203	0	26		149
Website	215	191	95		220	100	85	199	110	111
Training	270	330	420		0	90	360	95		
Misc., postage	210	269	162	220	16	14	19	9	14	46
Additions					101	126	95	0	0	0
Special projects	110	3,035	362	506		596	0	0	0	0
Op total	2,096	5,046	2,578	2,834	1,838	2,473	2,034	1,745	1,617	1,692
GMC			300	1,000	1,000	1,500	5,000	2,000	6,000	2,300

Notes on expenses

Annual mtg.	Room rental, refreshments, supplies , awards, honorarium
<i>Trail Talk</i>	Postage and printing.
Taylor series	Room rental (no rent when at GMC), refreshments, supplies, honorarium
Trails	Tool purchase and repair
Website	Hosting, domain name registration; tools [software?]
Training	Mostly for SOLO first aid course. Trip leaders are encouraged to take the course.
Misc., postage	Postage, supplies, posters, copying, banners, bandanas, bank fees, PO Box rental
Additions	Additions to approved budget, approved by president and/or EC
Special projects	Examples: GMC annual meeting, section anniversary celebration, shelters
GMC	Donation to GMC

Treasurer's Report (2015) and Budget Proposal (2016)

Income	2015 Budgeted	2015 Actual	2016 Proposed
Dues	4,200	5,095	4,285
Donations	0	200	0
Taylor series	100	34	0
Interest	10	22	30
Product sales	0	6	0
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>4,310</i>	<i>5,357</i>	<i>4,315</i>

Expenses

Annual meeting	400	75	250
Communications, <i>Trail Talk</i>	1,100	956	1,300
Taylor series	300	16	0
Trails & Shelters	200	0	200
Website	220	229	220
Training	380	0	380
Misc. supplies & postage	100	65	100
Additions	—	100	—
<i>Total Operating Budget</i>	<i>2,700</i>	<i>1,441</i>	<i>2,450</i>
Donation to GMC	3,000	3,000	2,000
Immediate donation to GMC			2,000
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>5,700</i>	<i>4,441</i>	<i>6,450</i>

Account Status	Start FY	End FY
Checking	3,765	6,000
CD, TD Bank	2,461	
CD, TD Bank	2,011	
CD VSECU		3,022
VSECU		100
Total Cash Assets	8,237	9,122

Note: How much can we give the GMC right now: “Available surplus” = \$6,000 – 150% of \$2,450 = \$6,000 – \$3,675 = \$2,325.

Per motion from the floor, the first \$2,000 donation to GMC is earmarked for the Winooski Bridge project.

Trails and Shelters Coordinator's Report, 2015

The Montpelier Section maintains the Long Trail on Bamforth Ridge from Gorham Spring to the Winooski River and from Smugglers' Notch to Chilcoat Pass, as well as the Bamforth Ridge and Sterling Pond Shelters.

During the 2014 trail work season, section trail workers volunteered an amazing 246 hours. Thanks to all for your help. I hope this trend continues in 2015. These hours were divided between:

Scouting:

Bamforth Ridge	14 hours
Stowe	15 hours

Work Hikes:

Bamforth Ridge	102 hours
Sterling Pond	85 hours
Barnes Camp	30 hours

It is important for us to keep track of all scheduled and unscheduled trail work and the hours worked. The main club uses this information in many ways, including as a basis for fund raising. Any additional hours of trail work not performed as part of a work hike should also be reported to me, jordanfn29@gmail.com, to be included in my reports.

Also, beginning with the 2015 trail work season, I shall use new sign up forms.

I am looking forward to your help with the upcoming work hikes this spring:

Bamforth Ridge, May 9
Smugglers' Notch, May 16

Fred Jordan
Trails and Shelters Coordinator

Membership Report, 2015

Our membership has held steady through recent years, at well over 300 memberships (and over 500 voting members).

Membership Counts

	2004 (Oct)	2009 (Dec)	2010 (Nov)	2011 (Nov)	2012 (Mar)	2013 (Mar)	2014 (Mar)	2015 (Mar)
Business-\$100				1	2	2	1	
Business-\$150					1	3	3	3
Business-\$250							1	1
Complimentary*	8	7	10	12	13	12	11	11
Defender		8	3	5	6	5	10	21
Dual life		4	4	5	5	5	6	7
Family transfer	5							
Family	108	105	116	123	137	137	136	133
Friend		25	31	24	26	35	31	39
Group								1
Guardian		1	1	1	1		2	1
Individual transfer	5							
Individual	176	129	132	138	155	132	128	136
Life	9	11	11	11	10	9	9	10
Protector	4	10	12	14	19	19	11	4
Sponsor transfer	1							
Sponsor	12	14	7	12	11	6	6	6
Steward				2	2	2	1	2
Members (total):	327	313	326	347	387	367	356	375
Voting members:	NA**	NA	NA	515	576	558	543	571

*We no longer offer complimentary memberships as a way of receiving our quarterly newsletter for free because *Trail Talk* is now available online at our website. We do, however, continue to send complimentary copies of *Trail Talk* to presidents of other GMC sections, all section newsletter editors, and to the GMC archives at the Vermont Historical Society.

** Not available.

Section Business Members are:

Old Stagecoach Inn
Onion River Sports
Stowe Cabins
West Hill House B&B

Christie Carter
Membership Coordinator

Outings Report, 2015

From April 2014 through March 2015, GMC Montpelier members led and attended 66 section events. Of these outings, 4 were work hikes, 1 was a YAC event, and 19 were Trekkers events. The total also included 29 hikes and road walks (the same number as last year), 2 paddles (compared with 3 last year), 13 bike trips (4 last year), 7 snowshoes (4 last year), and 11 ski trips (8 last year). In addition, 6 events were canceled because of bad weather or insufficient interest. The significant growth in the number of bike and ski trips is thanks mainly to the energetic Trekkers. They have certainly brought a renewed vigor to the outings calendar.

An unusual event this year was Manny Garcia's history walk last April in Moretown, complete with old photographs of now-defunct dams and power plants. Manny will be doing another history walk this year, on May 7, in East Montpelier. Another was a moonlight snowshoe, led by Jill Aspinall, in early February. Some of the most adventurous events this year were led once again by Phyllis Rubenstein, who, on a cold February day, took a group of 5 cross-country skiing from Highland Lodge to Craftsbury, and also, in high bug season, led a hike up Porter and Cascade Mountains in the Adirondacks.

Again, Mike Wetherell and Lexi Shear of the Young Adventurers Club led the most popular outing, an April ramble to the Grand Lookout in Barre Town Forest, which attracted 21 kids and parents. Among the older adventurers, Ken Hertz led the most popular trip, with 14 people hiking up Spruce Mountain in mid-October. A close second was Mary Garcia's trip in mid-January to the Craftsbury Touring Center with 12 folks. A tie for third with 11 participants was George Longenecker and Cynthia Martin's wildflower hike to Little River State Park in May, and Steve Lightholder's ramble on Millstone Hill in Barre. Generally, however, this year's average attendance per trip was 5.5, with a median attendance of 5.

Reidun and Andrew Nuquist far and away led the most trips with 20; Mary Garcia and Mary Smith were second with a total of 10 bike and ski trips.

Mary Garcia was the most active participant: she went on 11 trips (aside from the 10 she led); Mary Smith 10; Steve Lightholder and Michael Chernick 9; Manny Garcia, Anne Miller, Andrew Nuquist, Reidun Nuquist, and a new member, Steve Bailey, 8.

We thank all of our trip leaders and trail workers. We especially thank trail workers, who this year included Steve Bailey, John Buddington, Michael Chernick, Gordie Hall, Ken Hertz, Morgan Irons, Steve Lightholder, Robert Lorenz, George Longenecker, Andrew Nuquist, Reidun Nuquist, Alan Paschell, Eric Seidel, and Pat Travers, among others. Trip leaders in 2014–15 included Jill Aspinall, Heather Bailey, Steve Bailey, Charlene Bohl, John Buddington, Michael Chernick, Paul DeLuca, Manny Garcia, Mary Garcia, Kathy Gohl, Ken Hertz, Fred Jordan, Steve Lightholder, George Longenecker, Cynthia Martin, Andrew Nuquist, Reidun Nuquist, George Plumb, Phyllis Rubenstein, Donna Russo, Mary Smith, Eric Seidel, Lexi Shear, and Mike Wetherell.

Kathryn Gohl
Vice President

Nominating Committee Report, 2015

The Nominating Committee of the Green Mountain Club, Montpelier Section, recommends the following candidates for nomination at the 2015 section annual meeting:

President: Reidun Nuquist

Vice President: Kathy Gohl

Membership Coordinator: Christie Carter

Treasurer: Ken Hertz

Secretary/LTN Reporter: Steve Lightholder

~~Trails and Shelters Coordinator: Fred Jordan~~ (withdrew)

Trails and Shelters Coordinator, Steve Bailey (nominated from the floor)

GMC Director: Mike Wetherell

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Martin
Manny Garcia
Ann Burcroff