

**Green Mountain Club
Montpelier Section**

**Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 28, 2018**

4:30 pm Optional river walk

5:30 pm Social hour

6:00 pm Potluck dinner

7:00 pm Annual meeting

8:00 pm Mike DeBonis: Wool Knickers and White Blazes: A Retro Hike on the Long Trail

Note: Your handout includes 2017 Annual Meeting minutes and written reports from the President, Treasurer, Webmaster, Membership Coordinator, and Trails and Shelters Coordinator, plus an Outings Report. The Director reports quarterly in Trail Talk.

Annual Meeting Agenda

Welcome: Steve Bailey

Greetings from the Green Mountain Club: Michael DeBonis, GMC Executive Director and John Page, GMC President

Old Business

1. Approval of 2017 annual meeting minutes
2. President's Report: Steve Bailey
3. Treasurer's report and proposed budget for FY 2019: Morgan Irons
4. Trails and Shelters Coordinator's report: Andrew Nuquist
5. Webmaster's report: John Buddington
6. Membership Coordinator's report: Linda Trono
7. Outings report and annual awards: Ken Hertz

New Business

1. Nominating committee report
2. Bylaw change for date of annual meeting
3. Other new business, announcements

Election of Montpelier Section officers 2018-19

- President: Steve Bailey
- Vice President: Ken Hertz
- Treasurer: Morgan Irons
- Secretary: Phyllis Rubenstein
- Membership Coordinator: Linda Trono
- Trails & Shelters Coordinator: Alan Paschell
- GMC Director: George Longenecker
- GMC Alternate Director: Andrew Nuquist

**MINUTES OF THE
MONTPELIER SECTION ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2017**

The Montpelier Section of the Green Mountain Club held its 62nd annual meeting on April 8, 2016, at Christ Church in Montpelier.

Following a social time and potluck dinner, Section president Steven Bailey called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. in traditional fashion by banging a wooden spoon on the old camp coffee pot. Steve welcomed all, including special guests Mike DeBonis, GMC Executive Director, and John Page, GMC President and Montpelier Section Member.

Mike said the club has a full complement of caretakers and volunteer members of the Long Trail patrol. There is also a full time construction crew. Work on Bryant Cabin was completed in the beginning of the winter and it opened on January 1st. It has had almost 70% occupancy. This year, the crew will work on Bolton Lodge and the Smuggler's Notch relocation. Mike told us that over 600 people have "hiked" over 9,000 miles of the Long Trail at the Berlin Mall!

John said the main club has almost 10,000 members, of which 40% are section members and 60% are general members. The GMC is one of the largest non-profit membership organizations in the state. Of the 14 sections, the Montpelier section is one of the biggest and healthiest. He described the role of the main club and its interaction with the sections, as well as the growth of the club over the past 40 years. Last year the main club made changes in committees and how the board and staff work together. There is now a working group studying the relationship between the main club and the sections. Last year the main club had a budget surplus and paid off its debt. The Annual Meeting will be June 9 to 11 in Starksboro and all members are welcome to attend.

Old Business

1. The minutes of the 2016 meeting were approved.
2. Steve Bailey, in his president's report, highlighted events of the past year, including a presentation by Alan Paschell and Morgan Irons on their trips to the 100 Mile Wilderness, the story telling program organized by Mike Wetherell in January ("Let me tell you about the time. . ."), Reidun and Andrew Nuquist's Taylor Series' presentation last year on hiking the British Isles, Steve and Heather Bailey's Taylor Series' slide show this year on the Worcester Range and Reidun Nuquist's multiple presentations of the "Women in the Green Mountains." He also noted that Sharon Plumb had rejuvenated the YAC group, thanked everyone who participated in the three work hikes last year, acknowledged the work of all of the officers and committee chairpersons, encouraged members to volunteer to lead trips and noted that mid-week events are sponsored by the Trekkers, which has a mailing list maintained by Nancy Jordan.

3. Treasurer Morgan Irons reported at the annual meeting last year, the section approved a contribution of up to \$4,000 to the main club. She sent the main club \$4000 without first applying the 150% rule (that we keep at least 150% of our operating expenses on hand). We do not have the surplus on hand as required by the 150% rule. Ken Hertz moved to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded and passed.

4. Trails and Shelters Coordinator Andrew Nuquist said there remains a road walk of 8/10 of a mile on River Road. South of Gleason Brook Bridge there is a ditch which needs to be shoveled out every year. He is looking for a reroute. He is hoping to build the board walk north of Barnes Camp in Smuggler's Notch, referred to by Mike DeBonis.

5. Membership Coordinator Christie Carter reported that the membership is relatively steady, although down a bit with 352 memberships and 519 voting members.

6. Vice president Sharon Plumb reported that 18 people lead trips and thanked those volunteers. Last year, we had a total of 59 trips and 123 participants from ages 6 months to over 80. In addition to 3 work hikes, there were hikes, road walks, kayak trips and trail magic provided on the Long Trail. Prizes were awarded to Alan Paschell, who went on all three work trips, Andrew Nuquist and Linda Trono, who each went on 17 trips, Reidun Nuquist, who led 11 trips, and Phyllis Rubenstein, who won the door prize. April 10 is the deadline for signing up to lead summer trips.

New Business

1. Jill Aspinall, for the Nomination Committee (consisting of Charlene Bohl and George Longenecker), presented a slate of officers: Present, Steve Bailey; Vice president, Sharon Plumb; Membership Coordinator, Linda Trono; Treasurer, Morgan Irons; secretary, Phyllis Rubenstein; and Trails and Shelter Coordinator, Andrew Nuquist. There were no nominations from the floor. Michael Chernick moved to approve the slate by a single ballot. The motion was passed.

2. On a motion by Jill Aspinall, which was seconded by Heather Bailey, the meeting was adjourned.

Following adjournment, Sharon Plumb presented a program of beautiful slides and wonderful stories of her hike with her husband on the Tour du Mont Blanc and Cinque Terre.

Respectfully submitted on April 20, 2017,
Phyllis Rubenstein, Secretary

President's Report, 2018

This has been another successful year for the Montpelier section of the GMC. We have had two membership meetings to attract new members. In November the theme was "best trails, worst trails, most interesting trails". Members shared stories of their favorite (and least favorite!) places to hike. In January Lexi Shear and her daughter gave a wonderful presentation about their end-to-end hike of the Long Trail. They filled the T. W. Wood Gallery to capacity.

Reidun Nuquist has not been idle this past year (nor would we expect her to be!). She had great success last year with her talks about the "Women of the Green Mountains". 2017 also saw the publication of her latest masterpiece, "A Century of Long Trail Guidebooks: A Retrospective". Her book makes a great companion volume with the centennial edition of the Long Trail Guide.

In March, the section continued its tradition of hosting a program in the *James P Taylor Outdoor Adventure Series*. This year we supported local teacher Susan Koch in her talk about going to the Arctic Circle on the National Geographic ship. The section donated the take from refreshments to the GMC.

Trail work continues to be a focus for a core of dedicated people. Thanks to everyone who has participated in our spring and fall work hikes. We had very good numbers this year on our work hikes. Next month will be a key time as new trails are opened up around Barnes Camp.

We could not succeed as an organization without our elected and appointed officers. I wish to recognize the contributions of Vice President Sharon Plumb, Trails and Shelters Coordinator Andrew Nuquist, Treasurer Morgan Irons, Secretary Phyllis Rubenstein, and Membership Coordinator Linda Trono. They are essential to the workings of our section.

Our appointed officers have done a wonderful job. I want to thank Nancy Jordan for editing the Trail Talk for the past 19 years. John Buddington has been the webmaster supreme, always looking for ways to improve the web site, ably assisted by Ken Hertz. We're not sure exactly how many years Kevin Ryan has been tirelessly publicizing our events, but some say that this year is number 10. His efforts have been very helpful in attracting people to our events.

This year the GMC club is having its 108th annual meeting at the beautiful Hulbert Outdoor Center in Fairlee, VT, about an hour southeast of here. I encourage as many people as possible to attend this meeting, as the Montpelier section, along with the Sterling section, will be hosting this event next year. There is a board meeting on the afternoon of Friday, June 1, but the main events are the business meeting Saturday morning followed in the afternoon by a variety of hikes, a bike ride, and a paddle on the Connecticut River. You may stay for dinner or even stay overnight in a cabin or your own tent if you choose. There is a Saturday night speaker, author Stephen Gorman, who made a three-week dogsled expedition over sea ice with the Inughuit, or Polar Eskimos. Please visit the GMC website, greenmountainclub.org, for more details or to register.

Our club does face challenges in the years ahead. The median age of members continues to edge ever higher, and younger people with jobs and families seem to need more encouragement than ever to take part in group activities. I would like to encourage people who have not led a trip before to seriously consider leading a trip to one of their favorite locations. It is a great way to meet new people and have fun at the same time!

Steve Bailey
President

FY18 Budget Report, and Proposed Budget for FY19 (April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019)

INCOME

	2017 Actual	2018 Approved	2018 Actual	2019 Proposed
Dues	4,075.00	3,500	4,761.25	4,000
Donations	0	-	-	-
Taylor series	0	-	-	-
Interest & dividends	61.10	55	56.53	2
Product sales	0	-	-	-
Total Income	4,136.10	3,555	4,817.78	4,002

FY18: 1.67 savings interest, 54.86 CD dividends

EXPENSES

	2017 Actual	2018 Approved	2018 Actual	2019 Proposed
Annual meeting	239.95	400	270.06	400
Communications	1237.38	1,500	1,070.25	1,500
Taylor series	29.50	-	-	30
Trails & shelters	122.56	150	75.35	200
Website	126.32	150	163.88	150
Training	0	220	170.00	250
Misc. supplies, postage	103.88	100	-	100
Additions	657.99	200	-	200
Total operating budget	2,517.58	2,720	1,749.54	2,830
Donation to GMC	4,000.00	-	-	4,000
Total Expenses	6,517.58	2,720	1,749.54	6,830

FY18: TT printing & postage (900.25), section meeting rentals (170.00.)

FY18: \$970 under budget

ACCOUNTS

<u>Account balances end FY18</u>	<u>Anticipated FY19 account transactions</u>
VSECU Checking 4,117.38	plus (4,000. section dues) minus (2,830. operating expenses + 816. GMC donation) = 4,471. end-of-FY19 balance
VSECU Savings 1,670.13	plus (approximately 2. interest) minus (25. minimum balance) = 1647. end-of-FY19 available balance
VSECU CD (1.74%) 3,183.59	minus (3,184. GMC donation) = 0 end-of-FY19 balance
Total Cash Assets 8,971.10	6,118. anticipated available funds at end-of-FY19

TREASURER'S NARRATIVE

The Montpelier Section typically keeps on hand 150% of our projected operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year (\$2830 x 150% = \$4245 for FY19); and we donate surplus funds to the GMC for their ongoing work, or earmark them for a special project. We have also had an "emergency" fund in the form of a five-year CD for several years.

After much discussion the Executive Committee is recommending that our CD be cashed in (\$3184 current balance) and donated to the GMC. Adding another \$816 from our checking account would bring our GMC donation to an even \$4000 for the coming year.

This will leave our section with approximately \$1500 more than we usually keep on hand. I recommend this surplus because we will be hosting the 2019 GMC Annual Meeting, and being able to pay associated costs directly from our own funds will make this undertaking easier.

*Respectfully submitted,
Morgan Irons, Treasurer*

**Green Mountain Club, Montpelier Section
Trails and Shelters Report
April 28, 2018**

Trails and Shelters Responsibility

Trails:

Long Trail from south end of Winooski River footbridge to the intersection with the Alpine Trail on Camels Hump.

Long Trail from Barnes Camp on Route 108 in Stowe to Chilcoat Pass.
Sterling Pond Trail.

Shelters:

Bamforth Ridge Shelter
Sterling Pond Shelter

Scheduled Montpelier Section work done 2017 – 2018:

May 13, 2017:

14 volunteers worked on Bamforth Ridge 96.25 hours plus 28 hours travel time for a total of 124.25 hours volunteered.

May 20, 2017:

11 volunteers worked in Stowe from Barnes Camp to Sterling Pond Shelter 59 hours plus 15 hours travel time for a total of 74 hours volunteered.

October 14, 2017:

12 volunteers worked north from Barnes Camp in Stowe 59 hours plus 18 hours travel time for a total of 77 hours volunteered.

October 21, 2017:

10 volunteers worked on Bamforth Ridge for 37.5 hours plus 12 hours travel time for a total of 49.5 hours volunteered.

Other Work:

Adopters Steve Titcomb, Morgan Irons, Alan Paschell, Andrew and Reidun Nuquist, Dana Lawrence, and Nancy Thomas reported working on various dates; as did John Buddington and Ira Sollace. Other adopters and individuals worked, but did not record their efforts with the section.

Spring 2018 Scheduled Work Dates:

May 12 (May 13 rain date):

Bamforth Ridge including relocating the Long Trail to avoid the so-called “big dig”. The relocation plus routine spring clean-up to prepare the LT for the 2018 hiking season will require a large volunteer turn out to complete the work in one day. Paid GMC field staff will be present to work with the section on the relocation. This is a special event that should appeal to section members and others interested in helping to relocate a section of the LT.

May 19 (May 20 rain date):

Long Trail north from Barnes Camp in Stowe. This is another special event that will involve the Montpelier and Burlington Sections, GMC staff, Stowe Mountain Resort, the State Highway Department, State Forests, Parks, and Recreation, and the Lamoille County Planning Commission. (See *Trail Talk*, Spring 2018, p. 7, to understand the extent and complexity of the task.) With enough help, your help, the day should end with the LT established and marked in its new and permanent location.

Other: (repeated from 2017 report)

Additional volunteer workers of all ages would allow us to get more done during the year, and would ease the demands on our core of regular volunteers. We have tasks that are easy, such as clearing debris out of water bars, and tasks that are difficult such as moving rocks – and everything in between. We will show you what to do, and allow you to set your pace and duration.

When you hike or work independently, the Trails and Shelters Committee would appreciate knowing of any trail problems you observe or correct. Note that the GMC uses volunteer time as match for grant funds, so it is important to report your independent work hours to the club.

For the Trails and Shelters Committee
Andrew Nuquist, Coordinator

Web Site Report (John Buddington, Webmaster)

The domain name **gmcmontpelier.org** was claimed by the section on 10 March 2003. The website has persisted in much the same format for 15 years. Over the years we have added trip reports, a calendar, and a mailing list. Current trip reports and much of the section's archives is now online.

This year we added new components to the website:

Current events This augments the events schedule. Recent events are shown at the top with links to the accompanying report. The schedule for the remainder of the quarter is shown below a band of randomly-selected trip photos.

Search All the trip reports and archives are searched and an index of keywords is always available. Eventually, the entire site will be indexed. Search and Current events both provide a popup of the actual trip report when your cursor 'hovers' over the 'report' image.

GMC Calendar We now share our calendar with the Green Mountain Club Google calendar.

Current statistics

- Reports for events in 2017-2018: 50
- Pages which have been indexed: 1,227
- Keywords which you can search for: 14,744
- Years of archives added: 49
- Photos: 1,771

Membership Report 2018

Our membership has held steady through recent years, at well over 300 memberships (and over 450 voting members).

Membership Counts

	2010 (Nov)	2011 (Nov)	2012 (Mar)	2013 (Mar)	2014 (Mar)	2015 (Mar)	2016	2017	2018 (Mar)
Business--\$100		1	2	2	1				
Business--\$150			1	3	3	3	2	3	3
Business--\$250					1	1	2	1	
Complimentary *	10	12	13	12	11	11	10	6	5
Defender	3	5	6	5	10	21	23	20	18
Dual life	4	5	5	5	6	7	8	8	7
Family transfer									
Family	116	123	137	137	136	133	131	119	94
Friend	31	24	26	35	31	39	35	40	39
Group						1	2	1	
Guardian	1	1	1		2	1	2	3	4
Individual	132	138	155	132	128	136	135	130	118
Life	11	11	10	9	9	10	10	10	10
Protector	12	14	19	19	11	4	4	6	9
Sponsor transfer									
Sponsor	7	12	11	6	6	6	7	4	12
Steward		2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
Members (total):	326	347	387	367	356	375	373	352	320
Voting members:	NA**	515	576	558	543	571	561	519	478

*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

Linda Trono, Membership Coordinator

Outings Report, 2018

This year we again had lots of great trips for people of many different abilities and ages. There were road walks, summer and winter hikes up local mountains, a paddle on the Green River Reservoir, cross country ski trips, and lots of bike rides to places all over Vermont.

Here are the trips by numbers, from April 2017 through March 2018:

- 53 trips were held throughout the year
- 12 GMC members led or co-led the outings
- 123 different participants went on trips
- 4 work hikes were held at Smuggler's Notch and Bamforth Ridge
- 18 hikes or road walks
- 22 bike rides
- 1 paddle
- 1 Trail Magic day
- 3 ski trips
- 5 snowshoe or microspike trips

Looking through the numbers, we find that:

- Our **most active trail workers** were John Buddington, Ken Hertz, Andrew Nuquist, and Alan Paschell. Each went to all four work hikes. 24 people participated in at least one work hike.
- George Plumb **participated in the most trips** (21), closely followed by his cycling friend Bill Frantz (20). Steve Bailey (18), Heather Bailey (14) and Mary Garcia (13) round out the top five.
- George Plumb was also our **most active trip leader**, with an amazing 17 trips. (Last year's most active only led 11). Next were Steve and Heather Bailey (11), Phyllis Rubenstein (7) and Mary Garcia (6)
- The **most popular trip** was Steve and Heather Bailey's Millstone Quarry hike with 24 participants. Next was the ever-popular Groton wildflower hike, where George Longenecker and Cynthia Martin had 18. Also noteworthy were Steve and Heather's winter White Rock hike (14), the May Bamforth Ridge work hike (14), Morgan Irons' winter Laraway hike (12) and Mary Garcia's Berlin Pond walk (10).

We are grateful to all of our trip leaders, who in 2017-18 included Heather Bailey, Steve Bailey, Mary Garcia, Morgan Irons, George Longenecker, Cynthia Martin, Andrew Nuquist, John Page, Alan Paschell, and Phyllis Rubenstein.

Our numbers of trips and different leaders are down somewhat from last year, when we had 59 trips with 18 leaders. Please consider leading a trip in the coming year. We need new people to continue offering the variety of trips that attract people to the club!

GMC Montpelier Section
Nominating Committee Report
April 28, 2018, Annual Meeting

The Nominating Committee of the Montpelier Section nominates the following candidates for the following offices for election at the Section's 2018 Annual Meeting:

President: Steve Bailey (3rd Year)
Vice President: Ken Hertz (1st year)
Treasurer: Morgan Irons (3rd year)
Secretary: Phyllis Rubenstein (2nd year)
Membership Coordinator: Linda Trono (2nd year)
Trails and Shelters Coordinator: Alan Paschell (1st year)
GMC Director: George Longenecker (1st year, 1st 3 year term)
Alternate GMC Director: Andrew Nuquist (1st year, 1st 3 year term)

Section officers are elected for one year terms, and may serve three consecutive terms, except that Director and Alternate Director are elected for three year terms and may serve two consecutive three year terms.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bohl
Cynthia Martin
Andrew Nuquist

Section Editor, Publicity Coordinator, and Webmaster are appointed or re-appointed yearly by the Montpelier Section's Executive Committee for as many terms as the Executive Committee chooses.

The Section's Trails and Shelters Committee, of at least three members, chaired by the Section's Trails and Shelters Coordinator, is appointed by the Section's Executive Committee.