

Smoke & Blazes

Volume 70, Number 2

Killington Section, Green Mountain Club

June 2017



Visit with an inquisitive llama in Middletown Springs on our Maple Open-House Weekend hike

Killington Section Directors:

Term expiration 2018
Hilary Coolidge*
Barry Griffith*
Sandy Bragg

Term expiration 2019
Larry Walter
Allison Henry
Wayne Krevetski*

Term expiration 2020
Herb Ogden*
Cindy Taylor-Miller*
Sue Thomas

*Second consecutive 3-year term.
Not eligible for re-election.

Smoke & Blazes:

Vivian Bebee Editor
Larry Walter Assistant Editor

Killington Section Officers:

Barry Griffith President
Wayne Krevetski Vice President
Cindy Taylor-Miller Secretary
Sandy Bragg Treasurer

Committee Chairs:

Vacant History
Sue Thomas Outings
Herb Ogden Trails & Shelters
Wayne Krevetski Trails & Shelters

Delegates to GMC Board:

Cindy Taylor-Miller Director
Hilary Coolidge Alternate

Web Site: www.gmckillington.org

Hilary Coolidge Web Master

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Larry Walter	14 Belmont Avenue, Rutland, VT 05701, 775-3855, lwalter@sover.net



Lunch at the Café



Ivy a/k/a Squirrel

This n' That

- ▶ To receive Smoke & Blazes by email, send request to vivianbebee@gmail.com
- ▶ June 9 - June 11 Green Mountain Club's 107th Annual Meeting at the Common Ground Center in Starksboro, Vermont. See your **Long Trail News** or visit www.greenmountainclub.org for details and registration.
- ▶ August 5 – Trail Magic Day. The GMC is providing trail magic all up and down the LT this day providing food and other magic for all hikers who come through. KS trail magic will be set up at the LT trailhead parking lot on Route 140. Contact: Wayne Krevetski 282-2237, wkrevetski@hotmail.com
- ▶ Our Section is in need of some additional volunteers to lead a hike, bike or paddle. For more information, call Sue Thomas at 773-2185. Co-leading is also an option.

TREASURE HUNT, by Herb Ogden

Begin at the Long Trail's highest point on the only mountain on the LT in our Section that is named after an omnivore. Hike to the nearest shelter. Hike east from the shelter to the nearest public road. Follow this road downhill to the nearest paved road. Follow this paved road to your left. Take the first non-abandoned paved road to your right. From this paved road, take the next three left turns on public roads. Follow the public road to the Long Trail crossing. Hike the Long Trail past a small cellar hole to the crest of a ridge. Where are you? First person with the correct answer wins a historic **Long Trail Guidebook**.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR, by Roma Pulling

Although I know copies of early Smoke & Blazes are available, I have never examined them. When I was a new member of the club, I do remember that our newsletter consisted of a few 8½ x 11 sheets of mimeographed paper. Compare that to our present attractive and well-organized offering. That is why every three months I admire our Smoke & Blazes so much.

Keep up the good work!

Outing Reports

LILY POND BOMOSEEN, February 25, 2016, Sue Thomas, leader

One of my favorite snowshoe destinations was, once again this year, snow-free in February. It's still a pleasant walk, past slate quarries and beaver ponds, but I did miss seeing the assortment of tracks and otter slides that a good snow cover allows. There must have been some pretty glum otters this winter too, nothing to do but hang around the den playing Angry Birds.

I'd booked our usual table at the Park Avenue Café for lunch (picture on Page 2). We pulled up chairs and benches and enjoyed the ambiance – rustic to say the least, but never a wait for a table. The official "first tick" of the season was an unwelcome guest and not greeted warmly. February. Huh.

Burdock's little cousin, Ivy, provided comic relief at the pond by falling into the drink off the beaver dam, and later climbed a tree (picture on Page 2) – we believe her to be at least part squirrel, though she looks deceptively like a dog. Either that, or she needs to seriously cut back on the caffeine.

Incredibly, there were still a few ice fishermen out on the very mushy-looking Lake Bomoseen when we passed by heading home. I think that must be a bit squirrely, as well.

SHREWSBURY RAMBLE, SHREWSBURY, April 8, 2017, by Larry Walter, Gerry Parker, leader

This was probably the last good snow of the season and the timing was perfect. Barb and Barry helped out with ferrying us around to the hike start point. From there, Gerry took us up old logging roads and across a ridge, putting on our snowshoes along the way. The forest was beautiful and the snow was light and fluffy. The final section is along a very steep woods road that had been used during WWII for training GI's to drive

2 ½ ton all-wheel-drive trucks. There must have been lots of winching going on, because even these vehicles couldn't have just driven up these steep, wet grades. The boys must have had a blast doing this. We ended up coming out in Gerry's back yard. Following the hike was a free tour of the famous Parker Art Gallery, featuring some absolutely exquisite furniture and other articles made of recovered moose antlers. Mr. Burdock presided as curator.

DELAWARE/HUDSON BIKE PATH, POULTNEY, April 29, 2017, Cindy Taylor-Miller, leader

It was a fabulous day for a bike ride. Little or no wind, overcast skies and temps in the low 70's. David Treat, of Wallingford, and I pedaled 15.34 miles round-trip between the Castleton University parking lot to the bridge over the Poultney River at a leisurely pace of 8.3 mph, reaching a maximum speed of 12.6 mph. Total time 1.49.33.

LONG TRAIL SPRING CLEANING, May 13, 2017, by Larry Walter

This is a report on the Skidmore, Walter, Coppock (photographer) segment of trail maintenance. We covered blowdowns from Gov. Clement Road southerly to Keifer Road. When we unpacked all of the gear, it was discovered that Larry had forgotten to throw in some handles for the 66' felling saw, so we had to make do with the 42" D-handle saw (Barb Griffith's great uncle's saw, by the way). It proved up to the task, even for some pretty big stuff (see photo below). Some of the blowdowns were partially hung up, which proved challenging, but we managed to take them apart safely and methodically. Crosscuts are so much more fun than a chainsaw! We eventually met up with Sandy, Herb, Allison and others at the south end.



Dave Skidmore and Larry Walter clearing trail between Upper and Lower Cold River Road

Killington Section Directors' Meeting

Minutes of Directors' Meeting

March 22, 2017

By Cindy Taylor-Miller, Secretary

The meeting convened at 6 p.m. at Wayne Krevetski's home on Robert's Ave. in Rutland.

Board members present: Barry Griffith, Wayne Krevetski, Cindy Taylor-Miller, Sandy Bragg, Allison Henry, Herb Ogden, Larry Walter, and Hillary Coolidge (through phone conferencing).

The Main HQ report Hilary presented her notes by speakerphone with input from Wayne and Allison:

- The club continues to work on funding the endowment and a five year strategic plan.
- Donations increased in 2016. However, both membership and external funding decreased.
- One known repercussion from the decrease in funding is one less week of Long Trail Patrol in 2017.
- Salaries will increase to retain employees.
- Results from the winter 2017 survey of 500 random members with 225 respondents show that the current age and education demographics to be between 50-70 years old with a Master's Degree. The data crunching on the survey has not been completed.
- There is the continual goal to increase engagement of a more youthful membership.
- Allison's term as a KS Director to the Main Club has concluded. Cindy expressed interest to replace Allison; to be voted upon at the April KS Annual meeting.
- Updates to the 1930's Bolton Lodge are slated for this summer.
- Bryant Camp has had greater than 60% occupancy since opening.
- GMC annual meeting is slated for the weekend of June 10th at Common Ground Center in Starksboro, Vt.

Website report

- Hilary—"It's up and running"
- Allison advocated that pictures of "older" hikers don't reflect examples of who we would like to attract. Need more "youthful" pictures. Send them in for submission.
- Herb brought up the "Volunteer Opportunities" page as outdated referencing 2013.
- Cindy presented a rough draft for a KS brochure of services for hikers from Wallingford to Killington. Those present agreed this would be a good addition to our website once completed to be uploaded as a printable PDF booklet with hyperlinks to services in our section. It would also be distributed to service providers in our section for reference in the print form.

Discussion about Section Outings

- Hilary's suggestions: add the actual address to our designated meeting place in Rutland—27 South Main St.; poll outing attendees and inquire as to how they learned about the outing; post schedule at Rock Climbing Gym.
- Larry will confirm with Vivian which college Outing Clubs get our newsletter.
- Allison posts mid-week the upcoming weekend outing on the KS Facebook page.
- Discussion followed and suggested ideas for "spreading the word" included "Meet-Up" apps, posting outings schedule at cross-fit and yoga studios, local bulletin boards, and encouraging section members to post our outings on their town's "Front Porch Forums."

Trails and Shelters Report Herb Ogden

- The bridge washed out during 2011 Tropical Storm Irene which once spanned Robinson Brook (the west branch of Sargent Brook) adjacent to Poczubut Road should be replaced. Larry Walter may have a source of materials for its replacement.
- Looking ahead five years, the wooden improvements on the Bucklin Trail will need repair. Herb advocates asking the GMC to begin replacing the wood with stone and earth.
- Poultney resident, Matt McCoy, is the new sector checker for the upper portion of the Bucklin Trail.

- If someone is interested in compiling data from retired shelter registers, please contact Herb.
- Lower elevation work-trip is May 13th and upper elevation on National Trails Day June 3rd

Treasurer’s Report by Sandy Bragg

The CD monies for both the general and George L. Kirk accounts were invested in Vanguard Short Term Treasury Mutual Funds. Treasurer Sandy and President Barry are authorized signers on these accounts. Trail maintenance expenses were low and the quarterly newsletter continues to be the largest club expense.

2010 to 2016 End of Year comparison table below:

GMC Killington Section Financials									
Sandy Bragg, Treasurer									
2010 - 2016 Year End Summary									
	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance
	12/31/2010	12/31/2011	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2014	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	2/28/2017	
General Accounts:									
Checking Account	2,813	4,800	5,163	6,969	5,353	6,554	6,119	6,320	
General Acct CD	5,310	5,316	5,320	5,326	5,330	5,337			
Vanguard Treasury Fund							5,493	5,496	
TOTAL General Account:	8,123	10,116	10,483	12,295	10,683	11,891	11,612	11,816	
Kirk Fund Accounts									
Kirk Checking Account	2,023	1,226	615	1,615	627	627	224	-	
Kirk Fund CD	14,400	14,414	14,426	13,441	13,455	13,467			
Vanguard Treasury Fund							13,884	14,111	
TOTAL Kirk Fund Accoun	16,423	15,640	15,041	15,056	14,082	14,094	14,108	14,111	
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$ 24,546	\$ 25,756	\$ 25,524	\$ 27,351	\$ 24,765	\$ 25,985	\$ 25,720	\$ 25,926	

Section Outreach by Wayne

The directors agreed it is a good idea to efficiently and quickly contact section members by e-mail when there is a section announcement, reminder or to request help for trail maintenance. Wayne will be the contact person to channel the announcements and reminders.

Other

Dave Hardy, GMC Director of Trail Programs, was diagnosed with mesothelioma in November 2016. A card and donation jar will be placed at the upcoming annual spring meeting April 9, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. and was followed by light fare of chili and corn bread graciously provided by our host, Wayne Krevetski

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Killington Section 106th Annual Meeting

Minutes of Annual Meeting
 April 9, 2017
 By Cindy Taylor-Miller, Secretary

Meeting called to order by President, Barry Griffith, at 2:50 p.m.

Directors present: President-Barry Griffith, Vice President-Wayne Krevetski, Treasurer-Sandy Bragg, Secretary-Cindy Miller, Allison Henry, Larry Walter and Herb Ogden. Special guest-GMC President-John Page. Twenty-three total attendees.

MOTION: To approve Minutes from April 9, 2016 annual meeting as presented in the June 2016 *Smoke and Blazes*. Motion by Herb Ogden and seconded by Sheamus Fagan. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report—Sandy Bragg

The bank certificates of deposit for both the General and Kirk Funds were converted to short term treasury funds at Vanguard®. Section, assets total \$25,926.00 as of February 28, 2017. Motion to approve by Allison Henry and seconded by Larry Walter. Approved by voice vote.

GMC Director Report—Allison Henry

Section directors have term limits. Membership decreased. Online donations increased. Due to funding cutbacks, the field season will be shorter this year. GMC Bryant Camp at the Bolton ski area is a year round rental. The 100th edition of the *Long Trail Guide* should be available for sale early summer including a collector's edition. The GMC's 107th annual meeting is June 10th at Common Ground Center in Starksboro.

GMC President—John Page

John, a Burlington native, completed a section hike of the entire Long Trail by age fifteen. He would like to see the creation of a "sections" forum and bring back the "inter-sectional." A newly formed committee is determining how to best utilize social media to attract younger members. He would like a member from the KS to join this aforementioned committee. Briefly spoke of Dave Hardy's health issues.

Trails and Shelters—Herb Ogden

It was discovered that the Clarendon Shelter is located several hundred feet outside of the trail easement. Future section projects may include:

- Relocate the trail north of Lottery Road away from the wet area near Hermit Spring.
- It may be problematic to replace the bridge over Robinson Brook adjacent to Poczubut Road, because of the A.T. policy not to replace bridges. Larry Walter plans to meet with the USFS representative on April 30th.
- Relocate the Shelburne Pass Trail near the former Inn at the Long Trail site.
- Tucker Johnson is still on the rebuild list.
- A crew will work on the Bucklin Trail this summer.

Larry Walter maintains the Ottaquechee section of A.T. from Willard Gap "north" compass east to the Sherburne Pass Trail. Wayne Krevetski will send requests and reminders to members by e-mail when assistance is needed for trail maintenance.

Smoke and Blazes—Vivian Beebe

Archived issues dating back to the first issue in September 1948 are available online through rutlandhistory.com. This database is searchable.

Outings—Sue Thomas

"Same ole same ole." Call her before she calls you.

Website—Hilary Coolidge, not present, no report.

Allison Henry mentioned there are several out of date references.

Other Business—

- Kathy Krevetski suggested placing a historical marker at the Inn at the Long Trail, the early headquarters of the Green Mountain Club.
- National Trails Day is June 3rd.
- The Trust for Public Land is working to purchase the 2,800 acre Rolston Rest and transfer the land to the U.S. Forest Service for permanent protection.

Election of new directors—Slate for new directors, Barry Griffith, Cindy Taylor-Miller and Sue Thomas, voted in as presented.

The Board of Directors held a brief meeting to elect officers. The 2017 officers are: President-Barry Griffith, Vice President-Wayne Krevetski, Treasurer-Sandy Bragg, Secretary-Cindy Taylor-Miller. Main Club Director-Cindy Taylor-Miller and alternate-Hilary Coolidge.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Vivian Bebee, Editor
14 Belmont Avenue
Rutland, VT 05701



KILLINGTON SECTION

Your Invitation to Join **Killington Section, Green Mountain Club**

The Killington Section, based in Rutland, VT, is a chapter of the statewide Green Mountain Club. Membership in the Section includes membership in the Club. Members receive a membership card, the Club quarterly *Long Trail News*, and the Section quarterly *Smoke & Blazes* including a schedule of outings, trail work parties, and social events. Members also receive reduced rates on items from the Club bookstore and at most overnight sites served by caretakers. Membership dues help to maintain trails and shelters in the Killington Section (Route 140 to Route 4) and the Long Trail system throughout Vermont.

ANNUAL DUES:

Individual\$45
Family\$60
Senior/Student/Friend\$25

Contact us for information on life memberships and categories for giving at a higher level.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

I also enclose a contribution of \$_____ to the Kirk Trails and Shelters Fund supporting the Killington Section's maintenance and preservation of trails and shelters.

I would like information on volunteering for:

___trail work, ___shelter work, ___sign making, ___publications, ___leading outings, ___publicity, ___education

Make check payable to "GMC" and mail with this application to:

Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury – Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677