

**Green Mountain Club
Montpelier Section Annual Meeting
April 3, 2009**

Accepted by the Montpelier Section on April 9, 2010

The Montpelier Section of the Green Mountain Club held its annual meeting April 3, 2009 at the T. W. Wood Art Gallery in Montpelier. Approximately 50 people were present. After a social hour and potluck dinner, President John Buddington called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

I. Old Business

1. Approval of the minutes of the 2008 annual meeting. MOTION: Accept the minutes with an amendment to insert Priscilla Page's last name in the list of the members of the nominating committee in item 7 under new business. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Approval of the reports of the Section Officers. All reports are attached to the agenda.

A. Trails and Shelters by committee chair Ken Hertz. Ken spoke about the proposed promotional activity in Smugglers' Notch during the May 23, 2009 work hike there, to let people know it is the Green Mountain Club maintaining the trail.

B. Outings by vice president Charlene Bohl. There were no questions.

C. Treasurer's by treasurer Steve Lightholder. The report is for the year April 1, 2008 - March 23, 2009. There were no questions.

D. Membership by co-ordinator Fred Jordan. Fred noted that the modest declines over the year of 4% in memberships and 6% in voting numbers, given the current recession, is positive.

E. Webmaster by webmaster Dave Blumenthal. John Buddington reported that we had quadrupled the capacity of our internet site. John also said that the cost of our internet site is a worthwhile expense.

F. Successes and shortcomings of the year by President John Buddington.

MOTION: Approve the six reports. MOTION CARRIED.

B. New Business

1. Ben Rose, executive director reported on the year at the Main Club. Montpelier is a great section that provides a lot of energy to the whole club. Montpelier has the best section internet site.

The club is very excited about the annual meeting that the section will be hosting in the new south barn at the Waterbury headquarters. The building should be ready for occupancy in a few weeks.

On April 17, 2009 American Flatbread in Waitsfield will donate a portion of sales to the Green Mountain Club.

The biennial meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy will be held July 17 - 24 at Castleton State College (vermont2009.org). The Green Mountain Club is the host club. This will be a quarter million dollar party; a good time with led outings and other activities. The meeting needs attendance of 700 to break even; registration is now at 340. The club is looking for volunteers to help run the meeting. See Ann Burcroff to donate to the silent auction.

The e-Blaze, a quarterly e-mail newsletter, is now available. One can subscribe through the internet site. Ben brought some club publications for sale

Last year the club celebrated the successful completion of the 2nd Century Campaign. Following that, the value of the endowment has decreased \$1,000,000, returning the club to a precarious financial footing until the economy improves.

Ben ended on a hopeful note. The Montpelier section is not dying. Ever since the founding of the club there have been worries that it is dying. His hopeful note is that new trees are growing up, ready to become new leaders.

2. Dave Hardy, Director of Field Programs, discussed GMC work projects for 2009. He has already fully planned the 2009 work program. The federal stimulus bill might fund a lot more work through the U. S. Forest Service that will have to be planned and implemented if the funds come through. There will be no new major projects in the north this year. Montclair Glen Lodge will be finished in May following last year's successful airlift and much work last year. Puncheon will be placed in several locations around Sterling Pond during the annual meeting work party on May 31, 2009. Watson Camp was pulled down last fall. Bringing parts out to the ski trails will continue this summer on a piecemeal basis as volunteers are available. He suggested that perhaps the Montpelier section would like to schedule a work day.

3. GMC annual meeting (Reidun Nuquist, Andrew Nuquist, and Jill Aspinall).

Reidun reported that the Montpelier Section will host the club's annual meeting with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new building at the Waterbury headquarters. The meeting will be the weekend of May 29 - 31, 2009. The program is in the most recent issue of The Long Trail News. The Friday evening program will be a generation of change on the Long Trail based on one person's through hikes in 1978 and in 2008. The Saturday schedule will be full. Fred Jordan is still looking for

leaders for some of the hikes scheduled for Saturday. The last of the bronze plaques for members of the 265-mile club will be dedicated. The Saturday dinner will be catered by the New England Culinary Institute with an awards ceremony and with an after-dinner talk by Dot Helling on her Blue Planet run around the world. (Ben Rose added that the personal invitation received by each staff member to attend as the section's guest was a nice touch and quite appreciated.)

Andrew reported that planning is under control with many section members helping. Volunteers are still needed and he urged people to register. The plan is for the meeting to break even.

Jill is in charge of volunteers. She noted that there is a job for everyone, for any amount of time. Please sign up.

Ann Burcroff and Priscilla Page are co-ordinating housing and are looking for people willing to offer overnight lodging in their homes without providing meals.

4. Appalachian Trail Conference meeting. Ann Burcroff is looking for donations of services and new goods for sale at the silent auction to held at the meeting.

5. Approval of the **Proposed Budget**. The proposed budget is attached to the agenda. MOTION: Accept the proposed budget. There were no questions on the proposed budget. MOTION CARRIED.

6. **Elections**. The nominating Committee, composed of Jill Aspinnall, Christie Carter, and Ann Burcroff, proposed the following slate of officers:

For terms of one year:

President:	John Buddington
Vice-President:	Charlene Bohl
Membership Coordinator	Fred Jordan
Treasurer:	Steve Lightholder
Secretary:	Thomas Weiss
Trails & Shelters Coordinator	Ken Hertz

For terms of three years:

Director	Cynthia Martin
Alternate Director	Priscilla Daggett

There were no additional nominations from the floor.

MOTION: Direct the secretary to cast one ballot for the slate of officers nominated by the nominating committee. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Appreciation for service of officers and ad-hoc committees. John Buddington, president, thanked all past officers and appointees. Duties of the officers are split up. The duties of vice president are perhaps the most onerous: planning the section annual meeting and organizing the outing schedule. There was a round of applause. John thanked Dave Blumenthal for his 6 years of service as webmaster and he thanked Nancy Jordan for her 10 years of service as editor of Trail Talk. There was

another round of applause.

8. Awards for Outings and Trail Work. Charlene Bohl, vice president, presented the following awards.

Led the most popular outing: Priscilla Daggett for cross-country ski outing at Beaver Brook in Marshfield.

Participated in the most outings: Andrew and Reidun Nuquist.

Participated in the most work outings: Robert Lorenz

9. There was no additional business.

10. MOTION: To adjourn. MOTION CARRIED.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:53 p. m. and was followed by a slide lecture by Lexi Shear on her recently published book "A Nature Guide to Vermont's Long Trail".

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Weiss, Secretary