

Northern Frontier Section of the Green Mountain Club Winter/Spring 2020



Season's Greetings!

Last winter several of us gathered at my home for a potluck lunch. Afterward, we snowshoed the hiking trail in the Enosburg Town Forest, where this photo was taken. The weather was clear and bright that day and we hope for much the same this year -- February 1st, at our annual potluck/snowshoe. You are invited and please let us know if you'll be there.

Last summer and fall, I continued my section hiking on the Long Trail, heading south. This year I started at Route 17 (Appalachian Gap) and hiked to David Logan Shelter, about 7 miles south of Route 73 (Brandon Gap), a distance of about 48 miles. Now in my sixties, I'm fortunate to be healthy enough to carry a pack and hike, more slowly now than when I was younger. On the trail I: take photos; visit with hikers; write in my journal; deal with fatigue, hunger and weather; experience extraordinary views and terrain. I meet hikers who are end-to-ending the trail and other hikers who are out for a day or an afternoon. All of us are there for a challenge, discovery and an adventure!

Last summer, we had to cancel both of our scheduled trail-blazing days because of rain. However, Paul Madden went out by himself during the summer and completed the blazing in the North Jay area of the trail. Later, he blazed from Route 58 to Hazen's Notch Camp and from Route 58 to Haystack Mountain. We greatly appreciate his hard work! We thank each of our volunteers who adopt sections of the trail and the shelters. Many thanks to all who help out!

On February 29th, 2020 at 7:00 PM, our section will host the James P. Taylor Winter Series at the Episcopal Church parish hall on Church St. in Enosburg Falls, VT. Ferdinand Laufer will show slides and talk about his long bike ride last summer along the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route for 2,850 km from Banff, Alberta to Frisco, Colorado. He will also offer highlights of last year's 1500 km Cross Germany ride from Germany's border with Switzerland and France to the Polish city of Swinoujscie at the shores of the Baltic Sea.

The GMC Annual meeting in 2020 will be sponsored by the Northern Frontier Section, the Sterling Section and the Laraway Section. It looks like Sterling College in Craftsbury, VT will be the preferred location. We will need volunteers from our section to help out at the venue and to lead hikes in the area. Hikes could be within about half an hour drive of Sterling College, which includes the LT and some NE Kingdom Trails. Please contact Ken Whitehead or Jane Williams if you can help. The date of the meeting will be on a Saturday or Sunday in late May or early June. More information will be in the Long Trail News.

I was very sorry to hear that Jean Haigh passed away last fall. She collapsed while hiking and will be greatly missed by many friends and family. She gave years of work and effort to the GMC by serving as president and helping develop trails in the Northeast Kingdom Section. She loved hiking, and her passion and stamina were admired by all who knew her!

Our section has some good hikes and activities scheduled this winter and I hope you can join us, get outdoors and have fun.

See you on the trail,
Ken Whitehead, President NFS

Officers

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Upcoming Activities

Jan. 25 (Sat.)	Snowshoe Laraway Mt on Long Trail from Coddington Hollow Rd in Waterville. Level: moderate 4 miles round trip. Contact Ken at 802-933-5352 or email mrsswhitehead@gmail.com
Feb 1 (Sat.)	Snowshoe/Potluck at the Whitehead's at 30 Deming Rd, Enosburg Falls. RSVP mrsswhitehead@gmail.com or call 933-5352
Feb 15 (Sat.)	Cross country ski from Hazen's Notch to Rte 242 with the Catamount Trail Club. Contact Ferdinand at flauffer@gmail.com or call 802-933-4252. Level: Difficult about 7 miles
Feb 29 (Sat.) 7:00 PM	Taylor series: Ferdinand Lauffer will tell about his summer adventures at the Episcopal Church on Church St in Enosburg Falls, VT
March 7 (Sat.) Starts 8:30AM	Winter Trails Day at GMC Headquarters in Waterbury, VT
March 14(Sat)	Snowshoe/Microspikes hike on the closed road at Smuggler's Notch. Contact Jane at 802-827-3879 or email janeallynwilliams@gmail.com
March 21(Sat.)	Snowshoe Hike to Devil's Gulch from Rt. 118. Level: moderate 4 miles round trip. Contact Ken at 802-933-5352 or email mrsswhitehead@gmail.com

