As more people seek to "unplug" from the demands of daily life, a sense of wanderlust urges us to hit the trails. Perfect social media posts advertise vast vistas that promise romance or adventure, fueling new interest in exploring all the outdoors has to offer. Not included in this sales pitch, however, is the urgent reminder that protecting, caring for, and advocating for parks and trails is our civic duty. The key messages of preparedness, Leave No Trace, and stewardship aren't immediately introduced to these eager hikers arriving at the trailhead, meaning they're only partially informed about the experience that lies ahead. Faced with this new wave of outdoor enthusiasm and the constant struggle to secure sufficient funding, it's not a stretch to say that the caretakers of public lands are nearing a crisis point.

Now is the time to stand united by our passion for trails. It's time to inspire trail adventurers of all ages, both new and old, to protect the land they love. Since 1920, the Trail Conference has worked to connect people with nature through fun and the constant struggle to prevent our most popular outdoor destinations from being "loved to death." And as guardians of 2,165 miles of trails in the greater New York metropolitan region, members of the Trail Conference community are some of the best possible ambassadors for safe, responsible recreation in nature. Every time Trail Conference volunteers step on a trail, they are representing a nearly 100-year legacy of stewardship. They are embodying the values of an organization that strives to create better outdoor opportunities for everyone by empowering everyone to give back to the parks and trails they love. They lead by example to inspire a deeper appreciation for the care that open space requires. The Trail Conference was founded by outdoor-lovers who believed the weariness of fast-paced, modern life could be cured by a walk in the woods. For those who are just discovering that beautiful truth, welcome to the Trail Family. Let us be a resource for creating your social media-worthy trail moments. For those who have believed "going to the mountains is going home" before it became a T-shirt slogan, help us ensure the natural areas that are so important to you remain open and unspoiled. The trails are calling—for more than adventure. They're calling for care and protection. Be the force that ensures our wild places remain wild. Help us protect the land you love.

Get Involved

Wishing how to get started? Here are easy ways to make a difference:

Give a Shout-Out
Help us spread the word about our volunteers’ good work on social media. Give our volunteers a virtual high-five by tagging your trial photos @traillove and @nynjtc.

Give a Few Hours
Be a superhero for parks and trails volunteers! Outside or inside, close to home or at your go-to weekend trail destination, we aim to connect you with the volunteer opportunity that is right for you. Tell us how you’d like to be involved at nynjtc.org/volunteer.

Give a Few Dollars
Whether you’re getting out there for fresh air, exercise, or a new adventure, you count on well-maintained trails—and we count on the support of every hiker, walker, and rider to make that possible. Make your gift at nynjtc.org/donate.
Come Show Your Love of Trails on National Trails Day

Every day is trails day for the Trail Conference. But on National Trails Day, we add a little extra celebration to our Trail Love with a TRAIL Walker event on June 1, with a special emphasis in Ramapo Valley County Reservation, located right next door to our historic home. Between activities, grab a bite to eat from a food truck, participate in our outdoor gear raffle, take advantage of our annual sale on maps and books, and explore popular outdoor retailers showing their trail love with demos and awesome gear. Popular Mechanics, Merrill, Campmor, Salomon, Wild Birds Unlimited, and Northeast Mountain Guiding, L.L. Bean, BushSmarts and more will all be on hand to talk trails, gear, and all things outdoors. Visit nynjtc.org/events for more info on our National Trails Day Open House. We hope you’ll come explore with us on June 1!

Thank You
Thanks to ExtremeTerrain’s Clean Trail Grant Program for supporting the Trail Conference with a $250 donation. We’ll use the grant to provide food and refreshments for participants at our National Trails Day event at our headquarters.

Explore, give back, have fun! National Trails Day activities include hikes, projects such as trail building, and more.

More Trails to Love with JOHBA, REI

Also in celebration of National Trails Day, we’ll be co-hosting a stewardship event with REI and our mountain biking friends at JOHBA. We’ll be working on improving the multiseason Crossover Trail in Ringwood State Park in Ringwood, N.J. Everyone is invited to come out and give back! Learn how great trails are made and hung out with other trail lovers. Find more info at nynjtc.org/events.

International Symposium Features Trail Conference Presenters

American Trails hosts the 24th International Trails Symposium in Syracuse, N.Y., April 28 through May 1—and the Trail Conference will be well-represented at this biennial gathering of trail leaders. Staff and volunteers will be making presentations alongside some of our partners on the following topics important to our mission and in connecting people to nature:

- DIY Volunteer Program Assessment: Maximize and Sustain Your Volunteer Community — Volunteer Engagement Manager Kendra Bauman
- Trail Map “Dos and Don’ts:” Trail Conference

Best Practices for Designing Trail Maps — Cartographer Jeremy Apgar

- Old Trails, New Systems: Re-Imagining Existing Trail Networks — New Jersey Program Coordinator Peter Dolan and Regional Park Superintendent of New Jersey State Parks Joshua Osowski

- Managing High-Use Trails: Why Trail Stewards Are a Necessity in Creating Safe, Sustainable Trails — Senior Program Coordinator Hank Osborn (This presentation will be recorded and available to view after the event; we’ll post the link at nynjtc.org.)


- Grassroots Greenway: Protection of Long-Distance Trails Creates Important Parkland — West Hudson Program Coordinator Susan Mason, Director of Conservation and Stewardship for the Orange County Land Trust Matt Decker, and Senior Vice President of Open Space Institute Terrence Nolan

The Symposium is open to the public. Passes and more information can be found at americantrails.org/symposium.

Come Show Your Love of Trails on National Trails Day

The high usage at Breakneck Ridge will be addressed in two presentations at the International Trails Symposium.

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a volunteer-powered organization that builds, maintains, and protects public trails. Together with our partners, we strive to ensure that the trails and natural areas we share are sustainable and accessible for all to enjoy for generations to come.

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a volunteer, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

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Opinions expressed by the authors do not necessarily represent the policy or position of the Trail Conference. Submissions for print consideration are welcome. Any unrequested materials received for print may be edited for style and length. Submission deadlines for TRAIL WALKER are Feb. 15 (Spring issue); May 15 (Summer issue); Aug. 15 (Fall issue); Nov. 15 (Winter issue). For information on advertising rates, please write our

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A Victory for the Long Path: Schoharie Section of Trail Protected Forever

The Trail Conference is constantly working to preserve land for our long-distance trails.

Another mile of the Long Path has been permanently preserved, thanks to the efforts of Trail Conference volunteers and staff. This mostly forested, 149-acre parcel is located in the Town of Blenheim, Schoharie County, New York. The parcel is adjacent to the Ricketts Glen Hills State Forest, located 35 miles northwest of the Catskill Park by trail. Future plans are to transfer this parcel to New York State as an addition to the state forest.

This project began when I drove up to Schoharie County to attend the annual meeting of the Long Path North hiking Club, which manages the Long Path north of the Mohawk River in Schoharie, Albany, and Schenectady counties. As chair of both the Long Path North and Conservation committees, I arrived early to check out the trail. To my surprise, I found a realtor sign advertising that a private property providing nearly a mile of Long Path access was for sale. This became an urgent situation. If a private sale were to occur, we faced the possibility of losing the trail easement, potentially being forced to move almost a mile of the Long Path onto paved highway. A plan was developed for the Trail Conference to purchase the property, not only protecting the Long Path but also preserving a beautiful section of forest in the process.

The Trail Conference has been actively purchasing land for the protection of trails since 1939. Nearly 50 years ago, George Zoebelein became the first trail supervisor of sections 1 through 4 of the Long Path, and he and Win Ruby began working to protect the trail soon after it was built in that area. (George was a very busy guy; in addition to his trail contributions, he was also Trail Conference president, Publications Chair, and the initial force behind the Metro-North train stop for the Long Path in New York City.) The Trail Conference’s commitment to both building and protecting the Long Path and our other long-distance trails has always been at the core of what we do.

These trails are increasingly pressed with development and, unfortunately, it’s a race to preserve them. We would like to camp up our efforts to permanently protect our long-distance trails—and you can help. We purchase trail lands with funds from the Trail Conference’s Land Acquisition and Stewardship Fund (LASF). It’s a revolving, donor-supported fund. When we sell land to the state for permanent protection, the proceeds are returned to the fund. We work with other land conservation partners whenever possible, allowing us to stretch our funds and preserve more trail miles.

As a part of this conservation legacy by making a donation to our Land Acquisition and Stewardship Fund (LASF), you can help protect the Long Path you love today!

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As the Trail Conference approaches its centennial, we are preparing to tackle new and exciting challenges that our volunteers, staff, and partners will confront heading into our second century. Moving forward, we are pleased to announce the creation of two new leadership positions.

Joshua Howard will be our Chief Operating Officer responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Trail Conference. Mary Perro will be our Chief Financial Officer responsible for all financial matters.

We look forward to continuing the Trail Conference’s critically important work of building and maintaining over 2,100 miles of trails and protecting public parks and recreation areas in New York and New Jersey through the tireless efforts of thousands of dedicated volunteers. We are confident that the quality of the Trail Conference mission and its programs will be sustained and developed with this experienced leadership team.

Eddie Saigh
Board of Directors Chair

Highlands Trail in New Jersey Continues to Grow

Everybody knows about the Appalachian Trail—the 174 miles of A.T. maintained by the Trail Conference in New Jersey and New York are well-hiked, with some places seeing more traffic than they can handle. The Highlands Trail, in comparison, is something of a secret. Another long-distance trail cared for by the Trail Conference, it extends 186 miles from the Delaware River at the New Jersey/Pennsylvania border to the Hudson River in New York. Plans are underway to extend the Highlands Trail east to the Connecticut border.

The Highlands Trail (or HT) is a dynamic, living trail, constantly being re-routed onto newly preserved lands, slowly settling into a final route in the same way the A.T. did decades ago. Working with the Land Conservancy of New Jersey, the Trail Conference recently routed 4.61 miles of Highlands Trail to take advantage of 2,218 acres of land preserved at Hudson Farms in western New Jersey, taking the trail off a disturbed quarry area and onto beautiful woodland. In a separate success, the HT will soon be blazed to co-align with a new trail built by the Hunterdon County Division of Parks & Recreation in the Musconetcong Gorge, taking 1.5 miles of road walks and into forest.

Thanks to Trail Chair Glenn Oleksak, you can always follow the current route of the Trail at TheHighlandsTrail.org.

The biggest challenge facing the Highlands Trail now is finding volunteers to keep pace with its growth. To help, 2019 will see the first roving HT crews—ad hoc teams that will visit different HT locations throughout the year. We welcome everyone to join in at any time for a day of giving back. Email paldone@nynjtc.org to have your name added to the mailing list. Can’t volunteer but still want to show your love for the HT? Stop by our headquarters’ front desk for a free Highlands Trail sticker (while supplies last).

Be a Trail Champion

While the Trail Conference’s nearly 100-year history is full of advocacy success stories, we do not fight these battles alone. Your stories and voice are amplified when we work together—which is why we need you. With the advocacy front this winter, challenging weather did not prevent our staff and volunteers from traveling to Albany to represent the Trail Conference and discuss the issues and needs of trails and parks with New York State elected officials. One new volunteer traveled by train from Manhattan, while others spent the night before these “advocacy days” in hotels to ensure they did not miss this opportunity to be champions for the environment. Engaging our representatives in conversations about the importance of trails and parks makes a difference; these elected officials decide how funding should be allocated. If you would like to see this process in action or be a part of it, keep a lookout every January and February as we highlight upcoming advocacy days in our e-newsletter and on nynjtc.org/events. In the meantime, we are growing our advocacy team to create a force to push back against threats to your trails, with current emphasis on the Long Path and Highlands Trail in Monocacy. New York. A proposal to create the Village of Seven Springs near the recently formed town of Palm Tree poses an urgent threat to these long-distance trails. Should this land be intensely developed, as is the vision of the land owners and developers, access for the Long Path and Highlands Trail will be cut. The last shot at creating a greenway between Gonzaga Park and Orange is to be endangered. This is a threat to the fabric of undeveloped land. It’s the last possible link between Schunnemunk Mountain and Goosepond Mountain state parks, and a crucial safe passage for these long-distance trails.

If you would like to be part of this team, email Sona Mason at smason@ nynjtc.org.
TRAIL CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS

TRAIL CONFERENCE’S MEMBERS

In honor of Thomas Davie
In honor of Ted Cleary
In honor of my friend & EHS ’77 classmate Steve Aaron, a talented
In honor of Robert T Bartlett
In honor of Kenneth Novenstern
In honor of Brian Mindich
In memory of Shawnee Shepherd
In memory of Maria FitzGerald
In memory of George Yuzawa
In memory of Elizabeth Heald
Steven Becker, Loretta Nash & Robert Bender, Vaclav E Benes, 
Robin Bady, Margaret Baechler, Len Bailenson, Heather Baiman,
Cameron & Kerri Klinger
Michael Cleary
Mark J Fromm
Michael Sean Walsh
Marian MacDonald
Ilene Wachs
Patricia Mazzone
Erica A Makler
In honor of Robert D Bender
In honor of Daniel D Charun
Rober Duhan
Esther Donn
Eve Wash

In memory of Shawnee Shepherd
In memory of Michael T. Dunne

In memory of the following:

In memory of Michael & Nancy Lustyik
Valerie Lyle
Sheryl G Li
Alan Lieber & Alice Heffner
Howard Edward Liebmann
Jeff Rosanne Levitt
Marshall Katzman & Sally Lewis
Bobbi Lewis
Cheryl & Robert Lehmann
Jennifer & John Leonard
Laura Rice & Reesa A Lahr
Douglas Land & Lynn Peebles
Edward Landau
Thea Donald Kress
Sandra Krieger & Andrew Dash
Vijay Krishnmuhs, Michal Koblas, Richard Kosmala, Laura Kososki, John Kow-
ley, James Horizny, Matthew Horn, Carolyn & Camilla Houston,
berger, Paul J Heindl, James Hewitt, Craig Ritz & Karen Hilberg,
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Sotnichenko, Mark Girvin & Ruth Gyure, Seth Glasser, Ian Ford, Terri Fortuna, Michael & Barbara Frank, Robin L Frank, Robert J Frank, 
Michael Francis, Jonathan Gadd, Bill & Anna Gontijo, Cal Lange, 
Amanda Grady, Carol & Dick Greene, Jim & Jane Geoghegan, 
Gina & Mark Grosvenor, Joanne & Tom G试题缺失

In memory of Shawnee Shepherd
In memory of Hu

In memory of the following:

In memory of David J Myer, Gwen Nichols & Jordan Rost, Holger Nissen & 
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Lucia D Molaro, Thomas C Moorhead, Catherine & Richard More,
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Introducing the Trail Angels Society

At the Trail Conference, we believe our volunteers and the donors who support them are Trail Angels. Our first 100 years of volunteering has been an important source of innovation and resilience for trails and parks in New York and New Jersey. To ensure skilled volunteers will be plentiful enough to protect these public lands and trails during our next 100 years, we need to be forward-thinking in the ways we seek funding to continue this vital work.

The idea of a Trail Angel Society was introduced in the previous issue of Trail Walker, and we received a lot of positive feedback on the concept. We’re pleased to announce that we are moving forward with the creation of this society to ensure that trails and natural areas in this region are sustainable and accessible for all to enjoy for generations to come.

The purpose of our Trail Angels Society will be to provide reliable income over the long term, which makes it ideal to be funded by planned gifts, such as a bequest or other provision in your estate plan that benefits the Trail Conference. To encourage gifts made in this way, we will launch a Trail Angels Society open to anyone who confirms that the Trail Conference will benefit from their estate plan.

We are also extremely excited to announce that a generous donor believes in the importance and power of “paying it forward” has offered to ensure the Trail Conference benefits from the generosity of Trail Angels Society members both now and in the future. Every time a person confirms the Trail Conference has been named in their will or estate plan, the donor will write a $500 check to support our work today (see below). You will not only be paying forward your love for public lands and trails, you will also be making a big difference right now.

We are grateful for the creativity and fortitude of our members and volunteers. It is what enables the Trail Conference to fulfill its mission, year after year, decade after decade, century after century. Join the Trail Angels Society by making a provision in your estate plan to benefit the Trail Conference and assure an immediate contribution to celebrate your generosity.

A Pledge Challenge for the Trail Conference

A generous donor has come to the Trail Conference with an exciting idea. This donor will give a contribution of $500 to the Trail Conference right away when someone indicates that he or she has made a bequest or other provision in his or her estate plan that benefits the Trail Conference.

When you complete the bequest intention form (see below) and send it in to us, our donor will write a check to the Trail Conference for $500 for each form we receive. The donor is creating an immediate incentive to encourage future bequest proceeds. Your bequest intention form is non-binding; people can change their minds as their circumstances change.

The form is to show that you are making plans now, but you have every right to change them later. If you’ve made a provision in your estate plan that benefits the Trail Conference, use this form to let us know, even if you’ve told us previously, and we can benefit NOW from our generous donor. If you’re working on your estate plan and you intend to benefit the Trail Conference with a provision, use this form when you have finalized your plans and take advantage of this exciting Pledge Challenge.

One person who’s made a commitment said, "This is a great way for me to help the Trail Conference without costing me a penny now. The Trail Conference gets $500 today, and I leave a nice legacy later on." For more information, contact Membership and Development Director Don Weise at dwiese@nynjtc.org or 201.512.9348 x813.

Happy hikers are the best customers.

Wholesalers, buy Trail Conference maps now at a great discount!

Visit NYNJTC.org or call 201.512.9348 to order.

I am pleased to inform you that I have named the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference as a beneficiary of my estate plan. I understand that this is a non-binding statement. Although I intend this gift to remain in force, this document does not constitute a legally binding pledge.

Name ___________________________ Phone ___________________________
Address _____________________________________ City _____________________________ State _______________   Zip __________
Email _____________________________________ DOB ___________________________
Signature _____________________________________ Date ____________

I understand that this future gift entitles me to membership in the Trail Angel Society and that the membership list may be published in Trail Conference publications and websites. However, the nature and size of my intention, as well as the names of anonymous donors, will be kept confidential.

My future gift:
- Is a percentage of my estate worth approximately $ ___________
- Is in the specific amount of $ ___________
- I would prefer to keep the amount private. This is my best estimate at this time and the amount of my future gift may be different.

Trail Angels Society:
- Please list me in the Trail Angels Society as ___________
- I prefer to remain anonymous.

Kindly return this completed form to the Development Director, Planned Giving, NY-NJ Trail Conference, 600 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07433. Please contact us with any questions: 201.512.9348 x813, dwiese@nynjtc.org
THE MAJOR WILLIAM A. WELCH AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PARTNER
Honors partners who have been strong advocates for and provided significant assistance to Trail Conference volunteers.

Terrence Nolan
Terrence Nolan, senior vice president for conservation transactions at the Open Space Institute, has been a valued partner for many of the land preservation initiatives for long-distance trails at the Trail Conference. He brings key people and partnerships together to achieve successes such as creating greenways and new parks for the Long Path and Shawangunk Ridge Trail.

DEDICATED SERVICE AWARD
Honors long-time, dedicated volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary service to the trails and natural areas that surround them.

Jill Arbuckle
Maintainer: New Jersey Appalachian Trail
Jill has dedicated herself to the Appalachian Trail since 1991. Over the decades she’s held a variety of positions with the Trail Conference including trail maintainer, trail vice chair, board secretary, and club trail chair.

Paul Klenker
Maintainer: West Hudson—Long Path South
Each year Paul spends an inordinate number of hours keeping his section of the Long Path at Sam’s Point in Minnewaska State Park Preserve in pristine condition. This is no easy feat; but since 2013 he’s been successfully battling the mile-long blueberry field that tried to take over the trail.

Richard Lynch
Crew member: West Hudson Richard has been a member of the West Hudson Trail Conference since 1995 and has become a reliable and key member of the group. His consistent efforts have enabled him to learn the ins and outs of trail work, whether as one of the crew or giving in-s truction to a group. Richard always shows up with a smile and is great at making a new person feel welcome.

RPH Cabin Volunteers, represented by Tim Messerich
Maintainer: East Hudson Appalachian Trail
The RPH Cabin Volunteers have been a force of nature since 2007. In addition to all the trail projects they tackle, each year they organ- ize a work weekend focused on cleaning the Appalachian Trail RPH Shelter in Dutchess County—an event that attracts upwards of 100 volunteers annually. There are many dedicated club members who volunteer throughout the year. The driving force behind their many accomplishments is Tim Messerich, who is the past president and current crew leader.

Jerry Ruocco
Corridor Monitor: West Hudson Appalachian Trail
Jerry recently retired from his 7-year tenure as an Appalachian Trail corridor monitor. Throughout those years, Jerry was uncompromising in protecting his boundary on Bellvale Mountain, which traverses steep cliffs and difficult terrain.

Elaine Silverstein & Bruce Thaler
Elaine: Invasive Plant Surveyor; Appalachian Trail Natural Heritage Monitor; Crew Member. Bruce: Invasive Plant Surveyor, Appalachian Trail Natural Heritage Monitor; Maintainer: New Jersey—Ramapo Mountain State Forest.

Point State Park
Roy has been a trail main- tainer at High Point State Park for 18 years and has been a key member and leader of the Habitat Helpers Crew, the knowledge and kindness that she passes onto fellow volunteers strengthens the crew. Bruce is also a dedicated trail maintainer in Ramapo Mountain State Forest.

Fred Smith
Maintainer: New Jersey—Palsides Interstate Park
Fred has been a steady, de- pendable, and conscientious trail maintainer who’s main- tained the Englewood Cliffs section of the Shore Trail since 2000. He’s also reliably assisted his trail supervisor in clearing blowdowns and making trail tread repairs.

Robert Ward
Supervisor: East Hudson—Rockaways
Since 1950 Bob has served the Trail Conference in a variety of roles, includ- ing delegate, club liaison, life member, trail supervisor, and trail chair. In particular, Bob has served as the Queens Trails Council Chair for many years. Through that position he has played a key role in connecting urban dwellers with walking, trails, and the outdoors.

Roy Williams
Maintainer: New Jersey—High Point State Park
Roy was unable to mark the path. 4.2-mile-long trail when he discovered a fellow maintainer was unable to mark the path.

THE NEXT GENERATION AWARD
Honors volunteers under 25 years of age who have enthus- iastically and passionately made contributions serving the Trail Conference’s mission.

Forrest Becker
Crew Volunteer: New Jersey—Ramapo Valley County Reservation
Forrest was among the 2018 Ramapo Crew’s most consistent—not to mention youngest—volunteers. During his high school summer break he prioritized volunteering with the crew to build a new trail. Even after he returned to school, he often came out to work on his weekends. Forrest is an enthusiastic, engaged, and hard-working volunteer who also knows the value of a safe work environment.

Lucas Petruzzo and Nikhil Singh
Crew Member: East Hudson—Yorktown
Lucas Petruzzo and Nikhil Singh spent a portion of their summer off from high school helping to build a boardwalk that’s part of the Mo- hicans Trailway project. They were a fantastic team whose skill and confidence grew exponentially over the months—from waiting to be given instruction to becoming proactive and knowing how and where to pitch in.

HIT THE GROUND RUNNING AWARD
Honors volunteers who have “hit the ground running” and when thru-hiking activity was starting to peak. Trails were not only impassable but also incredibly difficult to find, even by those who know them well.

Volunteer chain sawyers and swamped with help from volunteer chain sawyers and swampers responded with heroic efforts in a remarkably short amount of time to restore trails damaged by these spring storms. They selflessly gave days at a time to clear blowdowns and make sure affected trails were once again passable and safe.

2019 TRAIL CONFERENCE AWARDS
CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERS
Trail Conference volunteers make incredible commitments to the trails and lands they love. Our success as an organization comes from the hard work, dedication, and support of the many volunteers who selflessly share their time.

On March 16 at Ramapo College of New Jersey we held our annual Volunteer Appreciation event, where we recognized a number of outstanding individuals and organizations that exemplify the Trail Conference mission. This year we introduced a new awards structure and updated categories that reflect our organization’s values and programs. We also honored those volunteers who responded quickly and courageously after last spring’s storms to ensure trails could once again be passable and safe. Congratulations to all honorees—and thank you!
made a strong impact within their first two years of service.

Mike Bouqueut and Tara Spear
Mike: West Hudson Appalac- hian Trail Supervisor, Volunteer, and Maintainer.
Tara: West Hudson Appalachian Trail Supervisor and Maintainer
Tara and Mike first attended an Interns Orientation to Trail Maintenance workshop, and then volunteered with the Trail Conference. Their enthusiasm for the Trail Conference exploded shortly afterwards. They are avid hikers (and an A.T. thru-hiker, in Tara’s case) who care deeply about trails and stewardship. In addition to taking on several formal volunteer roles, they’re always ready to jump in and help when a need presents itself.

Jenny Carel
Invasive Strike Force Surveyor, and Crew Member, Data Volunteer
Jenny worked in her first year as a Trail Conference volunteer. In just one season, she took two invasive species surveying workshops, com- pleted Invasive Strike Force trail surveys for Granite Hills and Rockefeller State Park, helped remove invasives on three work days; and orga- nized and inputted data at the office to provide statistics for critical reporting deadlines.

Laurie and Frank Gallun Supervisors and Maintainers, New Jersey—Pyramid Mountain
Laurie and Frank became supervisors at Pyramid Moun- tain about a year and a half after joining the Trail Conference in 2018 and made an immediate impression as grateful, experi- enced, and committed fellow volunteers. Early on they clearly communicated their love for the park, as well as a sense of community—particularly that we are all taking care of this mountain together.

ComMSAR, represented by Stephen (Yaakov) Geis Supervisor and Coordinator for COMMSAR, West Hudson—Bear Mountain State Park ComMSAR is a true friend to the trails. They perform education, training, search and rescue services, and maintain 8 miles of trails. They have completely rehabilitated their miles of trail and redirected mapped blowdowns. As the trails supervisor for the club, Yaakov is dedicated, tireless, and effective. He is frequent- ly found caring for the trails three or more days a week, has recruited maintainers, gone out of his way to remove litter, and supervised new county trails for maintenance.

Philip Heidberger
Maintainer: East Hudson—Fahnestock State Park; Policy Council Member, Action Team Member
Phil first became a trail main- tainer in 2017. He joined soon co-teaching Trail Maintenance 101 workshops, and has been a member of the Policy Council, where he led an extensive revision of the Trail Maintenance Manu- al, and has become an active member of a task force to de- sign the hour and accomplish- ment reporting for nynjtc.org.

Sam Lee
Trail Volunteer: East Hudson—Highlands Trail; Professional (Sustainable) Supervisor
It’s Sam’s initiative that is driv- ing the entire Fahnestock Mountain Bike Trail Network project. After becoming oriented to trail building and rehabilitation strategies, Sam scouted the extensive woods road network, identified desirable routes, and led very productive work trips. Sam is a motivated achiever working hard and getting results.

Jim LeMaire
Supervisor and Maintainer: New Jersey—Southern Wanaque, Policy Council Member
Jim started off as a trail main- tainer. When the opportunity to become a trail supervisor presented itself, he enthusiastically accepted the new role. He has made a signifi- cant effort to improve the trails in Norvin Green State Forest by working closely with maintainers, training new volunteers, and identifying blowdowns in a timely man- ner. In addition, he joined the Public Information Council where he is always working on important organization-wide projects.

Chuck Mattes
Maintainer: West Hudson—Surprise or Nothing Trail; Trail Corps Coordinator
Chuck is a self-starter with bottomless energy, a ter- rific work ethic, and pride in keeping “his” trail—the McEagles Meadow Loop—in first-rate condition. In 2018, he helped the trails, tripping his trail assignment mileage and putting in more hours (115.5) than any other individual Sterling Forest maintainer. His is a cheery personality who is always ask- ing how he can help and what more he can do.

Kaitlin and Patrick Messmer
As trail supervisors of the Papookamack Watershed, Kait and Pat have fostered a fun and productive relationship for their maintainers (sawing trees, coffee and doughnut work trips) while simultaneously ensuring their trails stay safe and responsible for all by regularly scouting and resolving trail issues.

David Miller
Maintainer: West Hudson—Southern Shawangunks
David is a great example of how working on a trail is one way that people can help con- tinue in nature and make a contribu- tion to the community. David dove into his new trail maintainer position in the southern Gunks, log- ging 112 hours over 17 trips. Not only has he taken on one of the more difficult sections of trail on the Long Path (with abundant fire-damaged trees littering in lots of light), but he’s also transformed it into a picture-perfect example of the Trail Conference standard.

Andre Nizarri
Maintainer: East Hudson—Catskills, Corridor Monitoring—East Hudson Appalachian Trail, Trail Steward
Andre joined the Trail Confer- ence as a member in January of 2017. Soon thereafter, he’s become an Appalachian Trail corridor monitor, a trail maintainer for five different trails in three parks through- out the region, and one of our first volunteer Trail Stewards at an A.T. hiker lodge. Andre’s passion for the outdoors and excitement for the organi- zation’s mission and work, which makes him a perfect role model for getting outside and giving back.

Adrienne Popko
Lower Hudson PRISM Volunteer
Adrienne has consistently been the top Invasives Strike Force Blockbuster volunteer in the number of surveys she has completed. In three seasons, she has done 67 sur- veys over 111 hours, almost single-handedly filling in large swaths of data gaps in Dutchess County.

Cindy Wagner
Maintainer: West Hudson—South Shawangunks
Cindy maintains one of the most challenging pieces of the Long Path in the southern Gunks and does the job with an infectious positivity. Whether it’s whacking scrub oak on searching hot days, coming out in the winter to assist a chain sawyer, or completing the challenging Shawangunk Trail finish half marathon, she doesn’t quit.

Valerie Wargo
Trail Volunteer: West Hudson Appalachian Trail; New Jersey Vegetation Monitoring Team thru-hiker who moved to the area after completing the Trail in order to give back to the A.T. as much as possible. She provided trail monitoring at trailheads, hosted 100 hikers last year alone, helped build steps on Bear Mound, took on numerous large blowdowns as assisted with boundary work on multiple days, and helped get the trail in Wowynamada State Park passable on long, hot summer work trips. She loves the woods, and is completely devoted to volunteer work.

RISING LEADER AWARD
Honors volunteers who have demonstrated leadership in trail-related responsiblities with great enthusiasm over the last two years and demonstrate leadership qualities. It is given to those who selflessly keep dedicating more time and effort and show no signs of slowing down.

Lou Baldanza
Trail Supervisor: West Hudson—NeverSink River Unique Area
Lou has truly embodied the “put the ground running” principle, not only since taking up the mantle of trail supervisor at the Neversink River Unique Area a couple of years ago. A chapter leader and ardent advocate for the beautiful Neversink Gorge, he is the first one to volunteer discussions of the needs in that remote location, began recruiting new volunteers, and organized group work trips to take care of unmanaged trails.

David DeShazer
Maintainer: Trail Conference Chair, Supervisor, and Crew Leader: NY—Lenape Trail
DeShazer is a trail supervisor who has filled every vacancy on the long, underserved Lenape Trail. David has maintained a list of advisors to volunteers to serve as the basis for a Lenape Trail CREW, which he organizes and leads monthly providing guidance (and doughnuts) for volunteers. Between his efforts for the success of this project, as a supervisor, his engagement of local volunteers as a trail leader, and his close communication with staff in working with land managers on projects, we look forward to seeing where David goes in the years to come!

Roger Dubin
Supervisor and Maintainer: West Hudson—Harriman State Park
Roger took the role of trail supervisor for southwest Harriman in 2018. He’s on the trails a couple of times a week, helping volunteers and recruiting new ones. He always contributes cheerfully and has constructive suggestions and useful advice, making him a great resource and leader.

THE ELIZABETH LEVERS AWARD FOR ENGAGEMENT AND INCLUSIVITY
This award goes above and beyond to bring people into the Trail Conference family. It celebrates those who have been strong advocates for ensuring our trails and events are an inclusive environment offering everyone the opportunity to connect with nature. It is given to those who embody our value that the joys of nature belong to everyone.

Rose Bonanno
Local Trail Committee Chair: East Hudson—Weichester, Supervisor: East Hudson—Lehman Crew Member—Trail Tramps
Rose is the model LTC Chair. Not only does she empower all Westchester volunteers to achieve their best, she also improves everyone’s experience by encouraging frequent and relevant communication. Her ability to work with youth, design custom curriculum, and put it all together in a successful package is unparalleled.

THE JOAN EHRENFRIED AWARD FOR STewardSHIP
Honors volunteers who have dedicated significant time and effort to trail stewardship of protected nat- ural areas or environmentally responsible trail construction and education. It is given to those who embody the value that the joys of nature offer everyone an opportunity to connect with nature.

Cliff Berchtold
Trail Maintainer: West Hudson—Sterling Forest, Crew Member, Invasive Plant Surveyor, Volunteer Committee Member; At-Large Delegate Cliff is a maintains volunteer for more than 20 years and an Invasive Strike Force member and volunteer for the last six. He has served on several committees, participated in advocacy efforts, helped fundraise, and overall has acted as an exemplary ambassador for the organization. With each role he has served, he has gone above and off the trail, Cliff has approached his duties with balance, passion, and a growing understanding of the importance of being a responsible steward of protected lands.
The Paul Leiken Award for Going the Extra Mile honors volunteers who have recently “gone the extra mile” and made a significant, noteworthy contribution in the last 12 to 18 months.

Lori Baumann, Janelle Heise, David Holtzman, Christine Jackson, and Sharon Wolf
Lori: Darthlington Schoole House Front Desk; Janelle: Darthlington Schoole House Front Desk; David: Darthlington Schoole House Front Desk; Christine: Darthlington Schoole House Front Desk; Sharon: Darthlington Schoole House Front Desk.

These five volunteers share the duty of being the welcoming face at the front desk at the Trail Conference. Every day a member of this team welcomes people from diverse backgrounds and helps to educate them on the trails, lands, and our mission—often transforming visitors into a volunteer or member. In addition, Lori, Janelle, David, Christine, and Sharon keep the front of the house running. They provide a calm to the hectic, fast-paced front office by contributing their various skills and interests to managing data, inventory, store transactions, retail partners, and marketing. No job is too big or small for this team.

Blackburn, Bryan
Manager: East Hudson Appalachian Trail Monitor; Chain Sawyer; Bryan is dedicated to the trails as a trail maintainer, trail supervisor, corridor monitor, and chain sawyer. He had just received his B.Sawyer certification when the devastating May 2018 storms hit—and he quickly put those skills to use. He was the sole sawyer on seven work trips, recruited six volunteers from his day job to help, and to date has spent 60 hours opening trails in the Castle Rock area.

DiSalvo, Ed
Manager: New Jersey Highlands Trail, Northern Wyckoff Crew; Member, Club Delegate; Chain Sawyer; Ed has provided consistent service to the trails and has maintained the trails and surrounding forest since the fall of 2017. After struggling to get B.Sawyers to attend to blowdowns each time the need arose, Ed was referred to the local trail chair and has carried the ball ever since. In 2018 he individually cut 76 blowdowns and spent 165.3 hours of service.

Lanious, Brian
Manager: West Hudson—Sterling Forest; Brian has jumped in to help build and maintain multiple trails. Rain or shine—and last year, mostly rain—one could find Brian working with Americorps crews, raising funds for bridges, coordinating volunteer efforts of Boy Scouts, and maintaining trail. In addition, he has been an ambassador for good trail manners and relationships at all levels and rallying people to contribute to a trail project’s success.

Bob McCormick
Manager: West Hudson—Black Rock Forest; In addition to being a long-time manager, Bob has always been willing to jump in to help move a project along—and things were no different when it came to the Duggan Trail restoration project. He dedicated his time to eight work sessions to rehabilitate one of the most hiked trails in Black Rock Forest.

Mario Medici
Manager: New Jersey—Ringwood State Park and West Hudson—Sterling Forest; Mario is a cheery and dedicated trail maintainer in both Sterling Forest and Ringwood State parks. In addition, Mario plans and leads hikes to introduce novices to the art of hiking safely and responsibly and to educate the public on the Trail Conference. His efforts help create an inclusive community by reaching out to different ages, backgrounds, and interests.

Chester Morris
Manager: New Jersey—Wyckoff; Director of Chain sawyers for the North Section of the Trails Council. Over the last year, and a half he has been instrumental in clearing trees in Stokes State Forest, sometimes averaging 25 to 30 trees a day. He is a tireless worker and truly dedicated volunteer. State parks have expressed great appreciation for his sawyer work.

The West Jersey Crew
Led by David and Monica Day, the West Jersey Crew has been improving trails since 1999. During the last two years they were front and center on several large projects, including the ongoing Po-duck Trail replacement project along the Appalachian Trail, elevating a large chunk of the Cedar Swamp Trail; and organizing a large sawyer response to an overwhelming amount of downfall after the 2018 winter and spring storms. If you’ve ever hiked in the northern part of New Jersey—Wyckoff, you’ve likely had a hand in improving your trail experience.

Glenn Oleksak
Local Trail Committee Chair; and Trail Supervisor: West Hudson; Glenn is almost single-handedly been the driving force behind the New Jersey Highlands Trail. Glenn has spent countless hours working with the Land Conservation Council of New Jersey in identifying parcels for acquisition and, in the field, relocating trails and off roads to impacted areas onto preserved woodland. All of his accomplishments continue to move the Highlands Trail towards becoming a model long-distance trail.

Win Perry
Committee Chair; Win has been active in the preservation and protection of the Long Path since 1976, when real estate development in Rockland County, N.Y., became booming and the trail faced significant threats. He was involved in several major land purchases and easements that have ensured the Long Path retains a safe, enjoyable route to connect people with nature.

THE PAUL LEIKEN AWARD FOR GOING THE EXTRA MILE
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**Welcome, Brent!**

Brent Boscarino joined the Trail Conference in January as our invasive species citizen science program coordinator. He spent the previous 10 years at a high school, science teacher and environmental outreach coordinator at the Poughkeepsie Day School in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and previously the Harvey School in Katonah, N.Y. In his other role as Senior Research Associate at Poughkeepsie Day, Brent ran multiple invasive-based research projects in collaboration with Hobart and William Smith, Ithaca, and Bard colleges. Brent received his undergraduate degree from Middlebury College in 2001 and his Ph.D. in Natural Resources from Cornell University in 2009.

He is a nature enthusiast to the core who strives to foster an authentic “sense of wonder” about the natural world. Brent is an avid runner and former soccer coach who enjoys hiking, fishing, swimming and other forms of outdoor recreation with his wife Jessica and sons Will Fortin and Kevin Carter, Executive Director of Teatown Lake Reservation. “As Teatown’s mission is to inspire our community to lifelong environmental stewardships, we recognize that combating invasive species will always be a community-based effort—and Lindsay will help people learn what they can do.”

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**Invasive Species Program Expands**

The Lower Hudson PRISM (our local Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management) is a group of more than 50 organizations and concerned individuals who work together with funding from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to prevent or minimize the harm caused by invasive species. The Lower Hudson PRISM is managed by the Trail Conference as part of the Lower Hudson PRISM’s mission to protect the rich biodiversity of the region. The Trail Conference is excited to announce some additions to the invasive species programming in 2019.

### Terrestrial Invasives and Citizen Science

The Trail Conference and Lower Hudson PRISM have announced a new citizen science opportunity to trail users and the general public: a fun, monthly scavenger hunt-style challenge to help document invasive species in our region’s natural areas. The EcoQuest scavenger hunt employs an easy-to-use mobile app, iNaturalist, to photograph a target invasive species (and native counterpart) in our local parks and trails over the course of a month. The data are then used by scientists to track the spread of the invasive in our region and help guide best management practices. In April, the theme is “Hello Yellow!”, and users are challenged to hunt for two bright yellow spring bloomers: invasive lesser celandine and a native “look-alike,” marsh marigold. To learn more about how they can help track invasives through the use of the mobile app, iNaturalist.

### Aquatics Program Updates

Following a strong pilot year in 2018 with Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program, run through the Lower Hudson PRISM, has now moved to Teatown Lake Reservation. At Teatown, new Aquatic Programs Coordinator Lindsay Yoder will help design early detection surveys and implement rapid response protocols to manage AIS in the region, in addition to leading outreach and education initiatives and running hands-on volunteer trainings.

Lindsay will also oversee the Watercraft Inspection Steward Program for the PRISM, which provides direct mitigation of one of the primary pathways for aquatic invasive species: hitchikers on boats. Lindsay will select, train, and deploy an AmeriCorps seasonal captain and crew to perform watercraft inspections, surveys, and assist in outreach to recreational users of Hudson Valley waterways. The five crew members are a part of the Trail Conference Conservation Corps as the Aquatic Invasives Strike Force (AISF) Crew.

“We are glad to welcome Lindsay onto the Teatown team and to partner with the LHPRISM to assist in combatting this escalating threat,” said Kevin Carter, Executive Director of Teatown Lake Reservation. “As Teatown’s mission is to inspire our community to lifelong environmental stewardships, we recognize that combating invasive species will always be a community-based effort—and Lindsay will help people learn what they can do.”

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**Appreciation Hikes and Community Outings**

To thank Trail Conference supporters for making our work possible, we invite everyone to join our monthly Appreciation Hikes and Community Outings. Come meet your fellow members and see examples of our recent work or trails we are targeting for improvements.

### UPCOMING DATES:

- **April 19:** Pochuck Boardwalk, Vernon, NJ
- **April 27:** Leave No Trace hike, Mahwah, NJ
- **May 3:** Welsh Trail Education Center, Hackettstown, NY
- **May 12:** Gibraltar Rock, South Orange, NJ
- **May 15:** How to run Trails Clinic, Mahwah, NJ
- **June 1:** National Trails Day, Mahwah, NJ
- **June 14:** Breakneck By-Pass and Undercliff Trails, Cold Spring, NY
- **July 13:** Forest Bathing in Neversink Gorge, Forestburgh, NY
- **July 18:** Full Moon A.T. Hike, Warwick, NY
- **Aug 9:** Dunningfield Creek/A.T. Loop, Columbia, NJ
- **Sept 20:** Appalachian Trail on Bear Mountain, Stony Point, NY
- **Oct 4:** Wyanokie High Point, Ringwood, NJ
- **Nov 29:** #OptOutside Clean-up
- **Dec 13:** Protect Tour, Mahwah, NJ

Check nynjtc.org/events for more details. Not a member yet? Join now at nynjtc.org/membership.

### Long Path End-to-Enders

The Long Path End-to-Enders program offers a certificate and an end-to-end patch “rocker” to anyone who hikes the entire length of the Long Path. The trip can be completed in one continuous trip or in a number of hikes over many years. The following people became end-to-enders in 2018 and were acknowledged at the Volunteer Recognition event:

- **#159 Steve Welgoss finished on 11/04/2018**
- **#160 Elizabeth McDonald finished on 11/17/2018**
- **#161 Johnny Witter finished on 12/09/2018**
- **#162 Brian Bacher finished on 12/29/2018**
- **#163 Andrew Ferguson finished on 12/29/2018**
- **#164 Brian Lubbert finished on 12/29/2018**

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Save the Date: Voting Members Meeting
Our Spring Voting Members meeting will be held on Sunday, June 9, at the Welch Trail Education Center Main Hall in Harriman State Park from 10 to 11:30 a.m. A light breakfast will be available at 9:30 a.m. A hike in Harriman will follow the meeting. At press time, the agenda had not yet been set. If you have agenda items to suggest, please email them to ron@nynjtc.org. Meeting information and materials will be provided in advance.

Oretnreich Family Foundation Supports Detection Dog
Our gratitude to the Oretnreich Family Foundation for their $25,000 gift to the Detection Dog Foundation Supports the Trail Conference.

Robert Marshall and Gertrude Schneider
The West Hudson South Crew is saddened to announce the passing of two of its longtime members last year. Robert (Bob) Marshall died on Dec. 14 at the age of 82 after a short battle with Parkinson's disease. Bob was a lifelong resident of Pepperell, N.Y., and spent many years hiking in Harriman-Bear Mountain state parks. He began trail work in the 1980s and became the West Hudson South Crew Chief upon its formation in the '90s. He continued to run occasional work trips after unofficially retiring from the role, and was a longtime Appalachian Trail maintainer. Bob was a mentor to many, winning the Hoefferlin Award in 1991, he received an honor year Lifetime Trail Conference membership in 2006. He also earned a 25-year award for service on the A.T. from the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.

Sierra Club Mid-Hudson Group
Those who knew Bob were deeply saddened to hear of the death of his long-time companion, Gertrude (Trudy) Schneider on Dec. 29 at 96 years young. After meeting Bob on a Mid-Hudson ADK hike, she became a cornerstone member of the West Hudson South Crew. She supplied many a member with homemade brownies and was assistant crew chief before her retirement; she won the Hoefferlin Award in 2001. She also served as a delegate—at-large for the Trail Conference. Before ill health prevented them from hiking, Bob and Trudy enjoyed each other’s company walking the trails of Peekskill.

Can't find your club? This list represents all Trail Conference member clubs whose dues are up-to-date. If you have questions about your club’s status, please ask your officers to contact the Membership and Development team at 201-512-9348.

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In Memoriam

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A Bold View of the Hudson Valley

By GLENDA HAAS
ART SELECTION COMMITTEE CHAIR

“The Balance,” featuring the vibrant work of Victor Coreas, is on display at the Trail Conference Gallery through May 1. Victor takes inspiration from the world around him and strives to present this vision in a contemporary way with a vintage feel. Sketches are scanned to become digital art, sometimes embossed with custom-designed fonts utilizing brush lettering, calligraphy, and wooden, hand-painted signs. The exhibition features colorful depictions of beloved outdoor destinations well-known to trail wanderers throughout the Hudson Valley. Victor is an art director and graphic designer who has founded his own company, Bold Version, selling silk-screen prints based on his personal drawings and hand-lettered artwork. His website (boldversion.com) also features clothing and brightly colored posters portraying regional locations.

Victor grew up on Long Island and attended SUNY Farmingdale, where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in visual communications and graphic design and an Associate Degree in fine art. He readily admits to being “a big kid,” evidenced by his passions for skateboarding, snowboarding, soccer, video games, and music. Victor now lives with his wife and son in the Hudson Valley.

New Maps and Books on the Way

By JEREMY APGAR, CARTOGRAPHER

For nearly 50 years, the Trail Conference has been leading the charge in making sure up-to-date trail maps are available in the region. Several titles, including one new and expected to be available by the fall. An 11th edition revision is expected to be available in the summer with several updates to the trails and parklands covered in the northern Shawangunks, including changes in Minnewaska State Park Preserve and Mohonk Preserve.

West Hudson Trails map set
An eighth edition revision is expected to be available by the fall, with updates to Storm King State Park, Black Rock Forest, and Schunnemunk Mountain State Park.

Sterling Forest Trails map
An eighth edition is expected to be available by the fall. This revision will include various trail updates, including several miles of recently opened multi-use trails in the southeastern part of Sterling Forest State Park.

Walkable Westchester book
Authors Jane and Walt Daniels have been hard at work on a third edition to this popular guide to parks in Westchester County. Look for this significant update in 2020.

Afoot in Morris book
This brand new book by a team of dedicated volunteers will explore the many parks throughout Morris County, N.J. This new title is expected to be produced sometime in 2020.

To receive notices when these titles become available, make sure you’re signed up for our e-newsletter. Get on the list at bit.ly/3-crews.

Thanks to Our Supporters!
Our appreciation goes to the following partners and foundations for supporting the work of the Trail Conference in 2019.

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley
Community Grants Fund of Putnam County
$2,000 grant supports the Steward Program at Breakneck Ridge.

John T. Sager Community Fund
A $2,500 grant trains stewards and restocks the program’s medical supply kits at Breakneck Ridge.

Open Space Institute: Malcolm Gordon Charitable Fund
A $15,000 grant allows the Trail Conference to create a digital kit that will produce high-quality, sustainable trail solutions to accommodate visitors at Breakneck Ridge.

The Hyde and Watson Foundation
For the completion of a 2,200-foot long, 6-foot-wide pedestrian pathway along Ramapo Valley Road, the Trail Conference was awarded $5,000. The path connects Ramapo Valley County Reservation to the Trail Conference’s historic headquarters, the Town of Mahwah Conti- nental Soldiers Field, and Ramapo College of New Jersey.

New York State Environmental Protection Fund: Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
The Trail Conference has been awarded $126,026 to repair and renovate the Welch Trail Education Center group camp in Harriman State Park.
Learn to See Through the Eyes of a Trail Builder

The Trail Conference is excited to kick off a new series of guided hikes in 2019 called Eyes of a Trail Builder. Each hike will feature a loop trail that is planned for improvement by our volunteer trail crews. Along the hike you’ll learn from an experienced trail builder how to spot the trail issues that crew leaders are expected to tackle—as well as learn solutions to those problems. Whether you’re a casual hiker or a long-time volunteer, these hikes are designed to change the way you view trails forever.

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In addition, for those who “catch the bug” and want to learn more about trail work, each Eyes of a Trail Builder hike will be followed shortly after by a project geared towards beginning trail builders. You’ll return to one of the problem spots identified along the hike and work alongside a trail crew to remedy the problem, learning that being a trail builder (and even crew leader!) doesn’t have to be intimidating.

Finally, attendees to any Eyes of a Trail Builder event will be invited to the unique opportunity to help plan a trail project for 2020. They’ll work alongside professionals to mark reroutes with flagging tape, measure grade with clinometers, drop pin flags at specific work projects, and estimate what timeline and budget would make sense for each component.

We hope that this series of hikes and workshops provides a fun, easy way for anybody to learn more about the world of trail building. To sign up, go to nynjtc.org/events and search “eyes” in the title search bar or email pdolan@nynjtc.org. We hope to see you there!

PETER DOLAN
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Support trails, parks, and open space in the region by joining the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

The Trail Conference maintains more than 2,100 miles of trails, advocates for parks, protects open space, and provides volunteer service opportunities in the great outdoors.

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