

## The Long Distance Trails Crew wishes to dedicate our 2016 Annual Report to Jakob Franke.

Many of our Crew's members have remarked that they can trace their first involvement in trail work to meeting Jakob. Jakob's infectious enthusiasm for the outdoors was, indeed, magnetic. Thus, Jakob's legacy extends beyond the vast body of his personal accomplishments to the next generation of trail volunteers, his trail children, and the work they will complete in coming years.

Jakob, you are with us at every stream crossing, valley and mountain top.

The Long Distance Trails Crew will miss you.



Jakob Franke 1941 - 2016

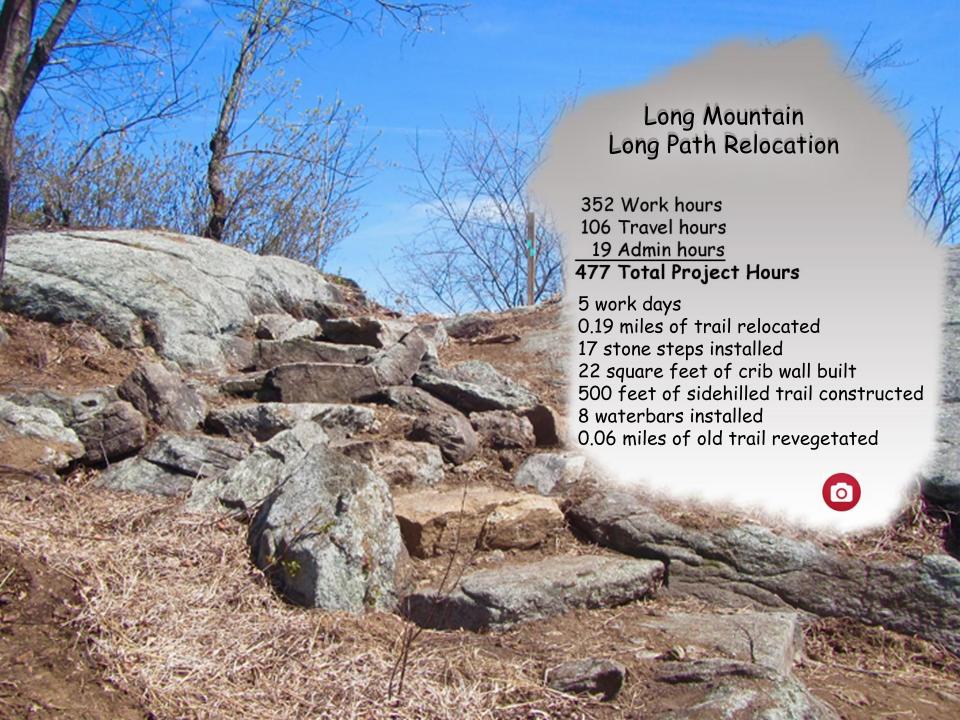
## Long Distance Trails Crew 2016 Annual Report - Introduction

The report that follows documents another very busy year for the Long Distance Trails Crew (LDTC). The numbers and pictures tell the story of a productive work year that supported the goals of the Trail Conference. In addition, the LDTC has forged a unique team that supports its members on each work trip and encourages and enables each member's wider participation in Trail Conference culture and life.

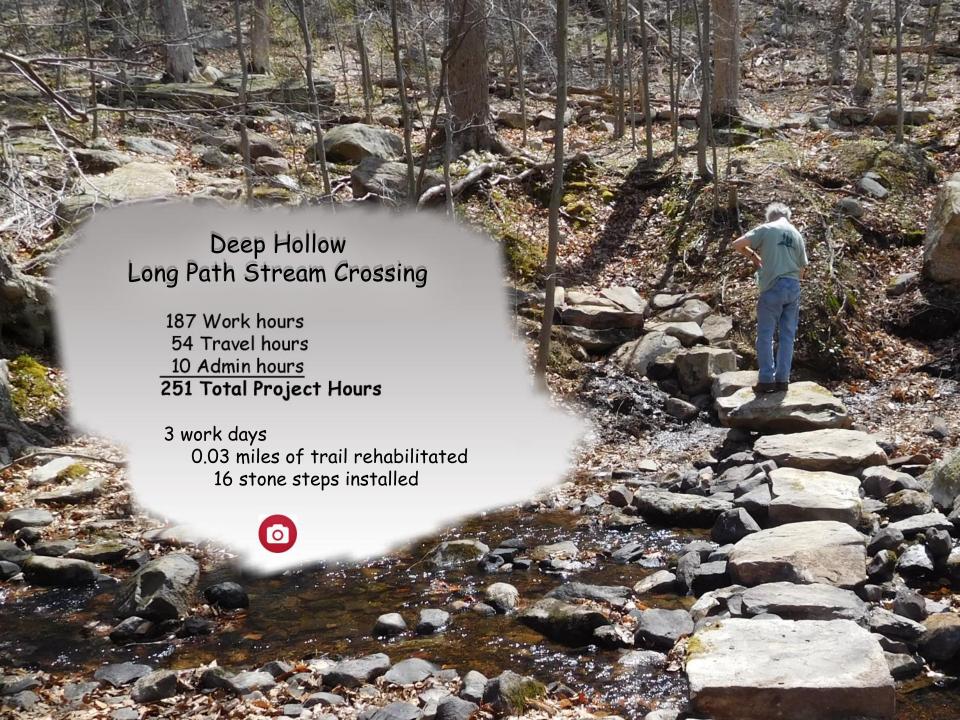
Examples - and results - of such a great team spirit include but are not limited to:

- Seventeen LDTC members serve as committee chairs or members, sawyers, maintainers, and delegates.
- Three members of the LDTC have assumed leadership roles in the development of Trail Conference outdoor activity safety guidelines and attended National Park Service Operational Leadership Safety Training.
- · Fifteen plus LDTC members have current First Aid/Wilderness First Aid certification.
- Four LDTC members were formally recognized this year for their long term volunteer efforts. Crew Chief Chris Reyling was recognized by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy as Appalachian Trail Mid-Atlantic Region Volunteer of the Year. The Trail Conference honored Crew Leader Bob Fuller with the Hoeferlin Award, and Russ and Mary Dooman with the Paul Leikin Award.
- The LDTC, along with the Nor'Westers, was recognized as Volunteers of the Month at Minnewaska State Park Preserve, Sam's Point.





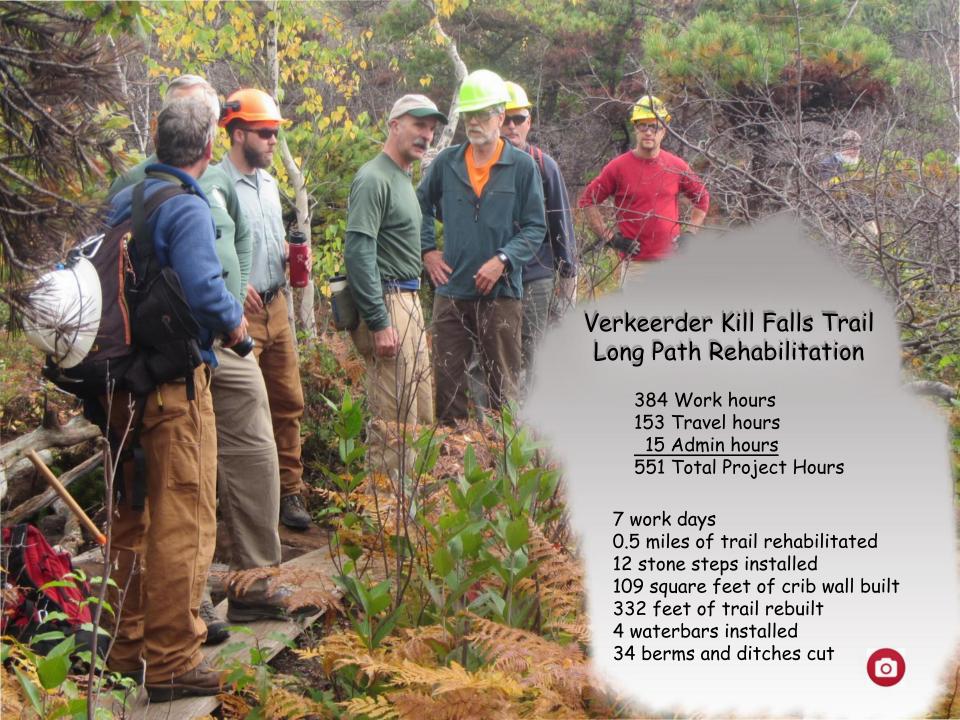
















## VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

## Long Distance Trails Crew and Nor'Westers Trail Crew















We would like to recognize the Long Distance Trails Crew and the Hudson Valley Nor'Westers of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference for their outstanding trail work on the Verkeerderkill Falls Trail in Fall 2016 as well as their work in decommissioning bulldozer fire breaks after the 2016 Sam's Point Fire. Both crews came together to create a beautiful new trail surface on the Verkeerderkill Falls Trail. If you noticed the new crushed stone tread and pavers, and revamped waterbars, you can thank these hardworking crews! For more information about volunteering, email **crew@longdistancetrailscrew.org** for the Long Distance Trails Crew and/or **whntrails@gmail.com** for the Nor'Westers Trail Crew.

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