

Ted Brown

Ted had one of the longest careers on the trail crew having served 6 years in 1943, 1944 (co-TM), 1945 (TM), and in 1947-49.

Significantly, Ted served as a Co-Trail Master in only his 2nd year on the crew, and Trail Master his 3rd year, a reflection of the difficulty the AMC had during the WWII man-power shortage, when many high school-age (and therefore non-draft eligible) men were hired to fill military ranks (U.S. WWII years, 1941-45). This was also an indication of Ted's natural woodsmanship, enthusiasm and leadership ability.

Ted and his wife lived in Jackson, NH for many years, and many TCA members had the pleasure of meeting Ted two years ago when he accepted the Golden Axe Award on behalf of the late Jack Hutton, with whom he served on the crew in 1943. Ted genuinely enjoyed answering the many questions from the assembled TCA members about his years on the crew and working with the legendary John Hutton.

From The Conway Daily Sun, April 2, 2018:



Ted grew up in Providence, R.I., and graduated from Brown University. He came to the White Mountains in his teens to work on the Appalachian Mountain Club Trail Crew. He fell in love with the mountains, coming back each year.

He eventually started working in Jackson, where he met his late wife, Carol, while they were working together at Spruce Mountain Lodge. Although life took the two to other places, they eventually returned to Jackson to settle permanently.

Over the years, Ted hiked almost every AMC trail in New Hampshire. He was an encyclopedia of trail lore and could stand on any peak and name every hill and mountain to the horizon.

In addition to being a life-long hiker, Ted was a skier, outdoorsman, and RVer. He traveled throughout the United States. A history buff, he collected anything (and everything) about woodsmanship. He had a particular interest in his beloved White Mountains.

He spent a number of years researching an obscure half-track logging tractor known as a Lombard steam log hauler. Used at the turn of the twentieth century, this ungainly machine was an early snow tractor, traveling half on skis and half on caterpillar tracks. Ted spent many a trip scouring the sites of old logging camps looking for bits and pieces of the machines.



*1943 - @ Lonesome Lake Trail.
Joe Waring, Jack Hutton, L.B. Bill Chester
& Jimi Rich*

*L. to R. Joe Waring, Jack Hutton, Ted Brown, Bill Chester & Jimi Rich.
Jack Hutton trains high school students to maintain AMC trails before
heading into the Marines. All others are first years. Ted Brown is third
from left with a "tump line" pack (strap over top of head).*

By Bob Watts & Bob Proudman