



DELAWARE & LEHIGH

NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

TALES of the TOWPATH TELEGRAM



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**Tales Website Launches!**

Meet Cyber Finn Gorman.

The time-traveling protagonist of *Tales of the Towpath* is now a walking, talking downloadable tour guide in the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor's latest addition to its Tales of the Towpath curriculum: an interactive, animated website.

Cyber Finn is played by Touchstone Theatre Ensemble Member, Bill George, whose 85-year-old character furnishes friendly introductions to the site and the history behind it.



**Will the Real Finn Gorman Please Stand Up?**



George and Touchstone colleagues, JP and Lisa Jordan, also narrate voiceovers that describe towns and other places of interest along Finn's favorite waterways, the Lehigh and Delaware canals. ([Click here to continue.](#))

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## Annual Teacher Training Scheduled for June 23

Teachers who will be implementing Tales of the Towpath for the first time during the 2011-2012 school year, or current teachers who want a refresher course, are invited to the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor's annual teacher training day at Hugh Moore Park in Easton on June 23. We highly recommend this training.

The D&L will be teaming with the National Canal Museum on a full day of curriculum instruction and activities that will introduce teachers to canal life in the 1800s. We'll have a blacksmith on hand, you'll learn how to scrub clothing on a washboard, and you'll design your own canal boat and see how much weight it can carry before it sinks. You'll also take a canal boat ride on the Lehigh Canal with Hank and George, the park's loveable mules, providing the power.

Classroom sessions will introduce you to the curriculum and the history that shaped it. You'll also learn how to use the Tales of the Towpath website and you'll listen to implementation strategies from teachers who have used the curriculum the past two years. The D&L will provide pastry and beverages for breakfast and a hearty lunch.

To register, please get in touch with Dennis Scholl by telephone at 610-923-3548 x225 or e-mail at [dennis@delawareandlehigh.org](mailto:dennis@delawareandlehigh.org). The deadline to register is May 15. Training agendas will be mailed after May 15.

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## Lesson ideas? Get in Touch!

The lessons that are offered in Tales of the Towpath are written by current and former teachers who were members of the curriculum development team or have implemented the

Let's see, we have old Finn Gorman, young Finn Gorman, Cyber Finn Gorman, Blog Finn Gorman, and now E-Mail-Me Finn Gorman. Good gracious, will the real Finn Gorman please stand up?

Turns out, they're all real Finn Gormans, or at least as real as a fictional character can be. The more the merrier, as we see it. After all, Finn has found a way to get elementary students interested in history. We'll take as many of him as we can get.

When the Tales of the Towpath website launches on April 13, encourage your students to get in touch with Finn, either at school if time permits or at home with a parent helping. They can respond to any one of three blogs or write Finn a question pertaining to the storybook or the history behind the storybook. Finn will respond faster than a speeding Switchback Railroad car. It's easy and we might just develop a few more young historians as a result.

Psst! Did you hear Facebook Finn will be debuting soon?

program in the classroom. We are proud to say that all the lessons are volunteer driven.

We're always looking for new lessons, especially along the lines of science, environmental science, and technology. We are in need of lessons that deal with the formation of coal and the use of coal as a fuel. We'd love to have lessons related to the Lenape people, or lessons that deal with technological changes in communication. Use your imagination.

If you have an idea, please get in touch. We'd like lessons to follow the format we've established, which, of course, includes Pennsylvania academic standards and anchors. The curriculum is always evolving; we hope you take part in the evolution.

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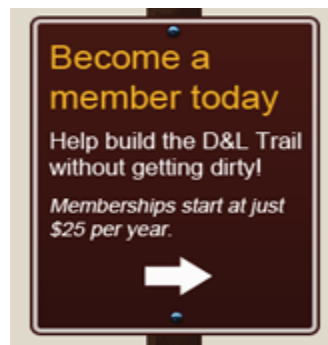
## Language Arts Lessons

If you have not received your Language Arts Lessons CD, please contact Dennis Scholl by e-mail [dennis@delawareandlehigh.org](mailto:dennis@delawareandlehigh.org) at your earliest convenience. The CD contains 24 standardized Language Arts lessons as well as a Chapter 4 lesson on transportation.

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Tarnation, where will that man be next? Anyone read Finn's latest Tweet?



### D&L Links:

- [PDF Tales of the Towpath Slide Show](#)
- [Pennsylvania Education Tax Credit Program](#)
- [National Canal Museum](#)



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**Our Mission:** To enrich the communities within the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor thru actions and partnerships that conserve the resources, tell the stories and enhance the quality of life for residents of the Corridor.



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