



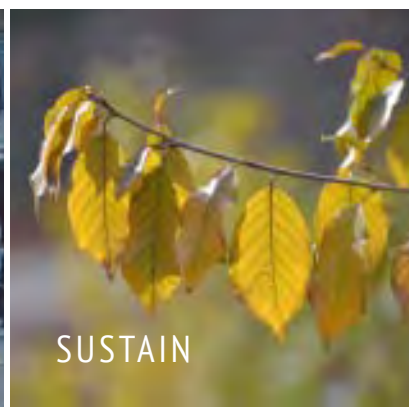
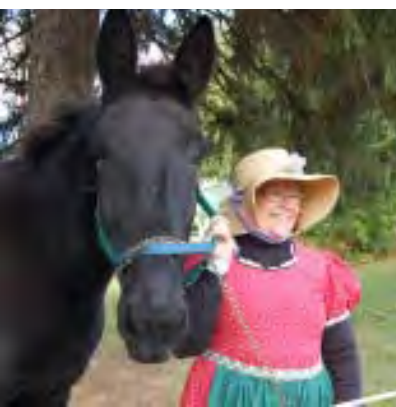
DELAWARE & LEHIGH
NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR



ANNUAL REPORT
2014



delawareandlehigh.org



2014

A Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends,

In 1988, Congress established the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor because our region is a place where natural, cultural and historical resources combine to form a unified nationally significant landscape. We tell the vibrant story of our locale's impact on America's evolution and culture.

In 2014, the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor (D&L) is both a multi-use trail spanning 165 miles from the mountains of northeast Pennsylvania, along rivers and through the Lehigh Valley and Bucks County and a diverse, multi-faceted organization that connects you to distinctive experiences in nature and the environment, community and economic impact, health and recreation, history, preservation and education.

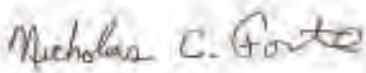
Through the D&L Trail Alliance, we took the initiative to create a robust regional network of trails. The D&L Trail serves as the super-highway that connects linking trails to Philadelphia via The Circuit, the Lehigh Valley and the Anthracite Region of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Our strategic alliance with Hugh Moore Park & Museums, Inc. literally re-opened the door for thousands of residents, students, families and other visitors to experience enhancements in the National Canal Museum at the Emrick Center and ride the Josiah White II Canal Boat. By using our archives and "Tales of the Towpath" as a base, education and interpretation became fresh, fun and authentic - all at the same time. Our combined association is clearly stronger as one.

Corridor communities are seeing new vigor as we work to improve trail connections. Concrete links are apparent with new signage installations in the Landmark Towns of Bucks County, trail town resolutions enacted and funding reinstated to close several remaining trail gaps.

Finally, this fall brought great news for our organizational sustainability. In November, we hired our first full-time organizational advancement professional. Cathleen Canevari will bring her considerable professionalism to help secure a viable funding future for the expanded D&L organization. In December Congress reached agreement on an omnibus public lands bill. After a House amendment, it moved to a floor vote authorizing the D&L for National Park Service funding through FY 2021. This is a major victory for the D&L and 13 other National Heritage Areas that were expiring this fiscal year and the essential stability we need to fulfill our mission.

With the continued support of members, corporate sponsors, volunteers, federal, state and local government, I look forward to more inspiring connections!



Nicholas C. Forte, Chairman



INSPIRING CONNECTIONS

“Corridor communities are seeing new vigor as we work to improve trail connections.”

For 25 years the D&L has connected and preserved the communities in the five county region. With each day, the D&L Trail inspires new connections...community, culture, heritage, nature and recreation. Now, its Smithsonian-affiliated National Canal Museum adds a family-friendly learning experience with its mule-drawn canal boat, hands-on exhibits, and shared the Corridor’s ‘Tales of the Towpath’ by interpreting how our region led America’s Industrial Revolution.

America was built on
our main streets and in
our historic towns...fueled
by canals and their rivers...
harnessed by strong people who led
the way.

We are better positioned than ever
before to tell the story of America’s
first major industrial corridor, where
geography and geology met human
genius and energy—creating a
confluence which helped transform the
United States from a rural, agricultural
society into an industrial power.

America was literally built here.





25th Anniversary

Two thousand fourteen marked the **25th anniversary** of the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, so we made a point to recognize communities, commemorate partners and highlight accomplishments with a new video, *"We are the D&L."*

Three **Partner Luncheons** at New Hope's Logan Inn, SteelStacks' ArtsQuest Café and Genetti's Best Western in Wilkes-Barre drew 175 friends and partners who have been influential through the years. Honored guests included longtime board Chair Don Bernhard (PPL Utilities), past board Chair and canal champion Will Rivinus, DCNR Secretary Ellen Ferretti, as well as legislators, donors, volunteers and board members – past and present. Chair Nick Forte reinforced our mission when he commented, **"the D&L connects people to communities"**—where they form lasting relationships and opportunities that positively impact the local economy."

Get Your Tail on the Trail

Year two was another huge success, exceeding expectations. **By partnering with St. Luke's University Health Network**, 2014's 6-month challenge attracted over 5,300 registrants who walked, biked and ran over 800,000 miles on the D&L Trail Network. Elissa Garofalo and Dr. Bonnie Coyle addressed the national "Pro Bike, Pro Walk, Pro Place" conference in Pittsburgh and the program was highlighted as a best practice in *Health & Hospital Network* magazine. *Get Your Tail on the Trail* continues to grow with enhancements planned.



CELEBRATING... The Year in Review

Half Marathon Run & Walk

We hosted the first long distance walking race in the region. Nearly 800 runners and walkers from 19 states and Sweden arrived on race day. Despite the wind and cold, runners and walkers celebrated their personal accomplishments and lauded the event's dedicated volunteers. Vital local support and cooperation was provided by the Lehigh Gap Nature Center, Borough of Northampton, North Whitehall Township, Borough of Slatington and Lehigh County.

Bike for the Bridge

Nearly 200 bicyclists came out to draw attention to our most challenging trail gap – building the pedestrian crossing at Jim Thorpe. Pocono Biking and the Rails to Trails Conservancy partnered with us to promote the event and donated all proceeds.

Holiday Volunteer Luncheon

Staff members served a festive lunch to over 75 volunteers to show appreciation and gratitude. Volunteers play a key role in enhancing our communities' quality of life, and include National Canal Museum docents, office support and event helpers, while the Trail Tenders and Patrol maintain and improve the D&L Trail. Without them, much of the work we do would not be possible.





The D&L Trail is 85% complete and our dedicated team is working diligently to finish the remaining 25 miles, which will make it the longest trail in Pennsylvania. Serious challenges remain, but, through our strong partnerships, much progress was made this year.

CONNECTING... The D & L Trail



North Branch Land Trust received \$84,500 from DCNR to acquire 2.5 miles of former rail bed for the Trail north of Mountaintop.

DCNR's Bureau of Forestry received **\$283,347 in PennDOT Transportation Alternative (TAP) funding** to construct the Middleburg Road pedestrian crossing.

Transfer of the completed **Black Diamond Section** from the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association to the Bureau of Forestry was initiated.

\$2.1 million funding for the **pedestrian bridge at Jim Thorpe** was restored. Final design and permitting is in the PennDOT process, with the Carbon County as the project sponsor.

The Carbon County Connectivity Project moved forward, with preliminary design completed and the Route 895 pedestrian crossing final design is now with PennDOT for comments. Construction is expected to start in late spring 2015.

Wildlands Conservancy worked toward closing trail gaps through the Lehigh Valley, including the 0.9 mile Ironton Rail Trail to D&L Trail connection.

\$217,000 was received from the PA DCED to replace a small bridge over Catasauqua Creek, a pedestrian bridge over Dry Run in Northampton and replacement of the broken storm water pipe in North Catasauqua.

Working with **Northampton County's Open Space Program** and Freemansburg Borough, a plan was developed to make additional trail head and parking improvements.

Progress was made toward the resolution of the Tyburn Road obstruction in Falls Township. **With successful negotiation, a critical connection for the D&L Trail**, East Coast Greenway and Delaware Canal State Park will be made.

Working with PennDOT, DCNR and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, a connecting sidewalk is in development for Green Lane between the PA Turnpike and the D&L Trail/Delaware Canal Towpath entrance near Bristol Borough. This 0.2 miles will close a long time gap and vastly improve passage.

PRESERVING...

Bringing Our History Alive!

National Canal Museum & the Josiah White II

The National Canal Museum has been rejuvenated.

With a new Welcome Center providing orientation, doors re-opened on June 7, 2014. A corps of newly trained volunteer docents introduced thousands to the Museum which now offers 14 interactive exhibits detailing 19th and 20th-century canal life and technology.

Hank and George continued to tow **Pennsylvania's only mule-drawn canal boat ride**. Riders enjoyed Hugh Moore Park's scenery, while authentically-dressed crew members described regional canal history. New admission fees for the boat and museum boosted income, and the museum attracted **7,800 visitors in 2014** – the most since 2009. Four new "Conversations on the Canal" dinner cruises and three nighttime Halloween rides sold out quickly.



"I learned so much here and had fun. I'll bet it was fun living back in the old days."

Freemansburg Canal Education Center

Fourth-grader Owen Cassel of Bethlehem was one of our recent school visitors to the Freemansburg Center. **During his 4-hour field trip, he harnessed a life-size fiberglass mule, dug for artifacts amid ruins of a 200-year-old grist mill, watched fresh cabbages become sauerkraut, and measured the interior of a 186-year-old lock.** Owen had never been to Freemansburg, even though he lives less than two miles away. His enthusiasm indicated that he'd be back. "I liked it here; it was very much fun," he said. "It would be very interesting if we could go back in time. It would be nothing like today." Owen's experience and perspective is what we strive for through our programming.



Tales of the Towpath

This year, we presented our **award-winning Tales of the Towpath curriculum** to 5,000 students in 72 elementary schools, and it has evolved to include an interactive website and Facebook page. It is integrated into field trips and the Museum through character, location and situational references.

More than 1,700 children participated in our six-week **Immersion Days** program in Hugh Moore Park, Easton this year, while field trip attendance increased to 2,650 from 1,900 in 2013. The popular program follows the adventures of storybook character Finn Gorman and is integrated with hands-on science, technology, and cultural lessons.



A Vision for the Future...



LEHIGH VALLEY GREENWAYS



EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
GREENWAYS & TRAILS SUMMIT

In partnership with the PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, the D&L has been the local lead for this program since 2004. **This conservation landscape focuses on linking Lehigh Valley communities to greenways, trails, and outdoor experiences** to help bring about stronger local economies and improved public health, green infrastructure and natural resources.

Lehigh Valley Greenways positioned itself for the future in 2014. Leadership took time to survey partners, retain a new Coordinator and host 165 participants the Eastern PA Trail Summit. Most importantly, a listening tour was conducted during this transition year. Information and input were gathered in order to collect the insights, ideas and context from stakeholders before making decisions.

The stage is set for a productive next chapter.



Landmark Towns of Bucks County

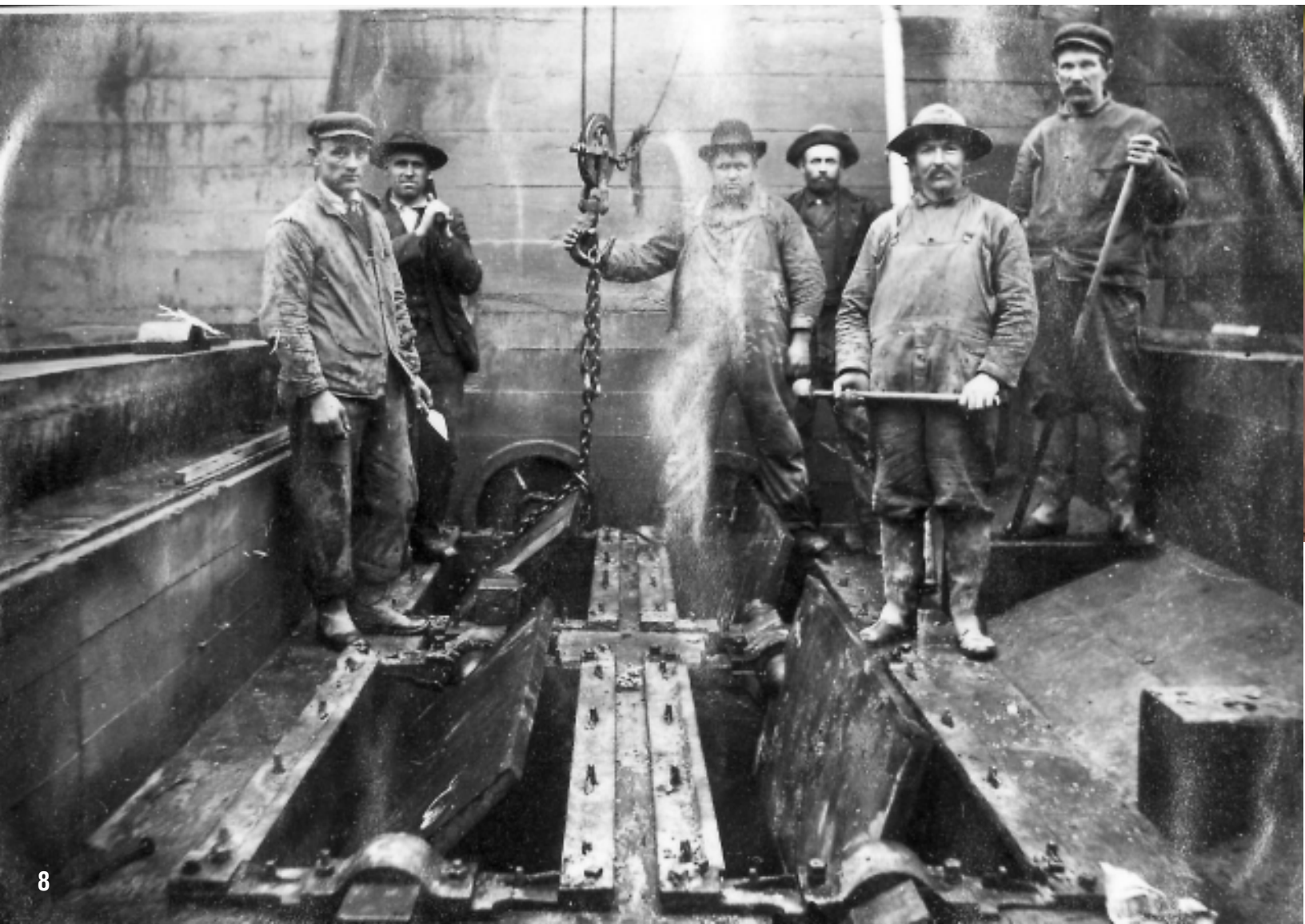
It was a busy year for the Landmark Towns of Bucks County, as a wide variety of projects helped unify the area as a **visitor destination**.

Working with **local partners**, we participated in the Delaware Canal Festival, River Towns Road Rally and National Trails Day Dog Walk. The publication of the regional D&L Trail-Delaware Canal Section map brochure highlights connections between New Hope, Yardley, Morrisville and Bristol Borough and public transportation, trail and river access.

Landmark Towns helped address the visual impact that the **historic architecture** has on visitors when it provided each Landmark Town with software to develop comprehensive, up-to-date Design Guidelines. Bristol volunteers have already customized their data for adoption by HARB and Borough Council and new guidelines are in place, while HARB members in New Hope, Morrisville and Yardley are currently customizing the tool for eventual adoption.



REVITALIZING...



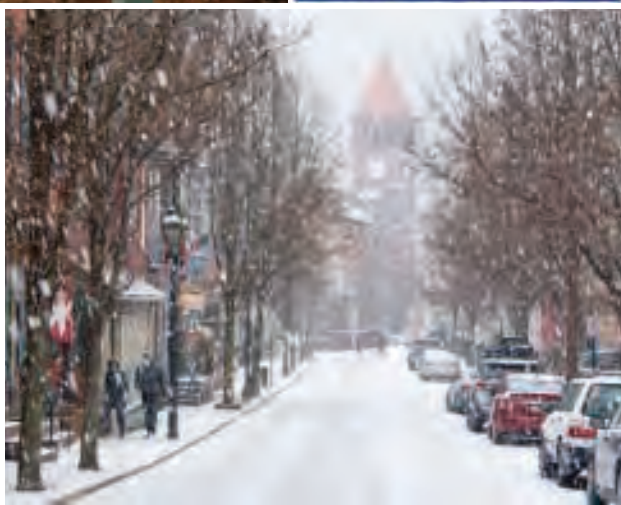


Advancing Economic Vitality

Landmark Towns obtained \$307,094 in **façade grant funds** for all four towns, while Bristol's local economic revitalization group, Raising the Bar, received \$58,000 in grants for façade improvements, physical improvements at a trailhead, a marketing grant and designation as a *Countryside Town of Philadelphia*.

Wayfinding and location signs in downtowns along the towpath and at public buildings now help visitors negotiate between trail, parking and downtown amenities. In Yardley, grant funding and design assistance were provided for vehicular signs on River Road and in the downtown; in Bristol, for wayfinding and location signs in the Cultural Corridor, including vehicular signs and the new Bristol History Trail at the Grundy Library & Museum riverfront; and in New Hope, wayfinding and location signs downtown, along the towpath, and at Borough Hall. By partnering with the Morrisville/Yardley Rotary, four new "You Are Here" signs were installed on the D&L Trail/Towpath.

Local communities and businesses took advantage of a social media workshop, shared event promotion and news on the Landmark Town's Facebook page and participated in the Community Achievement Awards last May.



Strong Partners

We are fortunate to have strong foundational partners in the **National Park Service, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources and the William Penn Foundation.**

Thanks to Pennsylvania's leadership in the **National Heritage Area** movement, we received a funding authorization extension through fiscal year 2021, which will provide needed stability for planning purposes.

Building constituencies to accomplish projects that generate interest, investment and momentum are paramount to sustain the Corridor. Our Board of Directors is a pro-active group who represent the Corridor by geography and concern. Their skills range from the arts, law and marketing to education, finance and engineering. They have been most generous with their time, talent and treasure as the D&L grows, specifically tackling matters related to facilities, staffing, finance and advancement. Board committees now include Executive, Finance, Trail, Advancement, Museum, Education, Nominating and Facilities.



SUSTAINING ...

In 2014, we developed a **communications strategy** to increase our visibility that takes into account the D&L organization, Trail and resources of the National Canal Museum. An enhanced **membership program** is now in place, taking advantage of the strategic alliance between the D&L and the National Canal Museum, now operating as a single, unified entity. And, we added a new position, a Vice President of Organizational Development, who will assure resource development and communications are aligned.

With a small budget and big ambitions, we produced a fresh **new website** and print material for the reinvigorated **National Canal Museum**, which is enjoying a new-found popularity thanks to favorable reviews on social and print media and visitor word-of-mouth.

Media outreach continues to expand and flourish, with our e-newsletter, weekly e-blasts, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and print articles. Facebook pages total 5,973 'likes' (a 30% increase) with the five top posts shared over 200 times. Fifty-six print articles appeared in regional newspapers and journals throughout the year.

For the Long Term



Statement of Financial Position (For year ended December 31, 2013)

Assets

Current Assets	Operating Funds	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Cash	883,450	530,319	1,413,769
Receivables	88,570	-	88,570
Prepaid Expenses	6,147	-	6,147
Inventory	16,364	-	16,364
Other Assets			
Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Total Assets	994,531	530,319	1,524,850

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	Operating Funds	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Refundable Advances		365,319	365,319
Accounts Payable	-	-	-
Accruals	14,462	-	14,462
Total Current Liabilities	14,462	365,319	379,781

Net Assets (Reserve)

Unrestricted	980,069	-	980,069
Restricted		165,000	165,000
Total Net Assets	980,069	165,000	1,145,069
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	994,531	530,319	1,524,850

Statement of Activities

(For year ended December 31, 2013)

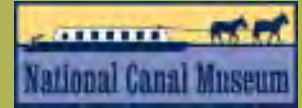
	Operating Funds	Temporarily Restricted Funds	Total
Revenue & Support			
Contributions	111,892	165,000	276,892
Grants	920,516	365,319	1,285,835
Program Income (NPS)	429,810	-	429,810
Interest	3,659	-	3,659
Miscellaneous	112,091	-	112,091
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	165,000	(165,000)	-
Total Revenue and Support Received	1,742,968	365,319	2,108,287
Expenses			
Administrative	292,272	-	292,272
Designated Programs	1,597,908	365,319	1,963,227
Depreciation	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	1,890,180	365,319	2,255,499
Change in Net Assets	(147,212)	-	(147,212)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	1,127,281	165,000	1,292,281
Net Assets at End of Year	980,069	165,000	1,145,069

Project Grant Activity 2014

D&L Projects	Source	Amount
Visually & Graphically Speaking	Federal/private/local partners	28,320
Trail Tenders	Federal/private/local partners	1,161
Tales of the Towpath	Various local partners	1,893
D&L Trail Projects	D&L/NPS	19,416
FCEC Lock 44	D&L/NPS/local partners	8,645
Canal Museum	Private/local partners	19,383
Trail Assistance/Wayfinding	D&L/NPS/local partners	851
D&L 25th Anniversary Celebration	D&L/NPS	10,035
Membership & Development	D&L/NPS	1,746
Marketing & Communication	D&L/NPS	11,690
Eastern PA Trail Summit	Private/local partners	15,993
D&L Trail Alliance	William Penn Foundation & other local partners	152,585
DCNR - SR - Partnerships		
D&L Corridor Landscape/Greenways	DCNR	151,313
DCNR - PRD - Development		
D&L Trail Development	DCNR	63,226
DCED Projects		
Landmark Towns	DCED	15,500
	Match - federal/private/local	75,411
C2P2-LVGI Projects		
D&L Coordination Mini-Grants	DCNR	130,234
	Match - federal/private/local	190,958
TEA Projects		
Luzerne	PennDot	229,844
Freemansburg	PennDot	88,071
TOTAL GRANT RECEIPTS		1,216,276

staff

Elissa M. Garofalo	<i>President/Executive Director</i>
Cathleen Canevari	<i>Vice President Organizational Advancement</i>
H. Scott Everett	<i>D&L Trail Manager</i>
Claire Sadler	<i>Conservation Coordinator</i>
Kathleen Hammerstone	<i>Finance</i>
Rayne Schnabel	<i>Special Events Coordinator</i>
Dennis Scholl	<i>Outreach Coordinator</i>
Martha Capwell-Fox	<i>Museum & Archives</i>
April Andrews	<i>Community Outreach Assistant</i>
Loretta Susen	<i>Program Assistant</i>
Sandy Duda	<i>Program Assistant</i>
Roberta Longenbach	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Thurston Gill	<i>Maintenance</i>
Terri Monserrat	<i>Welcome Center Host</i>
Susan Francisco	<i>Seasonal Canal Boat</i>
Emily Thomas	<i>Seasonal Canal Boat</i>
Jeff Mucklin	<i>Seasonal Canal Boat</i>
Steve Capwell	<i>Seasonal Canal Boat</i>



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nicholas C. Forte, Chairman
Donald Sachs, Vice Chairman
Peter Marmaras, Treasurer
James B. Birdsall, Secretary
Darrell Crook, At Large

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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James P. Creedon
Charles Derr
Marla Mensch Doddo
Michael Drabenstott
Mish Ganssle
Bill Getchell
Tom Gettings
Robert Hoskings Jr.
Sharyn Keiser
Jack Krissinger
Julia Maserjian
John P. Miller
Vance Packard
Brian Rich
Sean Robbins
Robert P. Skulsky
Lon Snowden
Ken Vance



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Pam Coleman
Coordinator
Landmark Towns of Bucks County
D&L Trail Towns

Barbara Swanda
Manager (thru 11/14)

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