

A N N U A L R E P O R T

2015

Find Your D&L

DELAWARE & LEHIGH
NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR



delawareandlehigh.org
canals.org

“D&L” means different things to different people. **The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor is a place where you experience 165 miles of inspiring connections.**

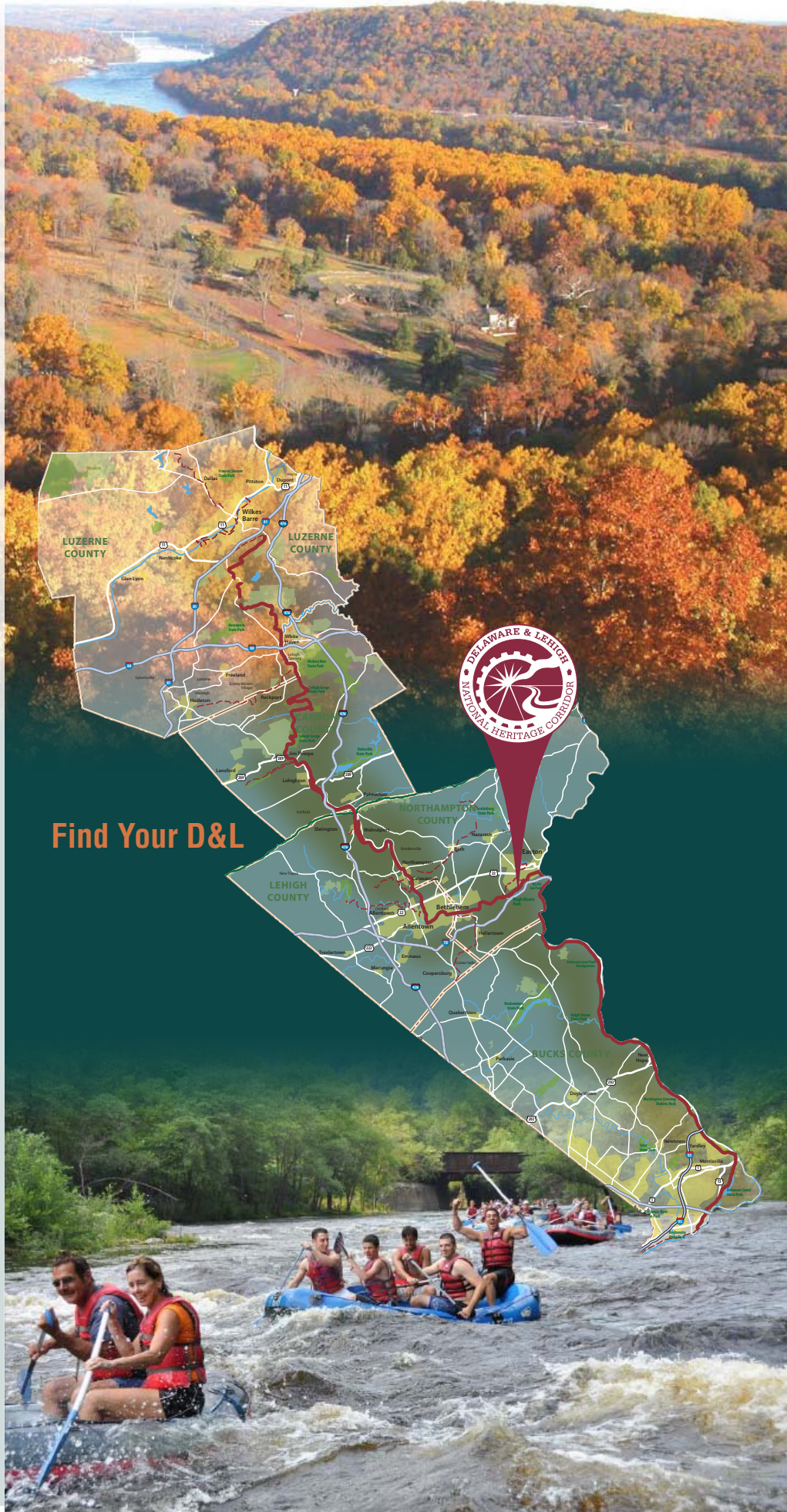
The D&L is also a diverse organization that connects you to nature, the environment, community and economic impact, health and recreation, history, preservation and education.

- ◆ For history enthusiasts, the **D&L brings our heritage alive** at the National Canal Museum and aboard the Josiah White II.
- ◆ Educators look to the D&L for a **creative curriculum** to engage 4th and 5th graders through *Tales of the Towpath*.
- ◆ To our elected officials, the D&L is a high priority that brings home the **positive power of regional, state and federal partners**.
- ◆ Bicyclists, runners and walkers find their D&L along a **multi-use D&L Trail** that spans from the mountains of northeast Pennsylvania, along rivers and through Lehigh and Bucks Counties.
- ◆ Among concerned friends and neighbors who live along the Delaware Canal, **the D&L is the convener** that brings seemingly disparate interests together to create a sustainable vision for an iconic National Historic Landmark.
- ◆ On main streets, the D&L provides **valuable insights** that help reveal customer preferences.
- ◆ Regional health providers know the D&L has **increased the level of physical activity** in communities located along the D&L Trail.

I encourage you to *Find Your D&L*.

Nicholas C. Forte

Nicholas Forte, Chair





The Rejuvenated Josiah White II

Anchors Aweigh

Hugh Moore Park's **popular mule-drawn canal boat**, the Josiah White II, received a major overhaul, its first since the boat began sailing the Lehigh Canal in 1994. It is the last boat built by Bethlehem Steel at Sparrows Point, MD and was in need of heavy maintenance. Volunteer D&L Trail Tenders spent more than 400 hours sanding, power washing, painting and waterproofing the 50' by 20' two-level vessel, inside and outside — from bow to stern.

The boat's steel hull underwent an extensive ultrasound test to determine whether any portion of it had worn thin from rust. The hull passed with flying colors. Electricians replaced the boat's wiring system, installed new outlets, LED lights, deep-cycle marine batteries which provide plenty of power. Bathrooms now have new floors and the boat's exterior received a fresh coat of historically accurate maroon paint.

D&L education programs continued to engage students, **with more than 5,000 students from 72 Corridor elementary schools participating in the popular *Tales of the Towpath* social studies/language arts curriculum.**

Spring Immersion Days field trips at Hugh Moore Park attracted 2,052 students, while autumn field trips at the Freemansburg Canal Education Center drew 952 fourth-graders from the Bethlehem Area School District. A **new summer camp** introduced youngsters to canal and industrial history through a variety of indoor and outdoor activities including geocaching on the D&L Trail.



National Canal Museum and Archives Highlights

Curiosities, Gifts and Exhibitions

The National Canal Museum received a very special gift this past year — **a cherry four-poster bed that belonged to Josiah White**. White's records show that he took the bed with him to Mauch Chunk during the building of the Lehigh Navigation. The bed came with its original two-step stool and a detailed provenance by the donors' father; they are direct descendants of Josiah's brother, Joseph.

Kathy Chartier of Easton donated an **original C.P. Yoder painting** of the Forks of the Delaware, which Yoder had given to her father in the mid-1970s to display in his downtown Easton hotel.

Roger Whitely and a hardworking group of volunteers sorted through the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company records. Materials will be cataloged for our archives; other records have been donated to No. 9 Mine and the Anthracite Heritage Museum.

Lehigh Coal and Navigation's employment records were made available on Ancestry.com in August, while **materials from the Bethlehem Steel Collection are prominent in the multi-media interpretive exhibitions on SteelStack's Hoover-Mason Trestle.**

The late John Lovis and Ann Bartholomew drew from the **National Canal Museum's collection of Bethlehem Steel photographs and maps** for their 24-page guidebook to the steel site, *Steelmaking in Bethlehem, PA — The Final Years*, published by Canal History and Technology Press in June.

The National Canal Museum's **inaugural exhibit, *An 'Untried' Enterprise—Forging America's Industrial Independence***, opened on July 2nd to celebrate the birth of America's Industrial Revolution which began in the D&L Corridor 175 years ago. The exhibit featured artifacts from the NCM collection, original art by Dennis Gerhart, art and artifacts borrowed from private collections, the Mercer Museum and Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society.



Growing Greenway Partnerships

Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape, the growing partnership led by the D&L and PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), experienced a very busy year, highlighted by two inaugural events.

September's **Lehigh Valley Greenways Festival** was held at Jacobsburg State Park and Environmental Education Center. Over fifteen partner exhibits showcased projects related to the Greenways, as well as activities that included a live animal presentation, butterfly walk and macroinvertebrate studies in the Bushkill Stream.

In October, over 60 people attended the **first Lehigh Valley Greenways Legislative Breakfast** to advocate for program support and educate elected officials about our goals and associated projects in land conservation, outdoor recreation, community revitalization and education. **Our annual grant program disbursed \$95,500 in mini-grants** to ten projects throughout the Lehigh Valley.

Partnering with St. Luke's University Health Network, **Get Your Tail on the Trail** had an exciting third year promoting the connection between health and outdoor recreation. It started in February with a **successful snowshoeing event** and continued through the **165-Mile Challenge** with three more community events along D&L Trail and local trails. In June, the program won the **nationally recognized Trails for Health award** at the International Trail Symposium in Portland, Oregon.



D & L TRAIL: Building Intricate Connections



Designing, permitting and planning took center stage this past year, as **we continued to strive to complete the 165-mile D&L Trail by 2020.**



Desha Utsick

While challenges remain, we have developed a construction plan for the remaining trail connectivity projects to complete the trail through the Corridor's five counties.

The construction of **Jim Thorpe's pedestrian bridge**, which will provide a connection between Carbon and Lehigh Counties, will begin in 2016. Additional plans to expand **trail conditions and connectivity** are set for Luzerne, Northampton, Carbon and Lehigh Counties, some of which will be completed in 2016. **Ongoing partnerships** with state agencies and local partners are securing our timeline and funding.

In Luzerne County, we continue to support our partners in **acquiring right of way** between Mountain Top and Seven Tubs to facilitate a D&L Trail section. We are in the process of **closing two environmental gaps** in Northampton Borough and North Catasauqua, Northampton County. **Planning will continue** for a bridge at Catasauqua Creek and necessary widening throughout the county.

Allentown's large waterfront development project is a tremendous opportunity for the trail network, with the **D&L eventually routing up both banks of the Lehigh River**. Working with Philadelphia's office of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, the remaining **Delaware Canal Towpath sections are in various stages of design.**

The Delaware Canal Vision Study

Throughout 2015, the public has participated in a comprehensive, collaborative stakeholder process to **create a vision for the future of the Delaware Canal**. Even as the Canal approaches its 200th anniversary in 2033, it is still a dynamic component of the communities along its 60-mile route alongside the Delaware River today. **Residents and others who work nearby reported that this National Historic Landmark remains an integral, vital part of their daily lives.**

The final report, to be released in the spring of 2016 by the lead planners, Simone Collins Landscape Architecture, will describe **what the community envisions for a sustainable Canal into the 21st century**. It will address budget limitations, potential financial partners and funding ideas. Afterward, a feasibility study will determine the specific costs of implementing priority projects and recommend how to finance viable projects.

The Delaware Canal Vision Study was initiated by Delaware Canal 21 and funded by the William Penn Foundation, with the D&L serving as project manager. Partners include the DCNR and Delaware Canal State Park staff, friends of the Delaware Canal, the Delaware Canal Advisory Committee and government representatives. Data, maps and comments from the public meetings for the study are available online at delawarecanalvision.org.

A GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE



Celebrate

ALONG THE CORRIDOR: Conversations, Cruises and Celebrations

The inaugural **D&L Dinner & Auction** celebrated **Lock Tenders and Trail Tenders**. Chaired by the dynamic Mrs. Trudi Denlinger, this April event attracted 139 guests to the Northampton Country Club. More than 160 auction items were contributed by area businesses. Friends and supporters from our five counties and beyond raised nearly \$28,000. In October, **Haunted Hugh Moore Park** (a joint effort with the City of Easton) sold out again.



The mule-drawn **Josiah White II canal boat** hosted **thousands of passengers** on weekly rides in 2015. But it was perhaps most popular as a floating eatery and stage for Saturday evening **themed dinner cruises** that were part of the D&L's annual "Conversations on the Canal." Seven cruises took place between late June and early October, featuring history, music and great food prepared by Culinary Experts of Allentown. While historic themes — Irish and Italian immigration, canal life, the Lenape people of the Lehigh and Delaware valleys — dominated the lineup, additional beer and wine tasting cruises and a 1950's sock hop attracted even more guests.

Spring Dinner & Auction Committee



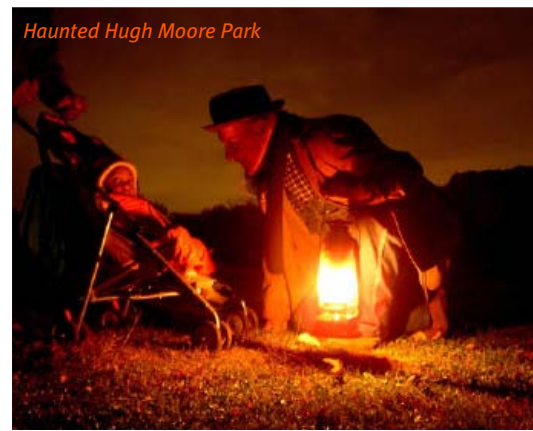
A NEW DIRECTION: Running – and Walking

The success of the **Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk** has always depended on the dedication of our volunteers. This year, nearly 80 volunteers helped with everything from labeling bibs and cleaning the trail to handing out food and water to thousands of runners and walkers — many of whom expressed their gratitude for our friendly, helpful race day crew.

Ed Eppler joined us as our new race director this year. Ed, a veteran runner, successfully reversed the race route and brought several dedicated volunteers to the planning committee. Under Ed's leadership, committee members brought new energy to race planning and a willingness to help with marketing, managing supplies and coordinating logistics.

D&L Marketing Committee Chair **Mike Drabenstott** and **Laura Eppler**, volunteer Marketing Coordinator for the race, were instrumental in developing strategies to increase race registration. In addition to serving as great mentors, Mike and Laura collaborated with D&L staff members and volunteers to develop an effective social media campaign and press strategy, **making the D&L Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk the only half marathon in the region to experience a 20% increase in registration**. We look forward to expanding volunteer involvement and race registration in 2016.

Haunted Hugh Moore Park



Statement of Financial Position (For year ended December 31, 2014)

Assets

Current Assets	Operating Funds (\$)	Temporarily Restricted (\$)	Total (\$)
Cash	888,402	528,110	1,416,512
Receivables	146,344	-	146,344
Prepaid Expenses	8,333	-	8,333
Inventory	9,435	-	9,435
Total Assets	1,052,514	528,110	1,580,624

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	Operating Funds (\$)	Temporarily Restricted (\$)	Total (\$)
Refundable Advances	-	363,110	363,110
Accounts Payable & Accruals	95,129	-	95,129
Total Current Liabilities	95,129	363,110	458,239

Net Assets

Unrestricted	957,385	-	957,385
Temporarily Restricted	-	165,000	165,000
Total Net Assets	957,385	165,000	1,122,385

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	1,052,514	528,110	1,580,624
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Statement of Activities

(For year ended December 31, 2014)

	Operating Funds (\$)	Temporarily Restricted Funds (\$)	Total (\$)
Revenue & Support			
Contributions	48,355	165,000	213,355
Grants	377,631	363,110	740,741
Program Income (NPS)	629,103	-	629,103
Interest	1,820	-	1,820
Miscellaneous	173,146	-	173,146
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	165,000	(165,000)	-
Total Revenue and Support Received	1,395,055	363,110	1,758,165
Expenses			
Administrative	415,987	-	415,987
Designated Programs	1,001,752	363,110	1,364,862
Depreciation	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	1,417,739	363,110	1,780,849
Change in Net Assets	(22,684)	-	(22,684)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	1,127,281	165,000	1,292,281
Net Assets at End of Year	957,385	165,000	1,122,385

Project Grant Activity 2015

D&L Projects	Source: NPS/Local/Private Partners	Amount(\$)
Visually & Graphically Speaking		4,316
Trail Tenders		771
Tales of the Towpath		319
D&L Trail Projects		19,912
Freemansburg Lock 44 Education Programs		7,112
NCM Exhibits		30,645
Membership & Development		7,670
Marketing & Communication		11,040
Education Services & Materials TOT		1,395

Community Conservation & Partnership Projects	Source: DCNR/Local/Private Partners	
D&L Corridor Landscape/Greenways		245,187
D&L Coordination Mini-Grants		288,124

DCNR - PRD - Development	Source: DCNR	
D&L Trail Development		100,282

Private Restricted Grants	William Penn Foundation/Local/Private Partners	
D&L Trail Alliance		270,560
Other Private Grants		34,891

Total Project Grant Activity 2015	1,022,223
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Donald Sachs, Vice Chairman
Peter B. Marmaras, Treasurer
James B. Birdsall, Secretary
Darrell Crook, Executive Committee

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& Museum Commission



D&L National Heritage Corridor
2750 Hugh Moore Park Road
Easton, PA 18042

610.923.3548

delawareandlehigh.org

staff

Elissa Garofalo
Cathleen Canevari
Kathleen Hammerstone
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Dennis Scholl
Claire Sadler
Pam Coleman
Martha Capwell-Fox
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Michael Sutherland
Rebecca VanHorn

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Finance Manager
D&L Trail & Stewardship Manager
Director, Education & Museum Services
Conservation Coordinator
Landmark & Trail Towns Coordinator
Museum & Archives Coordinator
Communications & Education Coordinator
Trail & Outreach Coordinator
Community Outreach Assistant (thru 5/15)
Program Assistant
Program Assistant
Museum Assistant
Facilities
Facilities
Facilities (thru 6/15)
Intern
Intern

advisory

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Dennis Demara
Corina Scholl
Trudi Denlinger
Leroy Kresge
Esther Tewes
Sonya Pin
Jerry Longenbach
Roger Whiteley

Special Advisor
Trail Advisor
Development Associate
Dinner Auction Chair
Archives Volunteer
Store Volunteer
Store Volunteer
Museum Volunteer
Facilities & Archives Volunteer

seasonal

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Susan Francisco
Anna Grunwald
Clarissa Grunwald
Daphne Mayer
Jeff Mucklin
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