# Michael Drabenstott



Chairman Allentown, PA

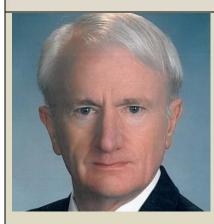
Michael is president of Drabenstott Communications Group, a marketing and PR consultancy focusing on closely held businesses and not-for-profit organizations.

In nearly 30 years in the communications business, he has counseled a variety of consumer, business-to-business and institutional clients helping them with everything from brand strategy and messaging to digital development, copywriting and media relations.

Until 2016, he was president of Lehigh Mining & Navigation, an advertising agency in Bethlehem, Pa., where he also headed up the account strategy and public relations teams in addition to managing day-to-day operations. Agency accounts included Martin Guitar, Olympus, Air Products, Versum Materials, Talen Energy and Yuengling.

He is active in number of civic and not-for-profit groups including board positions with St. Luke's Hospital – Allentown, Muhlenberg College Board of Associates (executive committee), Renew Lehigh Valley (past chairman) and the West End Alliance (founding board member). Past board affiliations have included Allentown Symphony Association (vice president) and International Association of Business Communicators/Lehigh Valley Chapter (past president). He also sits on the City of Allentown's "Connecting our Communities" committee overseeing the planning and build-out of the city's trail network and bicycling facilities.

He is a graduate of Bowling Green State University with a B.A. in journalism. His passions include running, extreme day hiking, mountain biking, reading non-fiction, cooking, crossword puzzles and craft beer. A 25-year resident of Allentown, he is married with two children.



# James Birdsall

Secretary Bethlehem, PA

Jim has served on the Board of Directors of the D&L and National Canal Museum for four years, and is a member of both the Executive committee and the Trail and Facilities committee. He has been a civil engineer for over 45 years, which provides him an avenue to public service through the design and construction of public works. The use of the towpath and trails for recreation and the desire to preserve canal history motivate Jim to serve on the Board, and his main goals as a board member are to help fund maintenance and

improvements on the trail, canal, and towpath. Jim received a BSCE and an MBA from Lehigh University, and in his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family and biking and walking along the D&L Trail.



# Lon Snowden

Vice Chair Allentown, PA

A native North Carolinian, Lon is a management consultant in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania. He served in the Coast Guard for over 30 years, and currently resides in the Lehigh Valley with his wife.



Darrell Crook

Nazareth, PA

Darrell brings nearly a lifetime's worth of community engagement experience to the Board of Directors. A retired educator, he currently serves on the Nazareth Area School Board. He is also a member of the Nazareth Moravian church, Nazareth Area Food Bank, Moravian Historical Society, PA Association of School Retirees, Odyssey of the Mind, and the Nazareth Area Lions Club.



# Ken Szydlow

Saucon Valley, PA

Ken Szydlow serves as the Vice President for Marketing and Public Relations for St. Luke's University Health Network. He has overseen St. Luke's marketing and branding efforts as St. Luke's has evolved into one of PA's largest health care networks serving Eastern Pennsylvania and Western New Jersey. St. Luke's operates 10 hospitals and provides outpatient services at more than 300 locations. During his 28 year career in Marketing, Ken has played a leading role in creating and implementing brand building programs for hospital systems and large physician practices throughout the Mid-Atlantic States. Ken has a proven track record in business development efforts that include, strategic planning, marketing communications and physician relations. Ken manages a wide range of creative

services, supervising staff and vendors to produce marketing and other print communications, as well as online communications and video projects. He is a 3 time Emmy Award winner and the co-creator and executive producer for the local award winning television program, The Peak TV – a health and wellness show.

A believer in improving public health, Ken spearheaded development of Get Your Tail on the Trail, a family friendly health and wellness program jointly run by St. Luke's and the D&L National Heritage Corridor. Ken has won many marketing awards as well as the NY Hudson River Valley's Top 40 under 40. Ken received his BA from Cornell University and MBA from Duke University. In his free time, Ken is an avid hiker, bicyclist, and archer. He resides in Saucon Valley with his wife, Lisa, and three children, Ben, Nathan and Emma.

# Dave Hopkins



#### Easton, PA

David Hopkins is currently the Director of Public Services for the City of Easton where he has served in this capacity since 2004. The Easton Public Services Department is the City's largest agency with over 100 full and parttime employees that provide a diverse array of services including engineering, highways, traffic signals, parks, recreation, public buildings, wastewater treatment, wastewater collections, trash and recycling. Prior to being employed with the City, Mr. Hopkins was a Regional Operations Manager for Earth Tech, Inc. where he specialized in the design, construction, and operation of water and wastewater treatment facilities. Mr. Hopkins has a B.S.

in Environmental Science from Rutgers University and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Kean University.

Mr. Hopkins is on the Board of Directors of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority and current Chairman of its Engineering Committee. He is also on the Board of Directors for the Easton Suburban Water Authority. He is active in the American Public Works Association, the Eastern Pennsylvania Water Pollution Control Operator's Association, and the Pennsylvania Water Environment Association. Mr. Hopkins is also an active volunteer with many community organizations and enjoys spending time hiking and bicycling on the D&L trail in the Easton area where he resides with his family.

# Andy Hamilton



Doylestown, PA

Andy is a Landscape Architect. He also is the Board Chair of the September Eleventh National Memorial Trail Alliance. Andy has served as the Chair of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Trail Advisory Committee, Chairs the Bucks County Bicycle Task Force, and is a Board member of Delaware Greenways. Formerly he was with the East Coast Greenway Alliance (ECGA) Board of Trustees, and worked on the ECGA from Connecticut to Virginia. He has great dedication and passion for the vision of long range trails connecting community trails ad assets. He has lived in Bucks

County for over 30 years raising two children with his wife Allison and has focused on trail development to support community development for the past 20 years. In his spare time Andy does bicycle touring, repairing houses, and being with family.



# **Shelley Speirs**

## Bethlehem, PA

Shelley Speirs is a development professional with 17 years of experience in fundraising, community outreach, marketing, and program creation. She currently serves as Director, Major and Planned Gifts for East Stroudsburg University (ESU) Foundation, where she provides strategic leadership and direction for the overall cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship of major and planned gift prospects.

In addition to her successful career in development, Speirs' experience includes five years with the PA Department of Community & Economic Development

Tourism Office, where she served as Director of Outdoor Tourism & Sports Marketing. Here, she focused on increasing revenue to the Commonwealth through tourism and economic development. Speirs currently serves on the board for the Planned Giving Council of Greater Philadelphia, and has previously served as a board member for the YWCA of Bethlehem, the Governor's "Adaptation to Climate Change" tourism & outdoor recreation working group, and Pennsylvania DCNR's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Technical Advisory Committee.



# Bill Getchell

### Point Pleasant, PA

Bill is a Long Term Care Specialist, helping to provide clients with the peace of mind that comes along with long-term insurance. He has been repeatedly recognized for the contributions to his community and dedication to his clients. On the D&L Board of Directors, Bill works to preserve the history of the Delaware and Lehigh Canals and maintain the trails for the community. Bill has also served on the board of the Friends of the Delaware Canal, the Tinicum Township Board of Parks and Recreation, and the board of the Pennsylvania Canal Society as its membership chairman. In his free time bill enjoys, traveling,

gardening and fishing. He resides in the lovely canal side village of Point Pleasant with his wife Sally.



# Sierra Fogal

Jim Thorpe, PA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

Sierra Fogal is one of the owners of Pocono Whitewater, Pocono Biking and Skirmish Paintball in Jim Thorpe, PA. She is a member of the D&L Marketing Committee and Advancement Committee. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Syracuse University in Marketing and is passionate about showing people all that Northeast PA has to offer.

As a member of a family business that operates on the trail, she grew up biking and running on the D&L and has many fond family memories surrounding the trail

## Sharyn Keiser



New Hope, PA

Sharyn has dedicated over three years of service to the D&L. As a member of the advancement committee, she adds elements of leadership, collaboration, and organizational development to the Board. Sharyn enjoys continuing to give back to the community through public service to an organization that provides historical, educational, recreational, and economic development to the eastern region of the state, offering enrichment opportunities to a multitude of people. Recruitment, funding, membership, and sponsorship are Sharyn's areas of expertise, interest and focus at the D&L. Her first passion is her family and

friends, and she also has a love for her community and the wealth of recreational and cultural opportunities it affords her. Recreational activities including biking, walking, kayaking, and boating are a big part of her life. She was very passionate about her 32 year career as a principal in public education, as well as the 9 years she spent as a training manager in pharmaceutical research and development. Her public service to the community has over a 20 year history...New Hope Borough Council for 14 years (as president and vice president), member of the Planning Commission, Chairperson of the Revitalization Commission, and a member of Landmark Towns. Sharyn has received awards from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the School District of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Borough Association, New Hope Borough, and the New Hope Chamber of Commerce, as well as a Pharmaceutical Encore Award.

# John (Jack) R. Krissinger

Treasurer

Macungie, PA

Jack has served on the Board of Directors since 2004. An active member of the community, he is employed by Dunne Manning, Inc. and also serves on the board of directors of the Boy Scouts of America Minsi Trails Council. Helping to preserve the history of the Delaware and Lehigh Canals is one of the most important services Jack sees the D&L provide to the community, and is the reason he continues to give his time and skills to the Board. In his free time, he enjoys spending time in the outdoors, and especially skiing, camping, and playing tennis.



# Julia Maserjian

Bethlehem. PA

Julia Maserjian is a Digital Scholarship Manager at Lehigh University's Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning. She has worked in public history and digital project management for twenty years, and has shepherded the development and launch of projects to include the Bethlehem Digital History Project and Beyond Steel: An Archive of Lehigh Valley Industry and Culture. Her community service includes work with cultural and heritage institutions on preservation planning and historic interpretation and the intersection of public arts and humanities.

# John P. Miller

#### Bethlehem, PA

As a charter member and current Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Canal Society, John has done extensive research on the Lehigh Canal. He has written a short history of the Lehigh Canal for educational groups. He is one of the founding members of the National Canal Museum on its original site and was instrumental in bringing the PCS historical collection of canal memorabilia, photographs and records to the National Canal Museum for display and safe keeping in their archives. He also volunteered as a guide at the original National Canal Museum and as a boatman and Mule driver on the Josiah White II. In his free time, John and his wife, Jacquie, enjoy raising and exhibiting their registered Polled Dorset sheep and selling eggs from their small flock of laying hens from their farm in Bethlehem Township. John is also a licensed Poultry Technician with the Department of Agriculture of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. John is an instructor of Embryology with the Northampton County Cooperative Extension through the Pennsylvania State University, 4-H School Enrichment Program.



## Vance Packard

### Thornhurst, PA

Vance made a career as an industrial archeologist for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) for over thirty years. His researched initially focused on prehistoric American Indian settlements, and later on colonial American settlements. He led archaeological excavations at Valley Forge, Washington Crossing, and Curtin Village, and an iron planation near Bellefonte. He is the founder of the Society for Industrial Archaeology, and served as the Director of the Drake Well Museum as well as the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Western Region. All of the PHMC's industrial sites were overseen by Vance beginning in 1989, signaling a period of restoration and expansion at those

sites.



# Sean Robbins

## Dallas, PA

Sean Robbins is a 1993 cum laude graduate of Villanova University, where he majored in political science and minored in history. He went on receive his J.D. from the Dickinson School of Law of Penn State University in 1997. As an attorney with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection in the Northeast Regional Office, Sean counsels different Department programs on a variety of issues in the eleven-county region covered by the office. Sean is also the president of the Anthracite Scenic Trails Association (ASTA) and enjoys spending most of his free time

outdoors skiing, ice climbing, hiking, running or biking. An avid triathlete since 1994, Sean has earned USA Triathlon All American honors for a number of consecutive years and has competed in events across the county, including the Ironman Triathlon World Championships in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii on five occasions.

## Robert Skulsky



Hazleton, PA

Robert is a life time resident of the area and has been married to his wife, Leona, for 52 years. He is a father to Lee Ann, Robert, and Linda Skulsky, as well as a grandfather of six. Robert worked at the Department of Defense for 37 years, the Electronics Commerce Resource Center at the University of Scranton, and is presently the Executive Director of the Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership (GHACP). Robert is an avid outdoorsman with a special passion for hunting, fishing, wildlife, camping, and environmental preservation. These

interests have led Robert to volunteer countless hours over the last seventeen years, since retirement, with the Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails (GHRT) in order to develop & maintain trails, develop an education program on local wildlife, and promote economic development through this connection to the outdoors. Robert also works with several wellness organizations to promote healthy outdoor living. Including the Wyoming Valley Wellness Trails Partnership, Keystone Active Zone, and currently Live Well Luzerne County. In October 2011, he was a recipient of the Environmental Partnership Award from Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) for his leadership and commitment to enhance the environment of Northeastern Pennsylvania through his work as the Executive Director of the GHACP. Now in semiretirement, Robert's first priority is to enjoy the time he spends with his family especially his grandchildren who range in age from twins 2 years old to 16 years old. Robert continues to make connections with others in the community in order to develop more parks, trails, greenways, and outdoor sites for our children and grandchildren to enjoy forever.