Hudson River Valley Greenway
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area
Acting Executive Director's Report
March 13, 2019
Scott Keller

Welcome Sadie Jean Day
Sadie Jean Day arrived January 22 at 11:45 a.m., weighing in at 7 lb. 3 oz. and measuring 20.5 inches long. Shannon, Kenny, big sister Riley, and Sadie are all healthy and happy! Congratulations Shannon and family! We look forward to Shannon's return in April.

Empire State Water Trail
In his 2019 State of the State, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that to complement the Governor's Empire State Trail, a sister water trail will be developed, linking together over 1,700 miles of existing water trails, on navigable State waterways, with consistent branding and website development. The Hudson River Valley Greenway has been asked to take the lead on this project. Scott Keller, Beth Campochiaro, and Cody Arana will all be working on this exciting project, that is the culmination of 25+ years of water trail work by the Greenway and many public and private sector partners around the state.

The water trails making up the new Empire State Water Trail (ESWT) already exist and are operating. ESWT is primarily designed for kayakers and canoers, but also open to small motor boats. We are looking to work with the water trail managers for the NYS Canal System (Erie, Champlain, Cayuga-Seneca, and Oswego), the New York City Water Trail, including the Bronx River Water Trail, the South Shore Blueway in Long Island's Nassau County, the Lake Champlain Paddlers' Trail, the Adirondack Canoe Routes, including the Northern Forest Canoe Trail and the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail. Both Hudson River Greenway and Bronx River Water Trails are designated as National Water Trails by the National Park Service. The ESWT could be expanded as new segments come online, for example, around the rest of Long Island, on Lake Ontario, the Niagara, and St. Lawrence Rivers.

In February, a kickoff meeting of involved state agencies was held, including the Canal Corporation, DEC, OPRHP, DOS, and the Adirondack Park Agency. Following up on this meeting, Hudson River Estuary Program staff, DEC accessibility staff, the National Park Service, and Greenway met to discuss a plan for finalizing a draft canoe/kayak accessible handbook for the estuary. Many of the principles contained in this handbook will be transferable to other waterways.

Empire State Trail (EST)
The Empire State Trail team, **Andy Beers**, **Paul Glesta**, and **Dara Morin**, continues working to meet the 2020 deadline to implement the EST. A website for the trail is available at Empire State Trail link. We have released an Empire State Trail Plan, an Empire State Trail Design Guide, and an Empire State Trail User Projection.

The Albany Hudson Electric Trail has gone to construction bid. Andy Beers reports: "In December, the Greenway completed its detailed engineering plans for the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail, and initiated the competitive bidding process to select construction contractors.

The Greenway bid two contracts, one for construction of the AHET Trail section in Rensselaer County, and the second for the trail in Columbia County. The Greenway opened bids on February 13th:

Rensselaer County: the low bidder is Carver Construction, Inc., headquartered in Altamont. After verifying compliance with applicable technical requirements, the Greenway will award the Rensselaer contract to Carver for construction of the AHET Trail in the City of Rensselaer, Towns of East Greenbush, Schodack, and Nassau, and Village of Nassau (17-mile route).

Columbia County: the low bidder is A. Colarusso and Son, Inc., headquartered in Hudson. The Greenway has sufficient funding to award construction of the AHET Trail in the Towns of Chatham, Kinderhook, and Stuyvesant, including the Villages of Valatie and Kinderhook (12-mile route). After verifying compliance with applicable technical requirements, the Greenway will award a contract to Colarusso for construction of the 12-mile section.

The Columbia County bids exceeded the Greenway's available funding for the trail sections in the Towns of Stockport and Greenport (7-mile route). The Greenway is currently evaluating options for trail construction in Stockport and Greenport, within available funding.

These are tentative decisions, pending execution of formal construction contract awards, which the Greenway anticipates finalizing by Mid-March.

The Greenway is working with involved government partners to finalize required permits for the project. The Greenway anticipates securing all applicable approvals by the end of March, with trail construction starting in mid-April. National Grid will also be undertaking a maintenance project on its utility lines in selected locations this spring. The Greenway's target date for completing construction of the AHET Trail is November, 2020."

Visit Albany Hudson Electric Trail link for more information.

The Maybrook Trailway (previously called Beacon Line Rail Trail), running from Brewster to Hopewell Junction is being constructed by Metro North Railroad. A final concept plan has been released for this segment of the trail as well. Visit Maybrook Trailway link for more information.

The NYS Department of Transportation has released a draft concept plan for the on-road routes. It is available: NYS DOT Empire State Trail link.

Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area
Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney has spearheaded an effort to rename our Heritage Area after the late Congressman Maurice Hinchey. Congressman Hinchey was directly responsible for the getting the Hudson Valley named a National Heritage Area. The large land bill containing this measure has passed both houses of Congress with overwhelming majorities, and is going to the President for signature. Scott Keller and Beth Campochiaro attended the event, with Scott providing brief remarks about Assemblyman and Congressman Hinchey's roles in creating the Greenway and NHA.

Hudson River Train Tour App
Eight new audio stories went live in January and they include Hudson River Greenway Water Trail, Thomas Cole, Lighthouses, The Roosevelts, The Dutch in the Hudson Valley, The American Revolution, Sing Sing Prison, and Washington Irving and Sleepy Hollow. As of February 28th, the Hudson River Train Tour app has been downloaded over 2,500 times. Since launch, we have seen users from at least five foreign countries and eighteen states. There are notable spikes in usage on weekends and holidays, leading us to believe most of our users are tourists, and that we have not yet reached the commuter market. Currently we have eighteen audio stories in the app, and will be adding ten more in 2019. The new stories will feature Ice Harvesting, Birds of the Hudson, Hudson River Pilots, the Catskills, FDR, Race & Immigration in Newburgh, Commercial Fishermen, Bridges, Alexander Hamilton, and John Burroughs. With the addition of these stories we will have enough material to create NHA audio themes with at least nine stories in each of our themes, Freedom & Dignity, Corridor of Commerce, and Nature & Culture.

Hudson NHA

Heart and Soul
A Newburgh Artist's event from the 2018 Hudson River Valley Ramble was featured in the latest Alliance of National Heritage Area's "*Connecting the Heart and Soul of American Communities*." The piece, written by Cody Arana appears on page 5 of the PDF and the entire issue is attached below.

Tower of Victory Celebration
The grand reopening of the Tower of Victory at Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site will occur April 27, 2019 from noon to 4:00pm. From PIPC's Jim Hall, "In 2012, under the guidance of Greenway Chairman Barney McHenry and the late

Chairmen Kevin Burke (L) and Barney McHenry at the Tower of Victory in Newburgh

Congressman Maurice Hinchey, the Palisades Parks Conservancy and the PIPC launched a capital campaign to raise $1.6 million dollars to "Save the Tower". Over the decades, water that would have been shed by the original roof infiltrated the building and severely damaged the stone, brick, and metal elements. The goal of the capital campaign was to restore the Tower's structure to its original form and function, including rebuilding the roof, repairing the water damage, and reopening the viewing platform. With the help of the Capital Campaign co-chairs, a committee of dozens of local preservationists, historians, and other interested folks, and donations by more than 200 distinct donors, multiple foundations, and a matching Historic Preservation grant from the State of New York, the funding to Save the Tower was secured by the Spring of 2015."

NHA Best Practices

Acting Director Scott Keller spoke on the December 2018 NHA Best Practices call. He described the HRVNHA's management structure, themes, and economic impact. He also discussed programs of the NHA, including the Hudson River Valley Ramble, Teaching the Hudson Valley, Network Training Workshops, Heritage Development and Technical Assistance grants, and the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College. He concluded by describing the NHA's promotions, including the Heritage Site Guidebook and Hudson River Train Tour app.

Staff Activities

The Greenway staff, has muddled along without **Shannon Day**, and the remaining four participated in testing the Hudson River Train Tour apps eight new stories and underwent a six-month review of our new Greenway website with Web NY. Our website meets or exceeds the average every measurable metric provided for quality and accessibility.

Trails and Community Outreach Director **Beth Campochiaro**, Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana**, and **Scott Keller** attended a kickoff meeting for the Canalway Challenge. New this year, the series of events will be hosted by our sister NHA, Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Our staff shared our experiences with the Hudson River Valley Ramble and the Great Hudson River Paddle. A presentation in this topic will be made at an upcoming Board meeting.

Beth, Project Director **Dan Jeanson**, and Scott selected BBG&G for a marketing contract for social media promotion of the National Heritage Area sites, the Hudson River Valley Ramble, the Train Tour app, and the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail. They also held an intake call to set out the parameters of the advertising.

Beth and Scott attended a sustainability meeting with DEC, where it was determined the Greenway is ahead of many in reaching sustainability goals, such as transitioning to electronic files, limiting travel by holding meetings by phone, and using recycled paper.

Beth also attended the Hudson Highlands Land Trust Granite Mountain Preserve ribbon cutting, and an update on the Boston-Albany rail trail proposal in Columbia County, which would link the Harlem Valley Rail trail with the Empire State Trail. Beth is also working on the 20th anniversary 2019 Ramble.

In addition to writing the Heart and Soul article, Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana** and Scott Keller attended a Hudson River Harbor Safety Committee meeting, and collaborated with NYS on data loss prevention. Cody also attended a webinar on electric bikes, or e-bikes, on trails. Cody continues to produce the newsletter monthly and to work on the Ramble with Beth.

Project Director **Dan Jeanson** is leading the effort to complete the Hudson River Line Mobile App described earlier. Dan also represents the Greenway at Martin Luther King, Jr. state liaison meetings and NHA Best Practices calls. He also provided technical assistance to grantees, and attended an Albany Heritage Partners meeting.

Scott Keller also participated in meetings with the Empire State Trail team, attended the State of the State, and meetings on the Hudson River Estuary Program scenery metrics, planning meetings for the International Trails Symposium to be held in Syracuse April 28 to May 1. Andy Beers and Scott will be on a panel discussion about the EST/ES Water Trail. Finally Scott attended a farewell party for former OPRHP Commissioner Rose Harvey, who in addition to lending her agency's support over many years and numerous projects, also was instrumental in securing support for the Empire Sate Trail.

As always, the entire staff participated in reviewing grants applications for Greenway Council Planning grants and to test the Train Tour app. Beth and Dan are working with communities and non-profits to resolve expired grants. Our staff works with these grantees to extend grant performance times, complete grant projects, or return funds that will not be used.

Teaching the Hudson Valley

Michael Zwelling has taken over Teaching the Hudson Valley and is working to learn all about the program. Michael, Chief of Interpretation Scott Rector, and THV intern Tisha Dunstan continue to plan for the future of this program.

Grants Program Update

Grants Completed Since the November 14, 2018 Board Meeting						
Grant Type	**Grantee**	**Project**	**Awarded**	**Match**	**Award Date**	**Completion Date**
Conservancy	Rensselaer Plateau Alliance	A Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail Action Plan for the Rensselaer Plateau	$25,000.00	$26,620.66	10/26/2016	11/20/2018
Conservancy	Town of Marlborough	Milton Landing Park: Connecting Woodland Trail Upper Park to Waterfront	$4,000.00	$5,136.10	10/14/2015	12/17/2018
Council Planning	Town of Hurley	Town of Hurley Open Space Plan Update	$5,725.00	$5,725.05	1/29/2014	12/10/2018
Council Planning	Town of Philipstown	Philipstown Depot Theatre's Looking Swell	$5,000.00	$57,147.92	3/23/2016	2/20/2019
Council Planning	Town of Olive	Flood hazard mitigation plan	$8,450.39	$60,207.85	10/8/2014	3/8/2019
Council Planning	Town of Esopus	John Burroughs Black Creek Trail Environmental Survey	$7,310.00	$7,310.00	6/7/2017	3/8/2019
NHA	Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region, Inc.	Seeking Sanctuary	$5,000.00	$7,741.53	4/25/2018	12/17/2018
NHA	Saugerties Lighthouse Conservancy	Plans for Preservation: Living Museum, Living History	$2,750.00	$3,130.02	3/22/2017	1/29/2019
NHA	Manitoga, Inc.	Learning from the Woodland Landscape	$4,500.00	$10,785.63	3/22/2017	2/5/2019
NHA	Putnam History Museum	West Point Foundry Bicentennial Exhibition	$2,500.00	$2,883.42	4/25/2018	2/11/2019
		Totals	**$70,235.39**	**$186,688.18**		

Grants Awarded at the November 14, 2018 Board Meeting				
Grant Type	**Grantee**	**Project**	**Awarded**	**Award Date**
Council Planning	Town of Bethlehem	Comprehensive Plan Update	$10,000.00	11/14/2018
Council Planning	Town of Rensselaerville	Country to Capital: A Needs Assessment for Rural-Urban Linkages in Albany County	$10,000.00	11/14/2018
Council Planning	Village of Kinderhook	Recreational Resource Inventory	$10,000.00	11/14/2018
Council Planning	Village of New Hempstead	Comprehensive Plan	$10,000.00	11/14/2018
Council Planning	Town of Marbletown	Historic High Falls Hamlet Plan	$10,000.00	11/14/2018
Council Planning	Town of Plattekill	Comprehensive Plan Update	$10,000.00	11/14/2018
Council Planning	Village of New Paltz	Reservoir Capacity Analysis	$15,000.00	11/14/2018
		Totals	$75,000.00	

CONNECTING THE

Heart & Soul

OF AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

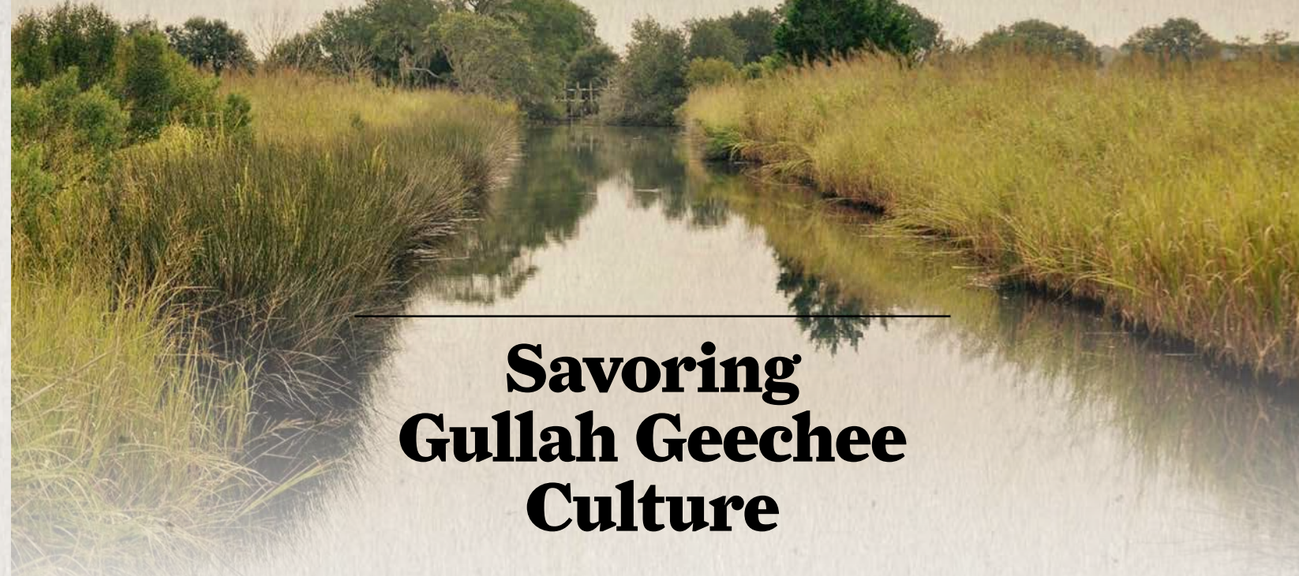
FEBRUARY 2019 | VOLUME 3

While National Heritage Areas generate jobs and tax revenues through economic development, they also impact communities at a deeper level. American history is comprised of soaring accomplishments alongside painful struggle. Together, they embody our national character.

In this edition, we focus on 13 more communities throughout the nation where National Heritage Areas have helped work through those struggles — bringing diverse communities together for the common good.

ANHA
Alliance *of* National Heritage Areas

PHOTOS Clockwise from top: Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters of Darien, Georgia with U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith in July 2018. The title poem of her new book, "Wade in the Water", is dedicated to them / The Jenkins Praise House on St. Helena Island, South Carolina / Photograph depicting a ring shout and believed to have been taken in Georgia in the 1930's / Grave located in the cemetery of Midway Presbyterian Church in Midway, Georgia, which is located in rural Liberty County **OPPOSITE:** An abandoned rice field at the Caw Caw Interpretive Center in Ravenel, South Carolina



Savoring Gullah Geechee Culture

ON A HUMID NIGHT IN EARLY JUNE, a group of chefs and their guests came together on a Johns Island, South Carolina farm owned by third-generation Gullah Geechee farmer, Joseph Fields. Gullah chef B.J. Dennis served traditional Gullah Geechee dishes like okra soup and Charleston red rice. A pit barbecue held a whole lamb and pig sourced from neighboring Wadmalaw Island. Many at the dinner were familiar with the dishes but likely knew much less about the deep relationship between their Gullah Geechee hosts and the very land where they stood balancing their plates of barbecue and cornmeal fritters.

The Gullah Geechee are direct descendants of people who came from sophisticated agricultural societies along Africa's west coast, countries now known as Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Liberia. Trafficked across the Atlantic into Charleston and Savannah, the enslaved brought their knowledge of tidal rice cultivation, enabling the region to grow wealthy as rice production took off in the late 17th century.

Tidal rice cultivation, though labor-intensive and technically difficult, flourished once West African technology was introduced. Intricate systems of canals, dikes, sluices, and trunks redirected fresh water as it was pushed upstream by rising tides. While slaves endured dangerous conditions, working in mosquito-filled swamps where malaria and yellow fever flourished, European planters were absentee owners who spent much of their time in the pine lands and cities. This led to highly "Africanized" plantations, where the enslaved managed the rice production under the direction of a white overseer.

The Gullah Geechee are best understood through their relationship to the land , which is widely considered the most valuable of all Gullah Geechee cultural assets and has always been the base for economic and social development. After slavery ended, family farms like the Fields Farm were often the primary source of income. Gullah Geechee land owners were able to develop a self-sustaining economy based on the small-scale production of cotton, subsistence agriculture, and truck farming supplemented with fishing and harvesting shrimp and oysters. As a result, many were able to avoid the hazards of tenant farming and sharecropping. Today, the Gullah Geechee face new hazards with each hurricane that barrels down on the land that defines them.

For hundreds of years, the Gullah Geechee have resided along the coasts of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Their ancestors, though all West African, were culturally, linguistically, and spiritually diverse. Over time, a new creole culture and language – now known as Gullah Geechee – emerged on these isolated island and coastal plantations and is now recognized as one of the great, foundational cultures of the United States. Here you will find hand-crafted sweetgrass baskets that reflect ancient West African weaving traditions; century-old praise houses hosting "ring shouts" (the oldest surviving African-American performance tradition); and dishes, like Chef Dennis' red rice, that connect today's Gullah Geechee chefs to the cook pots of their ancestors. And here you will find acres of rice fields, silent and verdant memorials to the unfathomable sacrifices and inspiring perseverance of the Gullah Geechee people.

■ **SOUTH CAROLINA** | Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor | *GullahGeecheeCorridor.org*

Nature-Based Tourism

This past October, the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area (MGCNHA) held a series of events to recognize the first group of nature-based tourism businesses who have qualified for the Gulf Coast Outpost program. Gulf Coast Outpost (GCO) is a business recognition program developed and implemented by the MGCNHA. The program raises awareness of nature-based businesses who go above and beyond to protect and conserve the environment on which their businesses depends.

Gulf Coast outpost was created following a year-long process of working with industry stakeholders to determine ways to grow economic development in nature-based tourism while balancing conservation. The program targets companies whose primary business is dependent on the natural environment in Mississippi's six coastal counties. This includes eco-tours, locally-owned outfitters, charter boat operators, tour guides, eco-lodges and agritourism entities.

Eight business thus far have received the GCO distinction which provides the customer with a sense of confidence that the businesses prioritizes customer safety and works hard to protect and conserve the natural environment of South Mississippi. This program also demonstrates the Heritage Area's collaborative approach, as it works with other organizations—such as Visit Mississippi Gulf Coast, the Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain, and the USM Marine Education Center—to achieve a healthy, nature-based tourism economy and environment.

■ **MISSISSIPPI** | Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area | *MSGulfCoastHeritage.ms.gov*

Revolutionary Learning

Trenton, NJ elementary school students are discovering the pivotal history in their own backyard thanks to an innovative program created by Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area. On a recent visit to the Old Barracks Museum, fourth graders from Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School learned that the 18th century structure served as a military hospital during the Revolution, and was among the places where Continental Army soldiers received smallpox inoculations.

The Old Barracks visit was part of a year-long class project during which students learn about the American Revolution and produce videos about the impact on the war on 18th century Trenton residents.

The community was the site of the December 1776 Battle of Trenton and the January 1777 Battle of Assunpink Creek that followed Washington's Christmas crossing of the Delaware River. Historians consider these battles as the turning point of the American Revolution.

"While the Old Barracks regularly gets visits from school groups around the state, students from Trenton rarely make visits here," said Crossroads Executive Director Janice Selinger. "History becomes so much more real when you see it happened in your own neighborhood. We're hoping this project will spark a lifelong interest and pride in Trenton's Revolutionary history among these youngsters."

The fourth graders will continue their research through classroom visits from historians and re-enactors, and then will create video themes and scripts for the final product, which they will produce on iPads. The student videos will be shown in the spring at a special red-carpet premiere at Martin Luther King Elementary School.

■ **NEW JERSEY** | Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area | *RevolutionaryNJ.org*

Bringing Greenagers to Work

The pastoral hills, forests, and fields of Massachusetts' Berkshires are home to an innovative partnership that connects area youth with world-class culture. The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area (Housatonic Heritage) and Greenagers have teamed up to create a unique opportunity to expose teenagers to places of historic and cultural significance.

Centered in and around Great Barrington, MA., the Greenagers program connects area youth with paid stewardship work, school-based field trips, and outdoor activities. Through its paid employment programs, internships, and apprenticeships, Greenagers engages teens and young adults in meaningful work in environmental conservation, sustainable farming, and natural resource management.

By adding cultural landscapes to the Greenagers' programs, Housatonic Heritage has helped Greenagers to add an extra layer of meaning to their natural resource work and to explore how 'connection to place' builds stewardship among future generations.

On behalf of Greenagers, Housatonic Heritage works with cultural organizations to create meaningful interactions between the participants and the cultural site. Partners—including Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Norman Rockwell Museum, and Hancock Shaker Village—have embraced the host work crews and enjoyed the opportunities for youth engagement. With a "captive audience" of teens, the partners were also able to develop, revise, and refine their interpretive strategies to create compelling programs for teen audiences.

Across our nation, individuals and organizations strive to preserve our natural and cultural resources. The Housatonic-Greenagers partnership puts the next generation at the center of this work, and in doing so not only preserves our heritage but passes on the skills to continue this important work to future generations.

■ **MASSACHUSETTS** | Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area | *HousatonicHeritage.org*

Making The Last Green Valley More Accessible

Not everyone can access the trails of The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor by foot. A team of volunteers for The Last Green Valley, Inc., the non-profit that stewards the National Heritage Corridor, takes that personally.

TLGV's Trail Assessment Team is driven to help loved ones with mobility challenges get back on the trail. Gabe Sipson, a paraplegic who was once a forester and passionate outdoorsman, epitomizes what drives the team. An accident at work left Sipson in a wheelchair, and he could not find information about trails that might be suited to his abilities.

"When I'm out in the forest, it makes me feel like, I don't know what the best word is — calmer, and more centered with myself," said Sipson. "My perspectives are aligned better with what's really important."

Funded by two grants, the Trail Assessment Team has examined more than 35 miles of trail. The team was the first east of the Mississippi River to use new, advanced technology to assess trails. During the winter months, the team downloads the data and creates detailed trail access summaries to help trail users like Sipson understand their options.

But the work is far from done. Though Sipson is back on the trail, his choices are still limited. "There are many more miles of trail to assess," said Lois Bruinooge, executive director of TLGV. "The work the team has done is incredible and we're committed to doing more so people of all ages and abilities can enjoy the natural beauty of our National Heritage Corridor."

■ **CONNECTICUT & MASSACHUSETTS** | The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor | *TheLastGreenValley.org*

Get Your Tail on the Trail

When the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor partnered with St. Luke's University Health Network for *Get Your Tail on the Trail*, it was a win-win for our community's health, the D&L mission, and the local environment. Over the past five years, 6,100 participants have logged over 4.1 million miles along the D&L Trail, which spans five counties from northeast Pennsylvania through the Lehigh Valley and Bucks County.

"I started to walk on the trail for my health," says Amy Hollander, a participant from Pohatcong Township, NJ. "The [*Tail on the Trail*] app kept me on track, and I lost about 10 pounds."

St. Luke's University Health Networks was established 150+ years ago to care for the Corridor's iron and steel workers, as well as those who toiled in coal mines. Today, *Tail on the Trail* is an integral part of St. Luke's "Healthy Living Initiative," addressing the national mandate for nonprofit hospitals to conduct Community Health Needs Assessments every three years. The program got people up, outdoors, and moving through guided bike rides, walks, and runs along the spine of the 165-mile National Heritage Corridor.

By linking St. Luke's health expertise with D&L's leadership, participants have not only shown increased health—they are more creative and happier.

"I found that the real benefit was to my writing," Hollander says. "All my best ideas come when I am walking on the trail. Whenever I am blocked, a mile or two on the path and I can let go of all the day-to-day details, and the story just comes to me."

■ **PENNSYLVANIA** | Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor | *DelawareAndLehigh.org*

Expanding Educational Access to the Erie Canal

Every 4th grader in New York State learns about the Erie Canal, but not all get a chance to see and experience it. Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor's *Ticket to Ride* and *Every Kid in a Park* programs are turning that around so that students learn firsthand about the vision, innovations, and perseverance that have characterized the legendary NYS Canal System.

Erie Canalway's *Ticket to Ride* and *Every Kid in a Park* programs provide non-competitive grant support to schools for field trips to canal-focused museums and historic sites and to four National Park sites located within the Corridor. More than 45,000 students from 250 schools, and 110 districts, have participated since 2012. To date, more than 64% of participating students have been from lower-income schools (majority enrollment in the federal free/reduced lunch program) located in both urban and rural districts.

The robust programs reinforce classroom learning about the Erie Canal with hands-on experiences at authentic canal sites. Pre- and post-visit activities strengthen important lessons learned and make key connections between the Erie Canal and critical social issues such as women's rights, the Underground Railroad, and immigration. Overall, the programs provide greater access to New York's rich historic and cultural experiences.

Reinvigorating a passion for place and championing the value of the Erie Canal as a relevant part of the lives of Corridor students are primary goals of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor's *Ticket to Ride* and *Every Kid in a Park* programs.

■ **NEW YORK** | Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor | *Eriecanalway.org*

Declaring Independence: Then & Now

What does the Declaration of Independence mean today, and what did it mean to citizens throughout the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area when it was first conceived and debated during their lifetime? These are the questions considered in the public program *Declaring Independence: Then & Now*.

The program tells the story of people living within the 45 communities of the heritage area in the spring and summer of 1776 and portrays how they debated and celebrated the declaring of independence from Great Britain. Offered in partnership with community organizations, each presentation includes a narrated reading of the Declaration of Independence, interspersed with the words spoken by local individuals as researched by citizen historians.

As the 18th century words and ideas are performed, the narrator explores their meaning to challenge the audience to consider the promises made in that foundational document through the lens of both the past and the present. Presentations are held in historic venues, often the same one in which the original discussions occurred.

Declaring Independence: Then & Now continues to evolve as each community explores its part in the story of American Independence and in our expanding aspirations for freedom and equality. Audiences are inspired and challenged by hearing the Declaration of Independence anew. Civic engagement and interest in our country's founding principles are high, and *Declaring Independence* provides an interactive forum in which to explore both.

■ **MASSACHUSETTS/NEW HAMPSHIRE** | Freedom's Way National Heritage Area | *FreedomsWay.org*

Showcasing the Hudson River School

The Hudson River Valley Ramble is an annual event series that celebrates the history, culture, and natural resources of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, as well as the amazing landscape, communities, and trails throughout the region. Every September, 'Ramblers' come not only from the Hudson Valley region and New York State, but from other regions of the country as well to discover the riches our Valley has to offer.

The Newburgh Open Studios tour was a Ramble event that offered a unique opportunity to see the work and meet many of the artists in the City of Newburgh's burgeoning arts community. The studios are located in some incredibly preserved historic structures, most of which are rarely open to the public. This self-guided tour provided an intriguing connection between the art culture and historical significance that the Hudson River Valley is known for.

The Newburgh Open Studios tour was scheduled to coincide with the Ramble as an additional way to reach a broad audience. Last year close to 2,000 visitors experienced the studio tour, and Ramble Event Leader Michael Gabor anticipates an increase in participating artists and turnout at future events. "Our artists loved the event!" said Gabor, and " as a historic community that was used as a location/viewing point for many Hudson River School paintings, it is appropriate and encouraging that once again Newburgh is becoming an arts community tied closely to its history, architecture and views that have changed little."

■ **NEW YORK** | Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area | *HudsonRiverValley.com*

Bringing Children & Nature Together

As a managing organization of the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area, the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition plays an active role in connecting community members with the cultural, historical, and recreational assets of the Ohio & Erie Canal and Towpath Trail, and creating stewards to carry on the legacy to future generations.

During the fall of the 2018, the organization had the privilege of hosting its annual Fishing Derby, where more than 150 children and their families from Akron Public schools spent an afternoon fishing in the Ohio & Erie Canal. The children worked with volunteers to bait hooks, cast their lines, and catch fish – blue gill, catfish, and more – before releasing them back into the canal.

Over nearly 20 years, this program has welcomed thousands of children, offering an opportunity to interact with the natural resources in their own neighborhoods. This program also offers the opportunity to engage local businesses who support the mission of the Ohio & Erie Canalway and take hands-on roles in cultivating future stewards of our natural resources. More than 50 businesses and individuals sponsored this program in 2018, including core sponsors Cargill, PNC Bank, and Huntington Bank, with many other local organizations volunteering to support the staff and children.

The Fishing Derby is just one example in a year of programming designed to bring awareness and support to the cultural, historical, and recreational assets of the Ohio & Erie Canalway. We're excited to continue connecting with the communities that call our National Heritage Area home.

■ **OHIO** | Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area | *OhioAndErieCanalway.com*

Preservation Leads to Recognition of a Well-Trodden Past

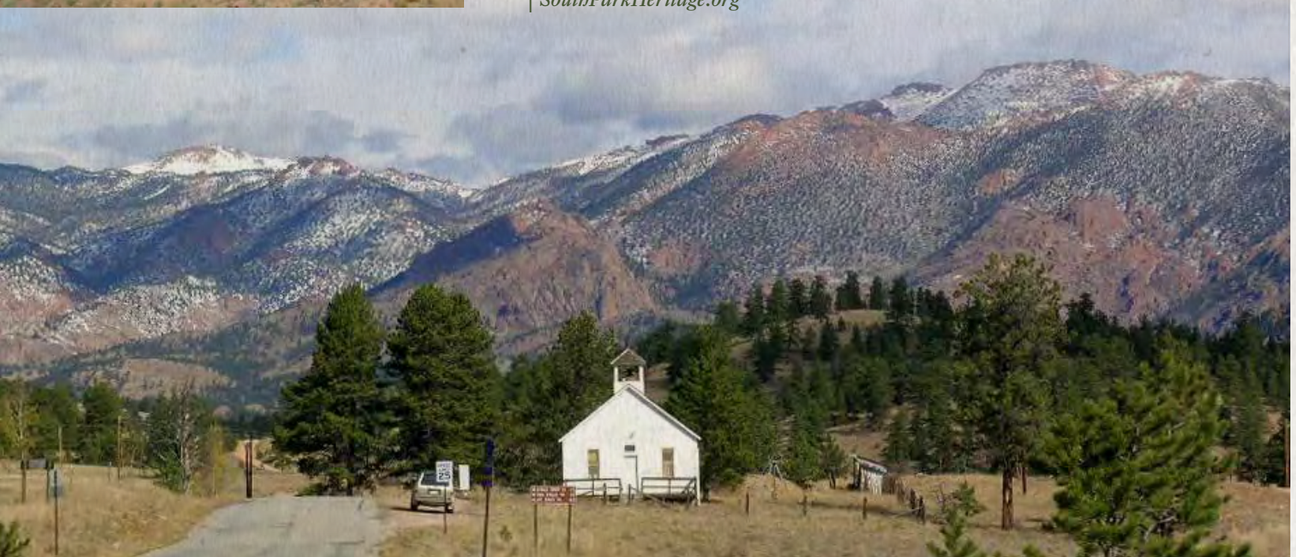
Deep in the heart of South Park National Heritage Area is a landscape that takes you back 150 years. The Tarryall Road was once a much-used trail for the mountain Paleo-Indians and more recently for the Ute tribes that held this landscape in high regard. With Westward Expansion came gold-diggers, miners, and ranchers. Despite centuries of use, the Tarryall Road is a treasured secret, lined with historic ranches, miner's cabins, cemeteries, and archaeological sites and ruins.

Local ranchers, property owners, and preservationists have come together to save this idyllic landscape, where nature's bounty and historic remains blend seamlessly together. With assistance from the State Historical Fund, the state Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and outstanding experts from throughout Colorado, Park County residents worked to preserve this unique environment.

On November 1, 2017, the Tarryall Rural Historic District, which encompasses over 28,000 acres stretching along CR77 from Jefferson down to U.S. Highway 24, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. On August 25, 2018 a celebratory bus tour was organized for all Park County residents, with History Colorado presenting the National Register plaque! The preservation team will also be receiving a 2019 Stephen H. Hart Award for Historic Preservation, History Colorado's premiere recognition of archaeology and preservation projects.

So if you find yourself wandering in South Park and come across an idyllic landscape of unmatched natural beauty and preserved reminders of a past long gone, then tip your hat to the grassroots partnerships that preserve our amazing heritage.

■ **COLORADO** | South Park National Heritage Area | *SouthParkHeritage.org*



Historic Academy Restored

Of the many relationships the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (MPNHA) has fostered,, none is more successful than its partnership with Wasatch Academy--the birthplace of Utah's modern education system. Located in Mt. Pleasant, Wasatch Academy was founded by Presbyterian minister and teacher Duncan McMillan shortly after he arrived in Utah in 1875. Wasatch Academy went on to become a great success, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

With seed money of $85,000 from MPNHA, the school generated approximately $4 million toward restoration of its historic buildings, exemplifying how heritage areas can develop partnerships to improve their community and leverage funds.

Paul Applegarth of Wasatch Academy credits MPNHA for catalyzing the vital preservation efforts. "The first grant that we received from the MPNHA sparked the interest of another donor, who funded the renovation of the original Wasatch Academy School building called Liberal Hall," Applegarth says. "Prior to the renovation, Liberal Hall was in bad shape. Without the grant, we may have ultimately lost Liberal Hall, a valuable piece of history."

Wasatch Academy's mix of academic excellence and storied heritage has also improved its community by attracting talented students from all over the world. Wasatch students hail from 38 countries and 28 American states. Students from China, Pakistan, Mali, Afghanistan and Germany, for example, come to the small community of Mt. Pleasant, which proudly serves the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area."

■ **UTAH** | Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area | *MormonPioneerHeritage.org*

Supporting a Historic Mutual Aid Society

The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area and the History Colorado State Historic Fund will provide funding for the interior and exterior restoration and rehabilitation of the original La Sociedad Protección Mutua de Trabajadores Unidos (SPMDTU) headquarters in Conejos County, Colorado. The SPMDTU is the oldest Hispanic civil rights organization in the United States. It was founded in Antonito, a small town located in the southern part of the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area, by Celedonio Mondragón and six others on November 26, 1900. In the mid-1900s, it had 65 concilios locales (local councils), in small towns throughout southern Colorado and northern New Mexico, including three in Utah. After World War II, it had a total of 3,000 members. The SPMDTU began as a mutual aid organization that sought, through non-violent actions, to combat the exploitation of Hispanic workers by land barons, mine owners, and the railroads. The original SPMDTU meeting hall located is listed in the "State Register of Historic Properties" and the "National Register of Historic Places" in the areas of Ethnic Heritage and Social History. Today, the organization is still active. Its concilios locales conduct monthly meetings and functions, in order to further the organization's vision. The SPMDTU is comprised of a diverse group of men and women committed to enriching Hispanic communities and families, with fund raising efforts aimed at providing and enhancing community services. The Sangre de Cristo National Heritage area is home to Colorado's oldest Hispano, agricultural and railroad communities. With over 11,000 years of documented human inhabitation, this is where Colorado began.

■ **COLORADO** | Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area | *SDCNHA.org/wp/*

"National Heritage Areas are considered one of the Department of the Interior's most cost effective initiatives, relying on a public/private partnership in which every federal dollar is matched with an average of $5.50 in other public and private financing."

—Congressmen Paul Tonko (D-NY) & David McKinley (R WV)

National Heritage Area Act of 2019

ANHA has previously worked with staff at the National Park Service and members of Congress to develop program legislation for National Heritage Areas. In the last session of Congress, the legislation drew broad bi-partisan support of more than 60 House members from 24 states — and support is expected to grow in the current session. The legislation is being re-introduced by Congressman Paul Tonko (D-NY) and Congressman David McKinley (R-WV).

What does this bill do?

- Establishes a standardized set of criteria for new NHAs
- Establishes a rigorous process for existing NHAs to ensure accountability
- Modernizes the program to ensure long-term sustainability with an initial program authorization period of 20 years
- Replaces a haphazard system of funding caps with an annual authorization amount of $700,000 for each and every National Heritage Area
- Clearly defines an oversight structure that will allow these popular public/private partnerships to better preserve the nation's heritage and spur economic growth with basic federal support
- Remains consistent with recommendations of both the Bush and Obama administrations

To join the Congressional caucus on National Heritage Areas, please contact:

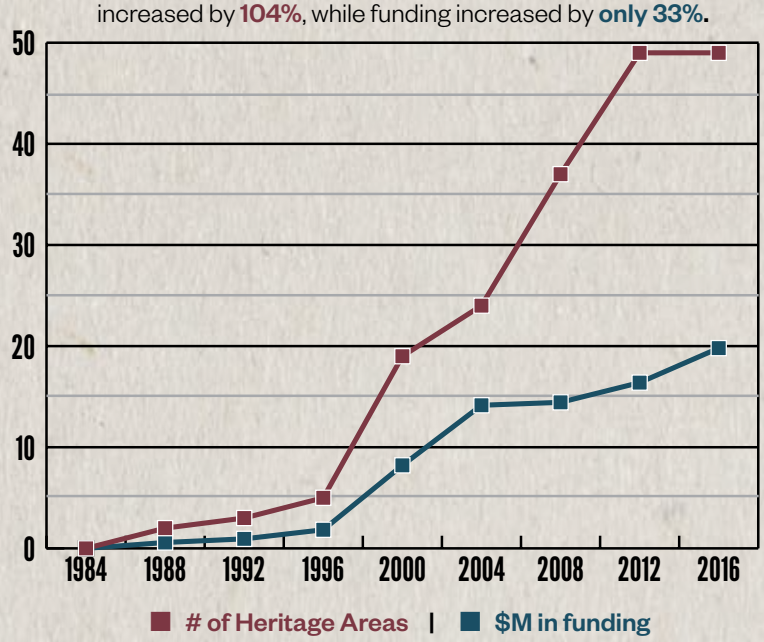
- *Emily Duhovny Silverberg*
  Legislative Assistant
  Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY)
  Emily.Silverberg@mail.house.gov
  (202) 225-5076
- *Sydney Pettit*
  Legislative Assistant
  Rep. David McKinley (R-WV)
  Sydney.Pettit@mail.house.gov
  (202) 225-4172

SUPPORT ADEQUATE FUNDING LEVELS FOR OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

As the chart demonstrates, funding for National Heritage Areas has lagged far behind the needs and popularity of the program. An enhanced level of funding of $32 million will ensure that all current areas can continue their important work of telling America's stories at the grass roots level.

www.NationalHeritageAreas.us

Between 2004-2016, the number of National Heritage Areas increased by **104%**, while funding increased by **only 33%.**



Hudson River Valley Greenway
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area
Acting Executive Director's Report
June 12, 2019
Scott Keller

Empire State Water Trail

In his 2019 State of the State, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that to complement the Governor's Empire State Trail, a sister water trail will be developed, linking together over 1,700 miles of existing water trails, on navigable State waterways, with consistent branding and website development. The Hudson River Valley Greenway has been asked to take the lead on this project. Scott Keller, Beth Campochiaro, and Cody Arana are working on this exciting project, that is the culmination of 25+ years of water trail work by the Greenway and many public and private sector partners around the state.

In April and May outreach to water trails around the state occurred, with positive feedback. At the recommendation of our agency and private sector partners, several steering committees were formed encompassing: Accessibility, Data/Website Development, Education/Marketing, and Signage/Branding. On May 24th the Greenway hosted the first meetings of the Date/Website Development and Signage/Branding sub-committees. Items discussed included establishing the committees' purpose, identifying and prioritizing tasks, and discussing the data necessary to be collected to form the desired map on the website and development of a logo.

Empire State Trail (EST)

The Empire State Trail team, **Andy Beers**, **Paul Glesta**, and **Dara Morin** continue working to meet the 2020 deadline to implement the EST. A website for the trail is available at Empire State Trail link. We have released an Empire State Trail Plan, an Empire State Trail Design Guide, and an Empire State Trail User Projection.

The most exciting development is that construction has started on the Albany Hudson Electric Trail in both Rensselaer and northern Columbia counties! National Grid will also be undertaking a maintenance project on its utility lines in selected locations this spring. The Greenway's target date for completing construction of the AHET Trail is November 2020. Visit Albany Hudson Electric Trail link for more information.

Additionally, a grand opening celebration of a segment of EST in the Village of Schuylerville, Saratoga County was held June 4th.

The Maybrook Trailway (previously called Beacon Line Rail Trail), running from Brewster to Hopewell Junction is being constructed by Metro North Railroad. A final concept plan has been released for this segment of the trail as well. Visit Maybrook Trailway link for more information.

The NYS Department of Transportation has released a draft concept plan for the on-road routes. It is available: NYS DOT Empire State Trail link.

Tower of Victory Celebration

The view south on Grand Reopening Day at the Tower of Victory in Newburgh.

An estimated one thousand people joined state and federal officials in celebrating the grand reopening of the Tower of Victory at Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site on April 27, 2019. Chairmen Barney McHenry and Kevin Burke and Acting Executive Director Scott Keller participated in the ribbon cutting, with Chairman Burke being the first person to ascend the newly reopened Tower. Chairman McHenry and late Congressman Maurice Hinchey were Co-Chairs of the sustained effort to restore the Tower.

Hudson River Train Tour App Wins Museum Association of New York Award
The National Heritage Area's Hudson River Train Tour App was awarded the MANY Excellence in Digital Design Award on April 8th in Cooperstown. The awards committee said, "... this is one of the best things happening in our state and should get recognition for how it connects the public to our history and heritage." The NHA is proud to receive this award from such an important partner.

Henry Knox Cannon Trail Rededication, Albany
On May 23, Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan joined the Greenway, and staff from Congressman Paul Tonko, Senator Neil Breslin, and Assemblywoman Patricia Fahey's offices to celebrate the restoration of the historic marker commemorating Col. Henry Knox's arduous 56-day journey from Ticonderoga to Boston with 59-cannon. The marker was removed fifty years ago for the construction of I-787 and subsequently lost. Using private funding only, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, working with the City of Albany, placed a new monument and wayside exhibit at Jennings Landing in the Corning Preserve.

The event was augmented by the presence of many Heritage Area partners, Col (Ret) James Johnson, Military Historian for the Hudson River Valley, and Schuyler's 2nd/Albany Militia, who provided a rolling musket fire, ending with a cannon firing.

These dedicated reenactors then generously allowed dignitaries, led by Mayor Sheehan, to fire the cannon as well. The barrel of the cannon was recast from a cannon recovered from the bottom of Lake Champlain, off one of General Benedict Arnold's warships.

Acting Director Scott Keller firing the Schuyler's 2nd/Albany Militia cannon.

International Trails Symposium, April 27 to May 2, 2019, Syracuse
The Greenway was well represented at American Trail's 2019 International Trails Symposium. From Cody Arana being named an Emerging Trail Leader and receiving extra days of training, to Andy Beers being a featured kick off speaker, as well as joining Beth Campochiaro and Scott Keller as presenters on the Empire State of Trails panel, the Greenway/Empire State Trail presence was felt throughout this event.

Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area
Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney successfully spearheaded an effort to rename our Heritage Area after the late Congressman Maurice Hinchey. Congressman Hinchey was directly responsible for the getting the Hudson Valley named a National Heritage Area. We have updated our website to reflect this important change. Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area link

250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War
As the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War quickly approaches in 2025, New York State is getting ready to celebrate! New York State Historian Devin Landry convened a kickoff stakeholders meeting at Saratoga National Historical Park on May 31st. In the first of three sessions across the state, Mr. Landry asked for input from the stakeholders, and in particular from the National Heritage Areas present. Following the other two meetings, Mr. Landry will summarize comments received and make plans for next steps.

Staff Activities
In addition to those activities mentioned above, staff also worked on these projects:

Grants and Finance Coordinator **Shannon Day** has returned from maternity leave and the rest of us, collectively, let out a deep sigh of relief! Shannon resumed her many and varied internal administrative tasks and led the way on our annual internal controls certification, completed the bi-annual Domestic Violence in the Workplace report, attended a building tenant meeting, and participated in training for the state's new procurement system. Shannon also has begun enhanced training in the Greenway's finance systems and assisted with audit preparations.

Trails and Community Outreach Director **Beth Campochiaro** and Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana** are working hard preparing for the **20th annual** Hudson River Valley Ramble in September, and also assisted **Scott Keller** on the Empire State Water Trail and attended Hudson River Harbor Safety Committee meetings.

Cody and Project Director **Dan Jeanson** represented the Greenway and NHA at the annual New York By Rail Tourism event at Penn Central.

Cody also prepared three months of newsletters, received social media training to help with his ongoing social media upkeep duties. Cody also updated our lists of Chief elected officials, and congress, state senate, and assembly members

Beth Campochiaro and **Dan Jeanson** presented funding opportunities from the Greenway and NHA at Pace University's *Got Funding? Opportunities for Supporting Conservation in the Hudson Valley*. They were part of panel of presenters, including DEC, and the Land Trust Alliance.

Beth Campochiaro also attended a Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Heritage Trail meeting with **Scott Keller** and the NYS Trails Council meeting in April and is undertaking enhanced training in the Greenway's finance systems.

Dan Jeanson also continued working on updates to the Hudson River Train Tour app, and oversaw the installation of the Knox Cannon Trail wayside exhibit in Albany and planned the press event. Dan attended mid-Hudson Region Economic Development meetings and a Hudson River Estuary meeting,

Acting Executive Director **Scott Keller** attended an Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor meeting on the NYS Canalway Water Trail, prepared for and conducted the annual independent audit, made a presentation on the Hudson River Harbor Safety Committee to the Historic Hudson-Hoosic Rivers Partnership, and participated in a selection team to choose a vendor to develop the Empire State Trail website.

As always, the entire staff participated in reviewing grants applications for Greenway Council Planning grants. Shannon, Beth, and Dan are working with communities and

non-profits to resolve expired grants. Our staff works with these grantees to extend grant performance times, complete grant projects, or return funds that will not be used.

Teaching the Hudson Valley

Michael Zwelling and Tisha Dunstan continue work on the Teaching the Hudson Valley Program. Alongside Chief of Interpretation Scott Rector, planning for the future of this program continues.

Grants Program Update

Grants Completed Since the March 13, 2019 Board Meeting						
Grant Type	**Grantee**	**Project**	**Awarded**	**Match**	**Award Date**	**Completion Date**
Conservancy	Village of Wappingers Falls	Lower Wappinger Creek Community Boathouse	$20,000.00	$28,175.36	10/18/2017	5/7/2019
Council	Village of Green Island	The Black Bridge Rail Trail Connection Project	$7,500.00	$26,429.10	1/13/2015	3/21/2019
Council	Town of New Scotland	2017 Comprehensive Plan Update	$10,000.00	$14,900.00	2/1/2017	5/17/2019
NHA	National Maritime Historical Society	Sea History's Guide to Maritime Programs & Cultural Sites	$5,000.00	$5,151.37	3/11/2015	3/12/2019
NHA	Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College	"The State at Montgomery Place" A Public Performing Arts Initiative	$5,000.00	$7,346.92	4/25/2018	4/18/2019
NHA	Thomas Cole Historic House	In the Footseteps of the Hudson River School: Finding Inspiration in Landscape	$5,000.00	$5,063.63	4/25/2018	5/17/2019
NHA	Boscobel House and Garden	Boscobel's Landscape and Landmarks Tour	$1,456.91	$2,279.98	5/9/2018	5/29/2019
NHA	John Burroughs Association	Slabsides Gateway Experience-Entrance Signs Project	$5,000.00	$12,450.00	5/24/2018	6/4/2019
		Totals	**$58,956.91**	**$101,796.36**		

Grants Awarded at the March 13, 2019 Board Meeting				
Grant Type	**Grantee**	**Project**	**Awarded**	**Award Date**
Council	Town of Philipstown	Comprehensive Plan Update	$15,000	3/13/2019
Council	Town of Esopus	Land Use Law Update	$10,000	3/13/2019
Council	Village of Cornwall-on-Hudson	Comprehensive Plan Update	$10,000	3/13/2019
Council	Village of Piermont	Sustainable Piermont Action Plan	$10,000	3/13/2019
		Totals	**$45,000**	

Hudson River Valley Greenway
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area
Executive Director's Report
October 10, 2019
Scott Keller

Empire State Water Trail

In his 2019 State of the State, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that to complement the Governor's Empire State Trail, a sister water trail will be developed, linking together over 1,700 miles of existing water trails, on navigable State waterways, with consistent branding and website development. The Hudson River Valley Greenway has been asked to take the lead on this project. Scott Keller, Beth Campochiaro, and Cody Arana are working on this exciting project, that is the culmination of 25+ years of water trail work by the Greenway and many public and private sector partners around the state.

On May 24th the Greenway hosted the first meetings of the Date/Website Development and Signage/Branding sub-committees. Items discussed included establishing the committees' purpose, identifying and prioritizing tasks, and discussing the data necessary to be collected to form the desired map on the website and development of a logo. Those projects were advanced over the summer.

Empire State Trail (EST)

The Empire State Trail team, **Andy Beers**, **Paul Glesta**, and **Dara Morin** continue working to meet the 2020 deadline to implement the EST. A website for the trail is available at Empire State Trail link. We have released an Empire State Trail Plan, an Empire State Trail Design Guide, and an Empire State Trail User Projection.

The most exciting development is that construction has started on the Albany Hudson Electric Trail in both Rensselaer and northern Columbia counties! Several sections in Columbia County are nearing completion, but no segments are yet open. The Greenway's target date for completing construction of the AHET Trail is November 2020. Visit Albany Hudson Electric Trail link for more information.

The Maybrook Trailway (previously called Beacon Line Rail Trail), running from Brewster to Hopewell Junction is being constructed by Metro North Railroad. Construction has begun on this segment of the trail as well. Visit Maybrook Trailway link for more information.

The NYS Department of Transportation has released a draft concept plan for the on-road routes. It is available: NYS DOT Empire State Trail link.

Twentieth Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble!

The Hudson River Valley Ramble just completed its twentieth anniversary run with a five-weekend series featuring some 200 events. Thank you and congratulations go out to all the event leaders who have participated in the Ramble. Data is still being gathered on attendance and other metrics for this year, but we do have historic numbers: more than 500 partners have held over 3,500 events. We will have a 2019 report at our next meeting.

During the summer we received an unusual request from Fort Montgomery State Historic Site (FMSHS) for past tee shirts. Peggy Lockwood, a staff member at FMSHS made a quilt from the old tee shirts and sent it to our office. We will honor Peggy's outstanding work at our October meeting.

We also will be celebrating David and Carol White who have led events for eighteen of the first nineteen years we held the Ramble. We will also be recognizing their invaluable contribution to the Ramble.

Hudson River Train Tour App Wins New York Tourism Industry Association Award

The National Heritage Area's Hudson River Train Tour App was awarded the New York Tourism Industry Association's Digital Campaign Marketing Award at their meeting on September 27th in Auburn. The awards committee determined that we had leveraged limited funding into thousands of downloads of the app. The NHA is proud to receive this award from such an important tourism partner. As part of this award Scott Keller was interviewed for the Destination On the Left podcast featuring all of the award winners.

Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail (WARO/W3R)

The National Park Service is responsible for managing the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail (WARO). The friend's group, who we work with and participate on is the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, Inc. (WS3R) a 501(c)(3) corporation. The NPS recently appointed Steve Sims Superintendent and Johnny Carawan as the Trail Administrator. Johnny and a consulting firm spent September holding meetings in each state with WARO historic sites. A few members of the W3R group, including Scott Keller, were invited in each state. The NPS has created a Foundation Document and a Long-Range Interpretive Plan. They have identified fourteen critical sites in New York that should be a part of the

trail. The New York delegation had suggestions to add a couple more sites. WARO is planning to update the current signage package to MUTCD standards so they may be placed on highways as directional signs, and are exploring creating a driving tour app modeled on our Hudson River Train Tour app.

Staff Activities
In addition to those activities mentioned above, staff also worked on these projects:

Grants and Finance Coordinator **Shannon Day** continued her many and varied internal administrative tasks such as tenant meetings, FOIL request responses, records retention, and moving the office towards paperless filing. Shannon also completed our annual internal controls certification for both the State Comptroller and the Division of Budget, as well as the Control over Payment Process Certification, completed the bi-annual Domestic Violence in the Workplace report, attended a building tenant meeting, and participated in training for the state's new procurement system. Shannon also has begun enhanced training in the Greenway's finance systems and assisted with audit preparations, and underwent Audit/Internal Control training.

Shannon, **Beth**, **Dan**, and **Scott** attended an annual review of our state website with ITS Web-NY staff. Information provided is helping us to make our website more accessible.

Trails and Community Outreach Director **Beth Campochiaro** and Assistant Event Coordinator **Cody Arana** worked diligently on the **20th annual** Hudson River Valley Ramble, and also assisted **Scott Keller** on the Empire State Water Trail and attended a Coast Guard Open House in Albany.

Cody and Project Director **Dan Jeanson** represented the Greenway and NHA at two Greater Hudson Heritage Network events, a workshop on Connecting Collections and Audience and at their annual conference.

Cody and **Scott** also attended a Hudson River Harbor Safety Committee meeting.

Cody also staffed our booth at a maritime festival at the Hudson River Maritime Museum, prepared four months of newsletters, performed social media upkeep for the Ramble, Greenway, and HR Greenway Water Trail.

Dan Jeanson and **Scott Keller** have participated in two planning sessions for a Sharing Women's History in the Hudson River Valley gathering as part of the centennial celebration of the passage of the 19th amendment, giving women the right to vote.

Beth Campochiaro also attended a Hudson River Resiliency meeting, prepared reports for the state under Executive Order #4 Establishing a State Green Procurement and Agency Sustainability Program and Executive Order #166 Redoubling New York's Fight Against The Economic And Environmental Threats Posed By Climate Change And Affirming The Goals Of The Paris Climate Agreement reporting, and is continuing

enhanced training in the Greenway's finance systems.

Dan Jeanson also continued working on updates to the Hudson River Train Tour app, including ten new audio stories. He has also monitored our social media campaigns for the app and NHA and represented the Greenway at the reopening of the Cohoes Visitor Center.

Executive Director **Scott Keller** is participating in efforts by the Hudson River Estuary Program to develop guidelines for restoring scenic vistas, and on creating resilient shorelines. He also participated in a W3R symposium on the crossing of the Hudson by the armies of Washington and Rochambeau. The Greenway provided a grant for a series of two symposia. He was asked to read the Greenway's proclamation remembering and honoring the late Frank Bergman at a meeting of the Hudson River Boat and Yacht Club Association.

As always, the entire staff participated in reviewing grants applications for Greenway Council Planning and National Heritage Area grants. Shannon, Beth, and Dan are working with communities and non-profits to resolve expired grants. Our staff works with these grantees to extend grant performance times, complete grant projects, or return funds that will not be used.

Teaching the Hudson Valley
Michael Zwelling and Tisha Dunstan continue work on the Teaching the Hudson Valley Program.

Grants Program Update

Grants Completed Since the June 12, 2019 Board Meeting						
Grant Type	**Grantee**	**Project**	**Awarded**	**Match**	**Award Date**	**Completion Date**
Conservancy	Town of Fort Ann	Battle Hill Trails Master Plan	$18,749.99	$18,750.01	10/18/2017	7/29/2019
Council Compact	Town of Red Hook	Amend Zoning Law for Natural Resource Protection	$10,000.00	$17,096.54	10/18/2017	7/25/2019
Council Planning	Town of Woodstock	Town of Woodstock Comprehensive Plan	$10,000.00	$14,824.00	3/22/2017	7/9/2019
Council Planning	Town of Dover	Update of the Town's master plan adopted in 1993 with amendments in 1999.	$6,750.00	$11,133.75	11/22/2010	7/23/2019
Council Planning	Town of New Paltz	Route 299 Gateway Planning and Zoning Project	$10,000.00	$12,050.00	10/26/2016	7/30/2019
Council Planning	Town of Gallatin	Gallatin Geographic Information System Project	$6,284.00	$6,374.63	10/14/2015	8/27/2019
NHA	Lyndhurst	Interpretive Signage	$1,250.00	$1,450.00	3/11/2015	6/20/2019
NHA	Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct	Keeper's House Visitor + Education, 5 Graphic Panels	$3,000.00	$5,849.50	3/23/2016	7/29/2019
NHA	FASNY Museum of Firefighting	FASNY Museum of Firefighting Marketing Expansion Project	$1,750.00	$1,750.00	7/10/2019	8/16/2019
NHA	Hudson River Maritime Museum	Hudson River Lighthouse Coalition	$5,400.00	$9,097.99	4/25/2018	8/26/2019
		Totals	**$73,183.99**	**$98,376.42**		

Grants Awarded Since the June 12, 2019 Board Meeting				
Grant Type	**Grantee**	**Project**	**Awarded**	**Award Date**
Council Compact	Town of Union Vale	Master Plan Update	$6,375.00	6/12/2019
Council Planning	Town of Greenwich	Stewardship Plan Update	$10,000.00	6/12/2019
Council Planning	Town of Saugerties	Town/Village of Saugerties Comp Plan Update and Zoning Revisions	$10,000.00	7/11/2019
NHA	Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College	The Fisher Center Presents Free Outdoor Performances at Montgomery Place	$5,000.00	6/12/2019
NHA	Boscobel House and Gardens	Boscobel Signage Revitalization	$5,000.00	7/22/2019
NHA	Historic Cherry Hill	"Swept Clean": A Dramatic Story of Loss and Restoration in Victorian America	$5,000.00	6/12/2019
NHA	Huguenot Historical Society	Picturing Huguenot Street: Three Historical Paintings that Portray a National Historic Landmark District Over Time	$5,000.00	6/12/2019
NHA	Saugerties Lighthouse Conservancy, Inc	Saugerties Lighthouse Sesquicentennial: Esopus Creek Puppet Suite	$5,000.00	6/12/2019
NHA	Thomas Cole National Historic Site	Bringing to life the home of the founding Hudson River Painter	$5,000.00	7/1/2019
NHA	Village of Kinderhook	Discover Historic Kinderhook: A Walking and Bicycling Tour	$1,325.00	6/12/2019
NHA	Walkway Over the Hudson	Interpretive Digital Signage on the Walkway	$5,000.00	6/12/2019
NHA	Westchester County Historical Society	WCHS/Clio App National Register Sites in Westchester County	$7,500.00	9/11/2019
NHA	FASNY Museum of Firefighting	FASNY Museum of Firefighting Marketing Expansion Project	$1,750.00	7/10/2019
		Totals	**$71,950.00**	