



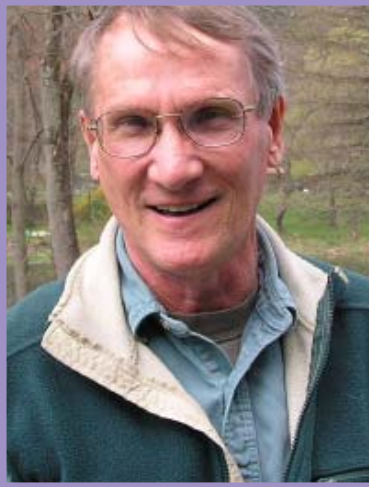
York County Rail Trail Authority

2015 Annual Report



Faces of Success

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE | 2015



2015 was an exciting year – from a trail segment opening to our first annual pumpkin walk on the Heritage Rail Trail County Park to both state and national recognition for our showcase project.

The first major event of the year was the official opening of Phase 2 of the Northern Extension of the Heritage Rail Trail, which added about 2½ miles to the trail. The ceremony was held on a cold, windy April day and was punctuated by a bald eagle sailing in the background as speeches were made.

Along the completed sections of the Hanover Trolley Trail, drainage improvements were made near Spring Grove to help alleviate a recurring erosion problem. These improvements were made possible by a generous grant from Glatfelter, contributions to the Authority's Hanover Trolley Trail Maintenance Fund, and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The Authority took a giant leap of faith in 2015 and embarked on our first major fund-raising event. We decided to hold a Pumpkin Walk along a ¼-mile section of the Heritage Rail Trail in Seven Valleys. We hoped to have a hundred or so carved pumpkins and a couple hundred people show up. Well, we had nearly 250 pumpkins and over 3,000 people! Despite a massive traffic jam in Seven Valleys, almost all of the feedback received both during and after the event was positive. We plan to hold the event again in 2016, giving special emphasis to parking logistics.

The year ended on a particularly high note with the formal presentation of two awards for the Heritage Rail Trail County Park. The trail was named Pennsylvania's Trail of the Year for 2015 by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. And, the Heritage Rail Trail with the adjoining Torrey C. Brown Rail Trail in Maryland was named to the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's Hall of Fame. A two-award ceremony was held on November 10 that included speeches by DCNR Secretary Cindy Dunn and Rails-to-Trails Conservancy President Keith Laughlin. Awards, events, improvements, and new trail miles made for a great year!

Carl R. Knoch
Carl R. Knoch, Chairman



Members

Carl Knoch
Chairman

Mack Johnson
Vice-chairman

Ed Hughes
Secretary

Dale Keagy
Treasurer

Pamela Gay
County Representative

Henry Herrman
Jeffrey Hines
Heidi Hormel
Frank Kempf
Ann Yost

Standing Committees

Planning Committee

Frank Kempf, Chair	Mack Johnson
Dennis Flickinger	Tim Miller
G. Robert Gotwols	Steve Mooney
Ed Hughes	Danielle Stehman

Hanover Trolley Trail Operations Committee

David Brown	Mack Johnson
Frank Kempf	Terry Reichart
Jeffrey Garvick	Andy Shaffer
Henry Herrman	Chris Wagman
Tina Hinkle	Jim Yingst

Professional Services

Gwenyth L. Loose, CPRP
Executive Director

Scott Beaverson, Esq.
Solicitor

Casey Deller, PE
Jeffrey Shue, PE
C.S. Davidson, Inc.
Project Engineers

Affiliations

York County Board of Commissioners
York County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

PROJECTS REPORT | 2015

Northern Extension Heritage Rail Trail County Park

Phase 2 Opens

On a cold, windy Earth Day, April 22nd, Phase 2 of the Northern Extension officially opened to the public with a ceremony held at the new parking lot located at the intersection of RT 30 and Loucks Mill Road in Springettsbury Township.

Following speeches by representatives of the primary funding agencies – PENNVEST, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, and PennDOT– and by primary partners in the project – County of York, York County Department of Parks & Recreation, York County Convention & Visitors Bureau, York County PA Legislative Delegation, and US Army Corps of Engineers – cyclists, walkers, and runners warmed up with a first official visit to this extraordinarily beautiful trail section.

Phase 3 and Beyond

An official PennDOT field-scoping meeting was held on May 5th to review the remaining phases to complete the Northern Extension: (1) a ramp at Loucks Mill Rd. and RT 30 to transport visitors up to the south walkway of the RT 30 Bridge; (2) Phase 3 consisting of 0.7 miles of trail on the west bank of Codorus Creek, a prefabricated bridge to span Willis Run, improvements to a connector trail to North York Borough Park, and native plantings, and (3) a portion of Phase 4 consisting of 0.46 miles of trail around Smalls Athletic Field and along Hamilton Avenue to North George Street.



Hanover Trolley Trail

Improvements by Community Partners

Hanover Cyclers purchased a bench, and **Penn Township** public works crew generously installed it near Gitts Run Road in July. Visitors now have a place to rest as they enjoy a view of the nearby Pigeon Hills.

In June, a major drainage improvement was completed in Spring Grove Borough thanks to funding provided by **PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources** and local matching funds from **Glatfelter** and **donors** to the Hanover Trolley Trail Maintenance Fund.

On September 13th, sixteen members of **St. Paul's Lutheran Church** of Spring Grove demonstrated "God's Work. Our Hands." by planting trees and flowers at the Jackson Township Parking Lot.

OUTREACH & FINANCIALS | 2015



Technical Assistance

In York County, technical assistance was provided to the City of York; Hanover Borough; Hanover Chamber of Commerce; Hanover YWCA; Jackson Township; Northern York County Historical & Preservation Society; Penn Township; Spring Grove Borough; York County Department of Parks & Recreation; and YMCA of York and Hanover.

Beyond York County, technical assistance was provided to Conoy Township, Lancaster County; Hamilton Township, Adams County; Healthy Adams County Pedestrian and Bicycle, Inc.; Lebanon Valley Rail Trail; Monroe County, Alabama; New Hampshire WOW Trail; PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources; PA Recreation & Park Society; and Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.

Information Booths

Hanover Dutch Day, New Freedom Fest, Representatives Saylor & Gillespie Senior Seminar, Shanks Mare Arts & Outdoor Festival, Spring Grove Chamber of Commerce Business Expo, York Central High School Wellness Fair.

Speaking Engagements

OLLI of Penn State, PA Recreation & Park Society Annual Conference, Stewartstown Lions Club, Windy Hill on the Campus, York County Department of Parks & Recreation, York Sertoma Club, and York Ski Club.

Traveling Meetings

May 18: Colonial Courthouse, York; June 15: North York Borough Park; July 20: Heritage Conference Center, Hanover; and August 17: Steam into History, New Freedom.

Donations

Materials & Services

\$ 46,007.00

Includes the following municipal contributions to maintain & improve the Hanover Trolley Trail:

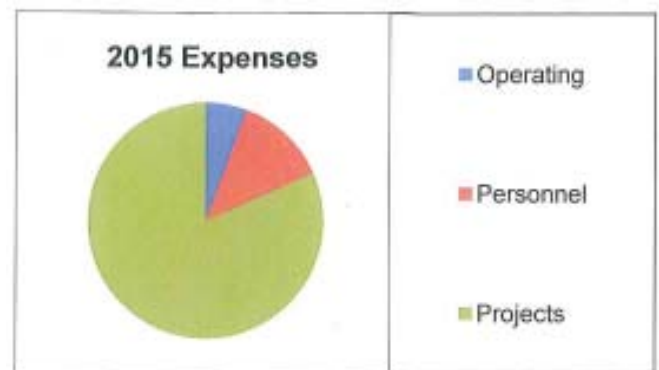
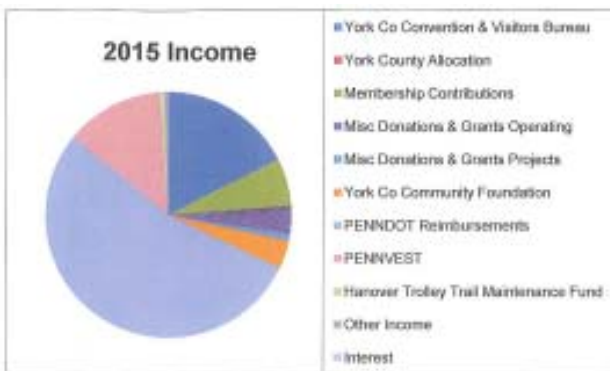
Hanover: \$1,985 - Jackson Twp.: \$1,300
Penn Twp.: \$1,011 - Spring Grove: \$1,397

Volunteer Hours

1,156.5 hrs.

Includes the following municipal contributions to maintain & improve the Hanover Trolley Trail:

Hanover: 53 hrs.- Jackson Twp.: 42 hrs.
Penn Twp.: 41 hrs.- Spring Grove: 41 hrs.



York Co Convention & Visitors Bureau	\$ 72,222
York County Allocation	\$ -
Membership Contributions	\$ 25,735
Misc Donations & Grants Operating	\$ 15,474
Misc Donations & Grants Projects	\$ 3,750
York Co Community Foundation	\$ 15,000
PENNDOT Reimbursements	\$ 222,188
PENVEST	\$ 52,918
Hanover Trolley Trail Maintenance Fund	\$ 3,400
Other Income	\$ 2,022
Interest	\$ 94
TOTAL	\$ 412,804

Operating	\$ 26,123
Personnel	\$ 59,654
Projects	\$ 380,597
TOTAL	\$ 466,374

Funding Awards

Federal Lands Access Program	\$ 255,000
PA DCNR	\$ 10,000
Private Donor (Frick Family)	\$ 40,000
TOTAL	\$ 305,000

8TH ANNUAL YORK COUNTY RAIL TRAIL AWARDS



Trail Champion Award
Met-Ed, a FirstEnergy Company



Government Leader Award
David F. Brown, Supervisor
Jackson Township



Trail Organization Award
Steam into History, Inc.

Municipal & Community Partners

Sacred Heart Parish Center's Terry and Don Reichard conducted 12 inspections and performed light maintenance of the Hanover Trolley Trail: Spring Grove-Jackson Township.

Spring Grove Area Chamber of Commerce conducted 3 inspections and performed light maintenance of the Hanover Trolley Trail: Jackson Twp. Hershey to Martin Rd.

Jeffrey Garvick, former manager of **Penn Township**, conducted 12 inspections and performed light maintenance of the Hanover Trolley Trail: Penn Twp.

YORK COUNTY RAIL TRAIL FRIENDS | 2015

York County Rail Trail Authority extends a sincere thank you to the following special friends whose support and contributions were key to the success of our projects in 2015:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Adventure Cycling & Fitness
Mr. & Mrs. Louis J. Appell, Jr.
Roger and Marietta Barbour
Kathryn Bard
Scott Beaverson
Cy and Joan Beekey
Bob Hoffman Foundation
Brown's Orchard & Market
Buchart-Horn, Inc.
Eugene Byers
C.S.Davidson, Inc.
Cashman's Hardware
Charles and Diehl Family Fund
Collens-Wagner Agency, Inc.
David & Linda Davidson
Angela Edris-Eveler
Matthew Etter
Etube and Wire
Wanda Eyster
John & Ginger Finlayson
First Capital Federal Credit Union
Dennis & Linda Flickinger
Flinchbaugh's Orchard & Market
Flying Feet Sports Shoes | Oscar Fox
Dr. Lawrence & Gayle Freer
Bernie & Alice Frick
Mary Lou Frick
Glatfelter
Glatfelter Insurance Group
Mark Goedecker, Jennifer Rein & Family
Jodi Graham
Gung Ho Bikes
H&H General Excavating, Inc.
Hanover Cyclers
Marc Hirsh, MD PC
George & Jocelyn Hubbard
Jackson Twp. Sewer Authority
Dale & Jacklyn Keagy
Horace Keesey III
Kennie's Markets
Bill & Kim Kerlin
Kinsley Family Foundation & Realty
Katherine & Andrew Lesko
Joyce & Karl Ludeman
Martin's
Met-Ed & First Energy Foundation
Lori Mitrick & Family
Robert Myers III | Naylor Family Foundation
North York Borough
Olusoji Otuyelu
Penn Township
Penn Waste
Ignacoi Prats
Linda & William Price
Walt & Leslie Reamer
Richard Renn
Alex & Elana Richman
Rebecca Roberts
Robert & Betty Sampsell
Steve & Marie Saubel
Scott Savoie
Schaeffer's Florists
John & Sue Schmidt
Frank Shaeffer
Steven Shelley & Judi Miller
Shrewsbury Township
Edward Smith
Smyser's Farm
Springfield Township
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Starview Media Inc.
Stauffer's
Steam into History, Inc.
Stellar Partners LLC
J. Lynne Stoyer
The Graham Group
The Jones Family Foundation
The York Water Company
Thomas Thole
Ray & Doris Tobias
Twin Pine Country Store
David & Sandra Vandestreek
Jane & John Wagman
Ed & Sally Wagman Family Fund
Chris Wagman, DJ
Elliot & Susan Weinstein
Weinstein Realty Advisors
WellSpan Health
Ryan White
Brian & Melinda Williams
Victor Winstead
Coni Wolf
Liz Wright & Charlie Holman
York Building Products
York County Visitors Bureau
York Co Parks Foundation CT
York White Rose Wanderers |
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Welcome !

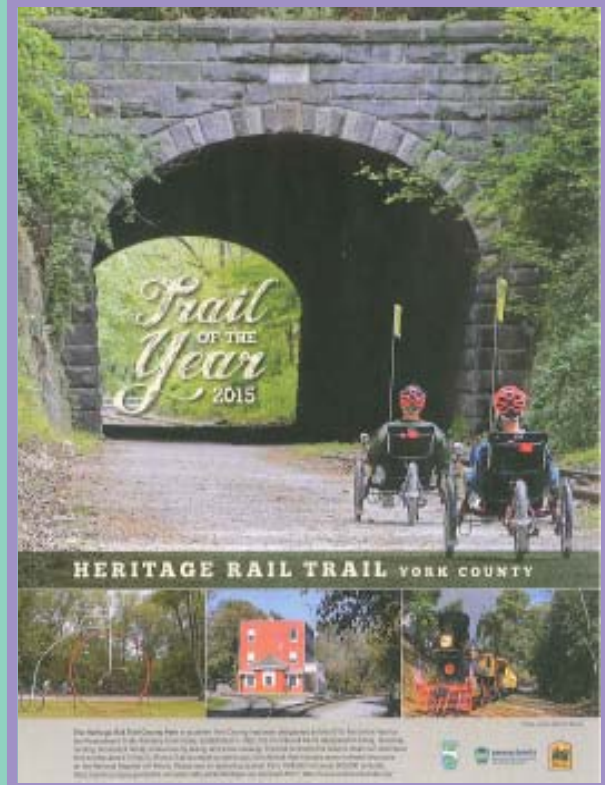
- ▶ Dale Keagy's appointment to the Authority became effective January 1, 2015. He will serve as the Authority's treasurer. His many qualifications include being a licensed Certified Public Accountant from 1973 to 2010, adjunct instructor in financial operations and planning at Wilkes University, and business administrator for the Southern York County School District.
- ▶ Danielle Stehman of LSC Design, Inc. joined the Authority's planning committee in 2015. She earned her Masters of Architecture in 2014, completing her thesis on sustainable urban designs.

Congratulations !

▶ Heritage Rail Trail County Park

Two awards: One celebration

On February 11th, Governor Tom Wolf announced the selection of York County's Heritage Rail Trail as **Pennsylvania's 2015 Trail of the Year**, and in September the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy inducted the Heritage Rail Trail and its Maryland counterpart, the Torrey C. Brown Rail Trail, into its **Hall of Fame**. These two prestigious awards were celebrated most appropriately on November 10th with a ceremony at the New Freedom Train Station and a ride aboard Steam into History. Special thanks to PennWaste and Kinsley Realty, Inc. for their corporate sponsorships of this celebration.



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**Enriching York County Communities and Countryside Through the
 Development of a Network of Public, Multi-use Trails.**