A Letter from the Chairman

As we look back on 2006, the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission and its staff can reflect on a year of great accomplishment and of teamwork. After working through the challenges of the highly publicized Preservation and Management Plan, we presented the final revision in June of this year when the Secretary of the Interior signed off on the Plan. 2006 was the year we were able to start making this shared vision a reality. The Erie Canalway staff worked with National Park Service interpreters and designers to produce a highly quality, reader-friendly brochure that explains the significance of the Erie Canalway and its superseded role in our nation's history. We also worked with four different communities to design and install outdoor interpretive signs that tell the story of the Erie Canal. These two projects, in particular, have helped to demonstrate how all the canalway communities are connected to each other and to the larger Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

Partnerships are key to our current and future success as a Heritage Corridor. Thanks to our efforts, the Erie Canalway Museum received almost $2 million in federal and state funds that will be used to expand the museum and upgrade their exhibits. Our collaboration with the New York State Canal Corporation and the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum continues on the restoration and interpretation of the historic sailing ship Lois McClure. We also continue to support conservation-cul de-sacs roadway, including the highly successful New York State Canal Conference.

In addition to the income accomplishments for 2006 outlined in the Annual Report, the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission also demonstrated new projects that will take place in the coming years. 2007 will be the first year of an Erie Canalway Pilot Grants Program. This program will help to embed partnerships and initiatives that serve as the prototypes for the larger Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

In 2006, we took initial steps in forming a fundraising organization to support the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. The Erie Canalway Heritage Fund, Inc. is a cooperation of regions incorporated in New York State. In the coming year, we will establish the Heritage Fund Board and begin this important work to augment our annual federal appropriation with other funds to benefit our local communities.

In September 2005, the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor entered into a unique partnership with the New York State Canal Corporation and the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum to bring the spectacular canal schooner Lois McClure to the Erie Canalway in 2007. The Lois McClure will travel 1,000 miles in 100 days as she makes her home port on Lake Champlain to 15 historic ports-of-call along the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. With this unprecedented "Grand Canal Journey" we hope to educate the public through presentations, exhibits, and other materials about the historic and present significance of the New York State Canal system and its communities.

2007 promises to be an exciting year on the Corridor. We look forward to continuing to work with all of you on many new projects throughout the Corridor. Please join us.

Sincerely,

Commission Chairman

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

Corridor Commission

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Chairman Eric Mower, Syracuse

Vice Chair Joseph Galban, Syracuse

Secretary Morgan Lesie, Lockport

Treasurer Peter Wood, Lockport

Ex-Officio: Sandy Walke, National Park Service

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Thomas Grano, Albertville

Carol Greenough, Lockport

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Christopher Jacobs, Secretary of State

NYS Department of State

Chungfeng Lai, Rochester

Canandaigua Marina, Auburn

NYS Canal Corporation

NYS Assemblyman Robert Reilly, Albany

Judge Ammi B. Dues, Niskayuna

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Kevin S. Haun, Commissioner, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Richard P. Haffliger

Peter Sinclair, Farley

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Alan Sussen, Little Falls

Peter Wilke Jr., Amsterdam

Staff

Frank Ryan, Executive Director

Hannah Blake, Community Outreach Coordinator

Mary Grasimiper, Office Manager

Lee Drrell, Project Manager

Brian R. Hay, Interpretive Planner

Beth Swann, Program Manager

2006 Annual Report

Letter from the Chairman

Fiscal Year 2006 Appropriations

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission received a Federal Congressional Appropriation.

Income:

Federal Appropriation...............$650,000

Expense:

Heritage Development...............$325,431

Public Outreach......................$139,832

Interpretation and Education.....$156,517

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor also leveraged and matched these Federal appropriations with $4.3 million in non-Federal funds by working with our state and municipal partners in preservation and recreation projects in the Corridor.

Formal Partnerships

Local Society of New York State

Buffalo

Lake Ontario Partnership

Mohawk-Tioga Port Authority

Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor

New York State Canal Corporation

New York State Education Department

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation

Parks and Recreation

Western Erie Canalway Heritage Corridor Commission

www.eriecanalway.org  |  518-237-7000

Cover photo by Bart M. Carrig

Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, working through a wide range of partnerships, is preserving and interpreting our nation’s past, providing world-class recreational and educational opportunities, fortifying economic revitalization, improving quality of life in Corridor communities, and guiding the reemergence of the Erie Canalway as a 21st-century “River of Commerce and Culture.”
The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor has made a great contribution to the future of the Erie Canal and upstate New York. It committed $400,000 for the initial creation of the brochure. The Erie Canalway Commission is pleased to announce the publication of Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor: A Guide to the Erie Canalway, a brochure about the Erie Canalway and the communities that make up the corridor. The publication follows the Erie Canalway Commission’s award-winning Comprehensive Planning Award-winning Plan for the Corridor. The Plan garnered high honors from the American Planning Association, New York Chapter, and the Social Impact Commission, as well as international recognition from the American Planning Association, New York Chapter, and the Social Impact Commission, as well as international recognition from the National Park Service and the National Historic Preservation Act. The Plan has been recognized for its innovative approach to planning and its focus on community revitalization and economic development.

The brochure follows the Erie Canalway Commission’s Plan for the Future. The Plan is a comprehensive and strategic plan that outlines the goals and objectives for the future preservation and revitalization of the Erie Canal. The Plan is designed to provide a roadmap for the future of the Erie Canal and its communities. The Plan is divided into five sections: Introduction, Context, Goals and Objectives, Strategies, and Implementation.

The introduction section provides an overview of the Erie Canalway and its significance to New York State. The context section describes the history of the Erie Canal and its role in shaping the history of New York State. The goals and objectives section outlines the specific goals and objectives for the future preservation and revitalization of the Erie Canalway. The strategies section describes the specific actions that will be taken to achieve the goals and objectives. The implementation section describes the specific actions that will be taken to implement the strategies.

The brochure includes information on the history and significance of the Erie Canal, as well as a guide to the communities that make up the corridor. The brochure also includes information on the various exhibits and projects that are currently underway in the corridor. The brochure includes a map of the corridor, as well as a guide to the communities that make up the corridor. The brochure also includes information on the various exhibits and projects that are currently underway in the corridor.

The brochure is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history and significance of the Erie Canal. It provides a comprehensive overview of the corridor, as well as a guide to the communities that make up the corridor. The brochure is also a valuable resource for anyone interested in the various exhibits and projects that are currently underway in the corridor. The brochure includes a map of the corridor, as well as a guide to the communities that make up the corridor. The brochure also includes information on the various exhibits and projects that are currently underway in the corridor.