We work for a healthy environment. We work to preserve the traditional character of your town. We work for an energized place to grow your business and provide a great quality of life.

– P. Bradford Cheney
Message from the Chairman

I am pleased to report that The Last Green Valley, Inc. (TLGV) has completed another successful year. Walktober saw an increase of 25% in participation for the 23rd annual program. TLGV measured $278 million in the economic impacts of tourism for 2013, with more than 1.9 million visitors enjoying our beautiful National Heritage Corridor through activities like outdoor recreation, sightseeing, and fairs and festivals. More than 1,200 students received hands-on environmental science education through our Watershed Education Program, inspiring them to make sound choices for the place where they live. TLGV worked with hundreds of volunteers who donated 1,323 hours of their time to clean up trails and river ways, monitor water quality, and represent TLGV at public events, a value of $153,649. TLGV has connected residents to producers more directly and now locally-produced foods are the norm at eateries and markets, not an anomaly.

There are over 315,000 people that live here in The Last Green Valley. We work for a healthy environment. We work to preserve the traditional character of your town. We work for an energized place to grow your business and provide a great quality of life.

Our goal is simple: we strive to bring the best that New England has to offer to all who visit or live here. With the help of volunteers, the support of our 35 member towns, and the hard work of our talented staff, we will continue the important work to meet that challenging goal.

P. Bradford Cheney
Chairman, TLGV Board of Directors

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Deputy Executive Director

Michelle Bourgeois  
Director of Sustainability

Bill Reid  
Chief Ranger

Sharon Wakely  
Finance Administrator

Valerie Imre  
Program Coordinator

LyAnn Graff  
Administrative Assistant

And contractors

Christine Armstrong  
Education Outreach Coordinator

Louise Muller  
Web Technician

K. Carpenter
The Last Green Valley in action

**Education Programs**

The TLGV Education Program strives to reach the greatest number of students and be active in different forms of learning that will inspire a depth of understanding and commitment to the stewardship of The Last Green Valley by future generations. Initiated in May, 2013 the program has already served more than 1100 students in 12 different towns.

**Watershed Education Module** – is presented in the classroom by Christine Armstrong, TLGV Ranger and Education Outreach Coordinator. The program uses a model watershed to communicate the importance of keeping our water clean as it flows through and under The Last Green Valley landscape. Students are inspired to make sound environmental decisions. **Cost $24,762**

**Recreation & Stewardship**

**Water Trails Video** – a partnership with high school students and the National Park Service to video document water trails for safety and education. The final products will be available to the public on the TLGV website. **Cost $17,043**

**Water Trails Development** – a partnership among the TLGV Water Trails Committee, US Army Corps of Engineers, CDEEP, nonprofits, municipalities and businesses to provide safe and convenient access for residents and visitors to water resources in the National Heritage Corridor. The project includes improving water trail access sites, installing kiosks with professionally designed and current information and maps, and producing paddle guides and interactive maps (available on the website). **Cost $117,950**

**Cleanups** – a support system to municipalities, nonprofits, business associations and youth groups for community projects to clean up rivers, roads, parks and paths. Last year, more than 1,000 volunteers removed more than 11 tons of trash from the National Heritage Corridor. **Cost $10,605**
**Natural Resource Conservation**

*Southern New England Heritage Forests* – a regional project to strengthen forest stewardship by educating woodland owners about forest management and conservation techniques. TLGV is coordinating an aspect of the project and partnering with the North East State Foresters Association, U.S. Forest Service, state forestry agencies, and many nonprofits in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island to implement this project. 
**Cost $36,671**

*Water Quality Monitoring* – uses more than a hundred trained volunteers throughout the watershed to measure essential data for EPA, CDEEP and MDEP with professional equipment. This allows state and federal agencies to prioritize funding for clean ups and other watershed conservation measures. 
**Cost $42,275**

*Thames River Basin Partnership* – dozens of agencies and organizations come together each quarter to share resources, develop strategies, and implement regional approaches to natural resource protection. TLGV provides funding to coordinate the quarterly meetings and annual “floating” workshop. 
**Cost $3,000**

*TLGV Sustainable Communities* – provides continuing education for land use decision makers, particularly the volunteers in our municipalities who are constantly changing. 
**Cost $31,687**

**TLGV Rangers** – coordinated by Chief Ranger Bill Reid, TLGV Rangers are trained volunteers who are conversant in all things TLGV, deliver presentations to the community, and assist at major events. They are the public face of TLGV and provide hundreds of hours of service throughout the year. 
**Cost $74,235**

**Seasonal programs** – Chief Ranger Bill Reid also organizes numerous experiences, including the Mid-Winter Eagle Survey and Earth Month, to connect residents first-hand to the resources of the National Heritage Corridor. 
**Cost $52,466**
Agricultural Sustainability

Agvocate – a multi-level partnership to help communities become more farm friendly. To date, the Agvocate has worked with 14 towns that have developed their own agriculture commissions or committees, improved local land use practices, and produced educational materials and events for residents on the value of agriculture in their community.

Cost $19,685

Mastering the Business of Agriculture (MBAg) – curriculum development and technical assistance in business planning for farmers, an essential element for diversification and expansion financing and planning.

Cost $133,736

Economic Development & Tourism

Walktober – 23rd year with a record number (164) of free guided walks, hikes, bike rides, paddles and special events to connect approximately 45,000-50,000 residents and visitors to the region’s rich resources. Tremendous economic driver for local communities.

Cost $30,162

TLGV Tourism Brand Development and Promotion – advertising nature-based recreation, small town New England experiences and agritourism to draw tourism dollars to the region. Developing special initiatives like Green Lights to energize tourism during winter months. Impacts measured: 1.9 million visitors annually who had an economic impact of $278 million region-wide.

Cost $58,163

The Guide to The Last Green Valley – annual fulfillment product for tourism inquiries and information racks/centers featuring accommodations, dining, shopping, outdoor recreations, agri-businesses, seasonal calendar of events and substantial editorial copy.

Cost $65,881

Our Major Sponsors

We are most grateful to all of our major sponsors who stepped forward to support TLGV’s work in 2013. We thank them all.

Connecticut Light & Power was TLGV’s first corporate sponsor years ago. CL&Ps consistent support and encouragement for the work of this organization has nurtured our sustainability and credibility. TLGV is very thankful for our partnership.

First Niagara Bank entered into a multi-year collaboration with TLGV in 2013, supporting the organization’s work by providing logistical services and office space. We are very grateful and look forward to many years of productive partnership.

Millenium Power Partners, L.P. has supported TLGV for a number of years, particularly in the stewardship of the Quinebaug River. It’s support has been essential for TLGV watershed projects and will help us to achieve many of our long term goals.

Among TLGV’s perennial partners are Southbridge Savings Bank and Savings Institute Bank & Trust whose support of programs like Walktober has enabled TLGV to reach wider audiences.

Keith and Elaine Knowlton have provided leadership and years of service to sustain TLGV.
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Balance Sheet
The Last Green Valley, Inc. as of September 30, 2013, Audited Financial Statement

Assets

CURRENT ASSETS:
- Cash $ 182,456
- Grant Receivable 24,480
- Inventory 870
- Prepaid Expenses 8,672
Total Current Assets 216,478

Property and Equipment:
- Machinery and Equipment 25,842
- Less: Accumulated Depreciation (24,731)
Net Property and Equipment 1,111

TOTAL ASSETS $ 217,589

Liabilities and Net Assets

CURRENT LIABILITIES:
- Accounts Payable $ 24,500
- Accrued Expenses 25,400
Total Current Liabilities 49,900

NET ASSETS:
- Unrestricted 167,689
Total Net Assets 167,689

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $ 217,589

FY2013 Income Sources
- National Park Service $ 689,121
- Sales, merchandise 2,147
- Grants 102,370
- Contributions 66,099
- Memberships/Fees 71,680
- Interest Income 528
- Advertising Income 17,100
- Fundraising Event 23,166
- Member Activities 1,690
Total Income $ 973,901

FY2013 Expense Allocations
- Programming & Outreach $637,102
- Administration & Overhead 109,959
- Membership & Development 62,041
Total Expense Allocation $809,102
Thank you to all TLGV Members & Donors

Gifts in honor or memory
Anonymous in memory of Charles Barton
Loring Boyd in memory of Sgt. Nathan Boyd
Jim & Helen Bruinooge in honor of Dick & Sandie Williamson
George and in memory of Van Wyck Williamson
Georgette Chenail in memory of Roland E. Chenail
Falco Farm in memory of Hon. Chase Going Woolhouse
Faith L. Johnson in honor of Louise Pempke
Ayla Kardestuncer in memory of Peter Be
Irene Profetto in memory of Ketola & Brown
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Anonymous
Jennifer Almeida
John Carter
Ellsworth E. Chase, Jr.
Georgette Chenail
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Michele Fitzpatrick
Debra Giambattista
Richard & Diane Girgley
Tim Gillman
Adam & Jamie Goulas
Richard & Diane Giggey
Debra Giambattista
Patricia A. Daly
Georgette Chenail
John Carter
Jennifer Almeida
Anonymous

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The forests of The Last Green Valley are filtering 1.2 million tons of carbon from the air each year, creating 1.4 million tons of new topsoil, and producing enough oxygen for 8.3 million people, more than 27 times its population of 300,000.

- William Jobbagy