



P.O. Box 219, Waterford, NY 12188 ■ P: 518-237-7000 ■ www.eriecanalway.org

February 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

2017 was a momentous year! As the bicentennial period (1817-1825) began with fanfare, we were pleased to join in the festivities. At the same time, we were even more impressed with the substance behind the celebrations, including millions of dollars in new investments and the work of many people and organizations to advance canal-related tourism, preservation, and community revitalization.

Please take a moment to look at some of these highlights in our **2017 Annual Report**. It details progress toward preserving and promoting the 524-mile-long canal system and fostering vibrant communities throughout the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.

The New Year finds us fully engaged in major work for the year ahead:

- Installing dockside exhibit panels at 35 locations along the entire canal system;
- Expanding the NYS Canalway Water Trail with a navigational map set and guidebook;
- Developing a major new recreation campaign to encourage cycling, paddling, and hiking journeys;
- Supporting events, including a four month journey of the Corning Museum of Glass' *GlassBarge* and Lake Champlain Maritime Museum's canal schooner *Lois McClure*; the 20th anniversary of Cycle the Erie Canal, organized by Parks & Trails New York; and a host of community events;
- Partnering with historic sites, museums and schools to provide education for youth;
- Releasing the master plan and feasibility study for the Matton Shipyard Preservation & Adaptive Reuse Initiative and beginning work to stabilize the shoreline along the Hudson River.

Stay in touch. Don't miss important news about programs, events and funding opportunities shared via our monthly e-news and social media. We welcome your ideas, feedback and involvement and look forward to making 2018 another banner year. Thanks for all you do.

Sincerely,

Bob Radliff
Executive Director

Tom Blanchard
Board Chair

Pieter Smeenk
Commission Chair

Please help us stay connected! If your contact information has changed, take a moment to send your new information to Diane_Jennings@partner.nps.gov