



## Congresswoman Nita Lowey Recognized

**N**PCA honored Representative Nita Lowey (D-NY-17) with the Friend of the National Parks Award for her support in protecting and enhancing our national parks at a reception in New York City on May 13th. The Friend of the National Parks Award recognizes those Members who actively work to preserve and protect the integrity of our National Park System by casting pro-park votes, and helps NPCA cultivate park champions.

continued on page 5



Above: Rep. Nita Lowey ©U.S. Congress | Wikimedia Commons

## Paterson Great Falls Celebrates its 2nd Anniversary

Darren Boch, Paterson  
Great Falls Superintendent

**T**he Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park celebrated the 2nd anniversary of its establishment this past November. While the New Jersey park is still in the initial planning stages that does not deter visitors from visiting the falls and the city that grew up around them, America's first planned city of industry and innovation.

The NPS hopes to have a draft of the park's first general management plan (GMP) available for public comment later this year. This plan will lay out a vision for the park for the next 15-20 years, taking a long-range, conceptual view of the Great Falls and answering the question, "What kind of place do we want this park to be?"

As we plan for tomorrow, we're also creating opportunities today. This past year, thousands of visitors took part in the park's first ranger-led tours and educational programs. We've "adopted" the 6th grade class of one of Paterson's public schools, inculcated them in the mission and values of the NPS. Our Great Falls Youth Corps completed its fourth year, capping a summer of service that took

nearly 40 Paterson high school students down south for white-water rafting and a visit to Harpers Ferry.

And thanks to one of our partner, The Hamilton Partnership for Paterson, visitors to the Great Falls can now be led around

..the first general management plan, available for public comment this summer, will lay out a vision for the park for the next 15-20 years...

by the likes of NBC News anchor Brian Williams and New York Giants star Victor Cruz. Last April, the park introduced the Mill Mile Walking Tour, a self-guided audio and smart-phone tour that features celebrity voices highlighting the remarkable history, geology, social, and cultural importance of the park. To download the free tour, visit [www.millmile.org](http://www.millmile.org).

**Top:** Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park, ©Francisco Diez | Wikimedia Commons

# FIELD REPORT

Summer 2014

## Northeast Regional Office

120 Park Avenue • 14th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
646.324.8303  
Fax: 917.369.3505

### Cortney Worrall

NORTHEAST REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
cworrall@npca.org

### Carole Southall

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
csouthall@npca.org  
646.324.8304

### Oliver Spellman

SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER  
ospellman@npca.org

### Timothy Leonard

REGIONAL OFFICE COORDINATOR  
tleonard@npca.org

### William Norten

URBAN PARKS FELLOW  
wnorten@npca.org

## Headquarters

National Parks  
Conservation Association  
777 6th Street, NW • Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20001-3723  
www.npca.org

## NPCA Membership Services Team

800.628.7275  
npca@npca.org

Newsletter Design by  
kelleyalbertdesign.com



npca.org



## Greetings from Northeast Regional Director Cortney Worrall

Dear Friends and Supporters,

**I**t's been a whirlwind introduction to the national parks and NPCA's important work in the Northeast Region! In my first five months as regional director, I have visited 14 national parks and units in our region. What I have found is an astonishing range of sites all in different phases of development, all with unique issues and challenges, and all with enormous potential.

What strikes me is the sheer diversity of these sites, the stories they tell and could tell, their connection—or lack of connection—to surrounding communities, and the ways they encapsulate what makes our country unique and our National Park Service vital. The new Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park in New Jersey, for example, is just beginning to tell the story of the industrial revolution and its inventions—such as the submarine—that poured out of this first American manufacturing incubator established by Alexander Hamilton in the late 1700s.

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park in Massachusetts was surrounded by the largest population of freed slaves in the United States and now serves as a model of community engagement with underserved populations. And, of course, Gateway National Recreation Area, with its vast open space surrounded by one of the densest urban populations in the world, is poised to for improvements that will respect the power of the ocean and sanctity of its wildlife and

open landscapes—all this while serving the communities of New York City and beyond.

One of the best parts of my job in these first few months has been learning about the steady accomplishments of NPCA's northeast team over the last several years. The accolades for the Northeast Regional Office's work are impressive. NPCA has played the key role in making sure Gateway National Recreation Area lives up to its potential. Visioning sessions, design competitions, and endless work behind the scenes now bring us to the newly released general management plan, which captures the voices and the vision for the park's wildlife, recreation, and restoration.

As we look to the future of the Northeast Office I read with great excitement the 2012 National Park System Advisory Board Report, *Planning for a Future National Park System*. Of the many recommendations, two jump out at me. NPS and its programs must continue to “recognize that human experience is complex and varied over time, cultures, and geography”; and NPS must continue to “make advances in reflecting social, economic, and cultural trends, not just politics and war, and must embrace the experiences and perspectives of all Americans.” The northeast region will be the epicenter of this work, as we simultaneously embrace and improve the rich National Park Service resources around us. I look forward to charting the course with you.

**Above:** Boat on the New Jersey Shore at Sunset  
Sandy Hook ©George Oze/Alamy



# NPCA Welcomes Cortney Worrall, Northeast Senior Regional Director

## MEET THE STAFF

Cortney came to NPCA from New York City's Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance, where as chief operating officer she established a

hallmark program to reform waterfront permitting, facilitated community involvement and developed waterfront policy for the award-winning New York City Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, spearheaded the development of the first waterfront edge design guidelines for the New York-New Jersey Harbor and waterfront, and oversaw the tripling in size of the organization and its board.

Cortney has worked in the environmental field for more than 17 years. She began her career as an environmental specialist in state and federal storm water regulations, eventually working with the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and

Environmental Control to form the only environmental organization charged with protecting one of Delaware's most rapidly developing watersheds. After moving to New York City, she served as executive director of the Coastal Marine Resource Center in Brooklyn, developing beach clean-up programs at Gateway National Recreation Area's Jamaica Bay and starting the first public fishing programs using large nets on the beach under the Manhattan Bridge.

An accomplished athlete, Cortney is a former competitive swimmer and water polo player, and a once-in-a-while tri-athlete and soccer player. Cortney holds a bachelor's degree in environmental policy from Mount Holyoke College and a master's degree in public administration and environmental policy from Columbia University. She serves on the board of the friends group for the third largest public park in New York City, Friends of Van Cortlandt Park, and is on the board of Fireboat John J. Harvey. She



has a personal interest in ecology, conservation biology, ancient human history, societal responses to climate change, and is the mother of two growing girls.

**Above:** Northeast Regional Director Cortney Worrall ©NPCA



## Trustees for the Parks Speaker Series: Frederick Law Olmsted

Carole Southall, NPCA Regional Director of Development

What is it about the American spirit and our unique interpretation of democracy that led to the creation of a National Park Service? The 2014 annual Speaker Series at New York City's Explorers Club focused on this rich history, and the important roles played by the visionary landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and his son, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. As Olmsted so famously said, our magnificent natural wonders should not be the playground for the privileged few, but instead a sacrosanct commitment must be made to make them widely accessible "for the free use of the whole body of people forever."

More than 100 national park lovers came to the Explorers Club to hear author Justin Martin tell the riveting story of the pioneering landscape architect of Central Park, who also happened to be a Civil War hero, fervent abolitionist, and crusading journalist, in addition to being a visionary advocate for the national parks, along with his son. The history of America's national parks is directly connected to the Olmsteds, whose prescient vision for Yosemite and all public lands had profound and lasting consequences for the nation and the world.

It is in this same spirit that we offer the Trustees for the Parks Speakers Series as a civic service to our members and supporters. Many thanks to our hosts, Nicole Alger & Zachary Karabell, Gretchen Long, Trina & Mike Overlock, Elayne & Bill Roskin, Michael Roemer, Melissa Vail & Norman Selby, Theresa & William Taggart, Jr., and special thanks to George Gowen. We appreciate your support of our beloved national parks, "America's best idea," as Wallace Stegner said.

**Left:** Frederick Law Olmsted: Frederick Law Olmsted, John Singer Sargent, Oil on Canvas, 1895

# Meet Northeast Members of NPCA's Next Generation Advisory Council

**N**PCA is excited to announce that we have begun recruiting individuals between the ages of 18 and 34 who are motivated by national parks, conservation, advocacy, or reflecting the voice of their generation to participate in our Next Generation Advisory Council. Together, the ten members of the Council will develop recommendations for NPCA staff and Board on a vision, goals, and outcomes for how NPCA can more effectively engage their generation in national park advocacy. The Council will build on NPCA's ongoing work to engage youth and young adults by recommending pilot projects and initiatives to expand our short and long term impact on engaging the public in park protection issues. The northeast regional office is excited to welcome Eliza and Dave to represent our region on the council.

## Eliza Rockefeller, Hanover, NH

Eliza's passion for nature has been the guiding force in her life since she was a child. A first-year student at Dartmouth College, Eliza has been involved in Acadia National Park as an intern in the Interpretation department and Acadia's nonprofit Friends group. She is excited to expand her commitment to conservation by helping her generation engage with the national parks.

## Dave Santucci, Boston, MA

Dave Santucci is a graduate of the Rubenstein School for the Environment and Natural Resources at The University of Vermont, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in

Environmental Studies and a minor in Political Science. After graduating, Dave worked for former Vermont Governor Howard Dean as the operations manager for Democracy for America. Dave recently received his Masters of Science in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management at North Carolina State University where he worked with Dr. Myron Floyd to research NPS staff perceptions on strategies to encourage greater visitor diversity at two urban national parks (Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area). Dave says he's thrilled to join NPCA's Future Leaders council: "I have followed the great work the NPCA has done over the years, especially

some of the research that has come out of the Center for Park Management," he says. "NPCA has been a great advocate for the parks and has shown great foresight when it comes to thinking about the future of our national parks."

Dave lives in Boston where he works as a researcher and interpretive park ranger at the Boston Harbor Islands national park area. Dave can often be found rambling around New England with his dog, Harlem.

**Top:** Sunset at Bass Harbor Head Light in Acadia National Park ©Tom Bricker | Flickr Creative Commons **Above:** Next Generation Advisory Council Member Dave Santucci meeting U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren ©Dave Santucci





# Hinchliffe Stadium Heritage Act of 2013

Oliver Spellman,  
NPCA Senior Program Manager

**O**n April 9, 2014 the Hinchliffe Stadium Heritage Act of 2013 (H. R. 2430) passed through the Congressional House of Representative's Committee on Natural Resources and is currently pending in the Senate (S. 1189). NPCA supports this proposed boundary expansion of Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park, in New Jersey, which would add six additional acres of land to include Hinchliffe Stadium. Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park is home to one of the country's most spectacular waterfalls—a 260-foot-wide, 77-foot drop that rushes through the Passaic River Gorge and is recognized as a national natural landmark—and it should encompass Hinchliffe Stadium. This historic 10,000-seat municipal stadium, built above the Great Falls in 1931 is an important historic structure whose history is unique within the northeast as one of the few remaining that hosted a Negro League team.

During the 1930s it was rare for a Negro League team to have a home ballpark, but at Hinchliffe, the New York Black Yankees and the New York Cubans were permanent residents. The cultural significance of this National Landmark should be preserved and interpreted. NPCA supports the continued ownership and management of the stadium by the local school district and understands a local effort will be undertaken to restore the stadium for school sports and community activities.

Let's all support this important piece of legislation that would take a major step toward saving an important piece of our cultural history in the Northeast.



**Top:** Paterson's Hinchliffe Stadium during midget car racing with the ball field and dugouts visible. ©NJ Baseball **Above:** Present day Hinchliffe Stadium ©Daniel Lugo | Flickr Creative Commons

## Congresswoman Nita Lowey Recognized

continued from page one

Rep. Lowey easily earned the award this year. She voted to defend the Antiquities Act, a valuable tool that has allowed presidents to designate national monuments since 1906. She supported bills seeking to establish new units of the National Park System and voted against a damaging proposal that would have expanded hunting in national parks, which is allowed in some preserves and other sites, but would be inappropriate and damaging in many units of the National

“Never underestimate your power, that it empowers us as members of Congress to support the parks.”

— CONGRESSWOMAN NITA LOWEY

Park System. She also voted to uphold laws protecting national parks and other public lands on our borders.

Given her strong support for national parks, NPCA was pleased to see Rep. Lowey become Ranking Member of the House

Appropriations Committee, a powerful position with influence over federal funding. As such, we hope that she will work with her colleagues to recognize the dire funding needs of our national parks, which are so important to so many local economies.



## NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE

120 Park Avenue • 14th Floor  
New York, NY 10017



## Upcoming Events

### PARKSCAPES TRAVEL

#### **Parks of the World: Exploring Patagonia December 6-13**

Enjoy Patagonia's most iconic miracles of geography, including the dramatic granite massif FitzRoy, the 50-milelong glacial Lake Viedma, and the Perito Moreno Glacier—one of the largest living glaciers in the world. Hike mountain trails, ride with gauchos, and watching for Andean condors, black-necked swans, guanacos, and rheas. [www.npca.org/world](http://www.npca.org/world)

#### **New Year's in Yosemite December 28, 2014–January 2, 2015**

See Yosemite National Park in a whole new light on this fun, active adventure in the snowy High Sierras. The park's famous viewpoints are transformed by winter; the dramatic landscape shines with a special glow and the outdoors beckon you to come explore, to play, and to wonder. [www.npca.org/wonderland](http://www.npca.org/wonderland)

**Top Left:** Perito Moerno Glacier, Patagonia ©Trey Ratcliff | Flickr Creative Commons **Bottom Left:** Yosemite Valley ©Andrew E. Larsen | Flickr Creative Commons

Printed on 100% recycled paper with vegetable-based inks.

