

national park service

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Saratoga Battlefield Superintendent Named NPS Centennial Planning Office Chief

STILLWATER, NY--Frank Dean, Superintendent of Saratoga National Historical Park and Executive Director of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, has been named chief of the National Park Service Centennial Planning Office in Washington, DC. Dean leaves for his new position in late April. Assistant Superintendent Joe Finan will oversee Saratoga National Historical Park as Acting Superintendent and Beth Sciumeca will be the Acting Executive Director of the Erie Canalway.

The NPS Centennial Challenge is a \$2 billion private-public partnership President Bush called for to bolster park operations and provide a higher level of excellence for America's parks as the National Park Service enters its second century on August 25, 2016. "It is an honor to advance this important initiative," Dean said. "The Centennial provides us with the opportunity to prepare parks and the National Park Service for the next 100 years. The level of commitment and interest in the Centennial Initiative from the White House, Department of Interior and our partners has been impressive. I look forward to working with them to ensure maximum success for the program," continued Dean.

National Park Service Director Mary A. Bomar praised Dean's selection. "Frank has done a great job at both the park and the heritage corridor, his hallmark was to involve partners early and often," she said. "His ability as a manager and his commitment to effective partnerships will help him move our Centennial efforts forward."

Dean has previously worked in national parks across the country including Sequoia and Kings Canyon, Yosemite, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and the Point Reyes National Seashore. Dean has more than 30 years with the National Park Service. He began his career as a park ranger at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in 1976 during the nation's Bicentennial. He has served in upstate New York since 2002.

Dean was born in Philadelphia, and is married to Diane Dean. They have a son, Parker, 13, and a daughter, Taylor, 10. Dean holds a Masters degree in Public Administration (MPA) from the University of San Francisco.



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