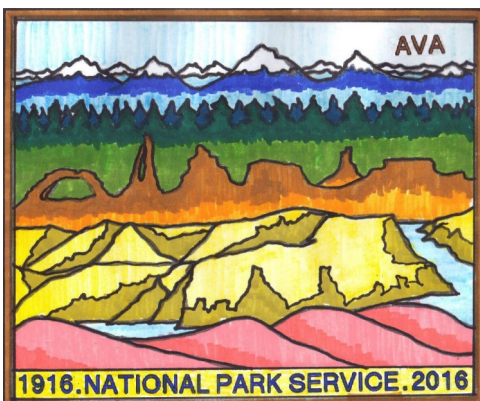


Co-President's Corner

by Mary Frink

I just signed up for my very first AVA special program! When I found out that the National Parks were celebrating 100 years and that there was a special program to go with it, I couldn't resist. We have so many National Parks in New England and lots of them have year-round or seasonal walks! WnM also has some day events in the planning stages for this year that should qualify [Editor: see page 3]. Have you ever considered doing or participated in a special program? What made you decide to take part? I'm eager to explore the National Parks and celebrate their Centennial. Who knows where this could lead me!



I bring this up because Walk 'n Mass is the proud sponsor of a new Ice Cream Parlor special program! We received approval at the AVA National Executive Council meeting in January and the program will start in 2017. Stay tuned for more details on the program qualifications. So exciting!

To learn more about AVA Special Programs, go to www.ava.org and check under the Events tab for the Special Program page listings.

Come Friends, Let's Walk

- ❖ Sunday, Mar. 13
Group Walk:
Freedom Trail
Boston 10:00 am
- ❖ Saturday, Mar. 19
Group Walk:
Newton 10:00 am
- ❖ Saturday, April 16
Day Event:
Norwood, MA
Soup Social

See club website for starting location details on these events. **Winter group walk schedule subject to weather**, please contact POC to check on sidewalk clearing status. **For group walks, please aim to arrive 15 minutes earlier to sign-in.**



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2015 Event Participation Report

by Beate Hait

Traditional Events			Year-Round & Seasonal Events					
3/28	Holliston	56	Bedford bike	31	Fall River	43	Providence	118
5/2	bike Provincetown	6	Boston- Back Bay	72	Greenfield	57	Quincy	27
5/2	walk Provincetown	60	Boston- Freedom Trail	188	Hyannis	62	Sandwich bike	8
8/8	Brookline	55	Boston & Beyond	17	Lexington	74	Sandwich walk	42
8/22	Natick	66	Bristol	34	Lowell	50	Wellesley	56
10/11	Shelburne Falls	87	Concord	74	Newport	144		
10/17	Lexington	66	Cumberland bike	15	Newton Centre	72		
12/5	Attleboro	52	Cumberland walk	69	Plymouth	55		

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Walk Coordinator Speaks

by Beate Hait

Event dates for 2016 – We are still waiting for confirmation for some locations and dates that are in the works, but you can put the following on your calendars now. If you have a location to suggest, please speak up now.

- Sat., **April 16** – Norwood, MA – Walk and Soup Social
- Sat., **June 11** – Ashland, MA – Marathon Challenge event; Celebrating AVA's 40th Anniversary
- Sat., **July 23** – Barre Falls Dam, Hubbardston, MA – Walk and Club Picnic
- Aug.** ?? – New Bedford, MA – National Parks Centennial
- Sept./Oct.** ?? – Lowell, MA – National Parks Centennial
- Oct./Nov.** ?? – Hopkinton and Framingham, MA – Marathon Challenge
- Sat., **Dec. 3** – Attleboro Holiday Walk

On **May 21**, Connecticut Valley Volkssport Club will be hosting an event in Guilford, CT. For additional info contact Lee and Carol West: 860-721-1185 LFWest@sbcglobal.net

Event Volunteers – If you would like to help staff any event, please contact the event POC or me. Here is an overview of the tasks: Two-hour shifts are scheduled for **Start** (register walkers, issue start cards and directions, collect money), **Finish** (collect walk cards, stamp IVV books), **Checkpoint** (greet walkers, mark start cards), **Greeter** (welcome participants; pair walking companions), **New Walker Info** (answer questions, hand out information), **Specialties** (sell volkssport items and club apparel), **Trail Marking** (on team of 2-4, arrive 1 ½ hours prior to start time to mark the route), and **Trail Take-Down** (on team of 2+, one-half hour after end of start time, walk the route and take down ribbons and arrows).



YREs and SEs – Many, many thanks to the POCs who administer these events! They make sure the route directions are accurate, the Walk Box contains all needed supplies, submit quarterly reports, support group walks in conjunction with the Group Walk Coordinator, coordinate with any tour groups who bring buses of volkswalkers to our events, and answer questions about the routes by phone or email.

We thank **Ernie and Agnes Laviolette** (pictured above) for the 12 years they served as POC of the Boston events. They are continuing as POC for Lowell but are giving someone else a chance to be co-POC with Jack Allen for the Boston events. Ask me if you want to learn more about this co-POC opportunity.

Club Marathon Challenge – This year officially ends the Marathon Challenge, and we will have provided at least two events in each of the 8 cities/towns that comprise the Boston Marathon route. While the qualifying YREs/SEs (Back Bay – Boston; Boston & Beyond – Brookline; Newton; and Wellesley) are available through the end of the year, if you are missing a location where we've had day events, let me know which you're missing, and we'll make every effort to schedule it this year or next year. (Since this is a CLUB challenge, we can modify the timelines!)

Picture Time!

Canines and humans enjoyed a spectacularly sunny, and warm-for-winter day of walking in Providence, RI on January 31.



Bulletin Board

Walk Around the World

May 7, 2016

Washington, DC

The trail will be mainly along city streets and you will have the option to visit the embassy open houses along the trail for **over 13 different countries** on the 6 km trail and **27 different countries** on the 11 km trail.

Get the brochure at

<http://ow.ly/YGd9B>

Preregister by April 23

Ready for a word game?

Scramble the letters in VOLKSMARCH and create as many 4-letter words as you can! How many did you get in 5 minutes? 20 words? 30? 40?

Next try 5-letter words. Can you find 15? 20? 30?

What is the longest word (apart from volksmarch, silly goose) you can make?

Next Club Meeting Tuesday, March 1

6:30 pm

Stop & Shop
40 Franklin Village Drive
Franklin, MA 02038

Up the stairs past
Customer Service Desk

The Empire State Capital Volkssporters have a wonderful line-up of Wednesday guided walks from May to August. Details at www.walkescv.org

Newsletter Submissions to:

footnotes.editor@gmail.com

Deadline for next issue: March 21st

If you are looking for a nice walk on the North Shore, check out the offerings from Two Town Walking Club. Their **Danvers** walk is a real treat, and the directions include a wealth of interesting tidbits and local history (hat tip to POCs Joe & Kathy Piffat). The start location, the impressive Peabody Institute Library, is worth exploring too. Check the AVA or library website for opening hours.

www.danverslibrary.org

2016 Club Meeting Calendar Attend, Participate, Share Ideas

St. Michael's in Bedford:

~~January 9 Party,~~

April 5,

May 3,

August 2, and

December 6

St. Michael's Parish Center

90 Concord Road (Rt. 62)

Bedford, MA

Stop & Shop in Franklin:

March 1,

June 7,

September 6,

October 4, and

November 1

Stop & Shop

40 Franklin Village Drive

Franklin, MA 02038

Up the stairs past Customer Service