

President's Corner

Last year, the Connecticut Valley Volkssport Club held a guided group walk in Guilford, CT. I wrote an article about how my grandparents lived there while I was growing up and that we even walked past the house they used to live in. This year, CVVC did a walk in Madison, CT which is where my grandmother lived for awhile before moving to RI to be near my parents. In the 25-30 years of visiting my grandparents in CT, I had never been to **Hammonasset State Park** even though we took that exit when visiting! The park has a beautiful beach with a nature center and many, many, many gorgeous views of the ocean and Long Island, NY. CVVC hopes to turn it into a seasonal walk next year like they did for Guilford. I highly recommend it!



Madison was probably my last walk before the convention. I'm getting really excited about the trip! I borrowed my parents' suitcase and am getting ready to pack. Fortunately, there aren't too many issues that need to be addressed this year. The big one for us is the location of the next convention. Empire State Capital Volkssporters put in a bid to host the 2019 convention in Albany, NY. If they

by Mary Frink



win the bid, they (and we!) will need all the help we can get! Putting on a convention is a large undertaking. If you've been to a convention of any kind, you know what I'm talking about. I will have a write-up in the next *Footnotes* of everything that goes on.

The next traditional Walk 'n Mass event is the **Brookline walk on June 24** which starts at the Waterworks Museum. The loop around the Chestnut Hill Reservoir is the same as it was 2 years ago, but the loop into Brookline is different. Karen Kolaczyk found more of the hidden staircases for us to climb! They are amazing things when you think that they were created so people in the late 1800s and early 1900s could get to Beacon Street's streetcars. It's going to be a little tough for me, just getting back from the convention and all, but fortunately I have a lot of help! Many thanks to everyone who is doing things for the walk while I'm away.

If you have any questions about the convention, you can email me at mfwalks2010@verizon.net or check out AVA's website (www.ava.org). They have a lot of good information about where the walks are going to be and what business will be covered.

Come Friends, Let's Walk

- ❖ *Sunday, June 4*
Group Walk:
Lexington, MA
10:00 am
- ❖ *Saturday, June 10*
Group Walk:
Plymouth, MA
10:00 am [see page 4]
- ❖ *Saturday, June 10*
Group Walk:
Littleton, NH (TSVA)
[see page 4]
- ❖ *Sunday, June 11*
Day Event:
Vestal, NY (FLVC)
- ❖ *Sunday, June 11*
Group Walk:
Bennington, VT
1:30 pm (ESCV)
- ❖ *Saturday, June 17*
Group Walk:
Lake Placid, NY
10:00 am (ESCV)
- ❖ *Saturday, June 24*
Day Event:
Brookline, MA
- ❖ *Sunday, June 25*
Group Walk:
Bristol, RI 10:00 am

See club or AVA website for starting location details on these events. For group walks, please aim to arrive 15 minutes earlier to sign-in.

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May Meeting Highlights

by Marianne Marshall

Meeting held May 2, 2017

• Upcoming Group Walks:

Lexington Battle Road, Sunday, June 4 at 10:00 am

Plymouth, Saturday, June 10 at 10:00 am

Bristol, Sunday, June 25 at 10:00 am

- **159 Ice Cream Parlor** special program books sold. **First completed book** submitted by Ethel Gucorero of King George, VA.
- **Non-renewing members** will be removed from club roster by June 30
- V-neck blue poly/cotton blend shirts now in stock
- Arvix will be renewed for 2 years as WnM site host

National/Regional Topics

- AVA encouraging clubs to again host **Black Friday #OptOutside events** in November

National/Regional Topics (cont.)

- **Clubs in Appalachian Trail** states need to put together seasonal events for 2018
- **Empire State Capital Volkssporters** listed Pioneer Valley as WnM pre-convention walk location in 2019 bid

- **Based on WnM votes**, delegate Mary Frink will vote at the Convention as follows:
 - Candace Purcell for **AVA Treasurer**

AVA Motions: No on each

- Change name of Nat'l Exec Council (NEC) to Board of Directors
- Evaluation of Candidates for NEC service
- Separate national & regional responsibilities of Directors
- Standing Committees and their Orientation
- **Mascot:** None of those given, but if selection must be made from options, Millie the millipede

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Trail Master's Diary: Brookline

by Ann Plichta

There are plenty of reasons why I enjoy walking events with Walk 'n Mass...the opportunity to explore new routes while chatting with my fellow walkers, discovering cities and towns I might not otherwise visit, and roaming new places you can't reach by car. Join Walk 'n Mass for 5km and 11km walks in Brookline on June 24 featuring routes that are available to enjoy on foot only.

The first loop of the 11km, which is also the 5km loop, takes walkers around the beautiful Chestnut Hill Reservoir twice. The first time you take an interior path, before heading to the streets on the outside circuit. Enjoy great views of Boston College and the skyline of Boston as you join walkers, joggers, and bikers on this popular recreational path. Be on the lookout for different species of birds and wildlife. The last time I walked around, I came across a couple dozen turtles of all sizes sunning themselves on the rocks. After completing the two circuits, 5km walkers head to the finish, while 11km walkers visit the checkpoint before heading out again.

The second loop of the 11km takes walkers through the Chestnut Hill Historic District before heading to the Brookline section of the Boston Marathon route along Beacon Street. With a turn off the main road, the route heads to Aspinwall Hill, named after one of Brookline's oldest families. Famed abolitionist Lewis Tappan built a home on the hill in the 1820s. In the 1880s Frederick Law Olmstead developed a road plan for the hill, which was modified to include seven

foot paths to facilitate pedestrian travel to shops and T stops. Walkers will head up the stairs of one of these paths, Winthrop Path. Walking with Mary and Miriam, we decided we could skip our next Stairmaster workout as we enjoyed the views and admired the different architectural styles. Once again, this is a route that can't be explored by car. It has to be experienced on foot. The route continues up the hill to Schick Park before heading down the hill via Claflin Path. Walkers will head back along the marathon route to the finish.

The 5km loop has an AVA rating of 1B. The surfaces are flat, but the inner reservoir circuit is unpaved. It is suitable for both strollers and wheelchairs. The 11km loop has an AVA rating of 3A due to many stairs and a significant hill. It is not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers. Remember, if you are still working on your Boston Marathon book, this is your last chance to add Brookline on a day event before the program ends. If you haven't done so before, take some time to walk around our start point, the Metropolitan Waterworks Museum. It's a truly fascinating look at the history of water in Boston.

Join Walk 'n Mass for 5km and 11km walks in Brookline on June 24. Explore places on foot that you would not be able to access by car. Walk around the Chestnut Hill Reservoir, and discover the footpaths on Aspinwall Hill. Hope to see you on the trail!

In Memoriam: Vivianne Jenkins

by Joseph Piffat & Monica Hait



Left: Vivianne & Bill along the trail in Cambridge, May 1999
Photo courtesy of Beate Hait

We are sad to report the death of Vivianne Jenkins on May 6, 2017. She was a longtime volkssporter, with her late husband Bill, and a founding member of the Two Town Walking Club, our sister club on the North Shore.

Vivianne always greeted walkers with a welcoming smile, making them feel at home, and among friends. She was also responsible in a big way for the TTWC logo, a Foxy couple of foxes out for an afternoon stroll.

Our sincere condolences to the extended Jenkins family.



Right: TTWC Logo Patch
Photo courtesy of Two Town Walking Club

Bulletin Board

Newport, RI Pell Bridge Construction

A multi-phase, multi-year structural rehabilitation project has begun on Newport's Pell Bridge (part of RI 138).

Construction will involve lane closures and single travel lanes at certain phases. Overwide and overweight vehicles will be prohibited, so **bus tours traveling to the Newport walk should seek alternate routes.**

Learn more: RITBA.org

Though a replacement seasonal start point is still being sought, our group walk in **Plymouth** will occur on **June 10**. Please meet Margo at **Cordage Park**, by the benches near the restrooms, down the hall from the old start location. Sign-in at 9:45 and walk departs at 10:00.

Next Club Meeting Tuesday, June 6

6:30 pm

Stop & Shop

40 Franklin Village Drive
Franklin, MA 02038

Up the stairs past
Customer Service Desk



Where is it?

This sign featuring a familiar regional accent was spotted along a WnM seasonal route.

Photo: Joanne Izbicki

Do you have a volksmarching travel story to share? Send it to footnotes.editor@gmail.com for publication in a future edition of **Footnotes**.

Newsletter Submissions to:

footnotes.editor@gmail.com

Deadline for next issue: June 25th

Littleton, NH Group Walk - June 10

by Bill Kennedy

Twin State Volkssport Association will host group 6km and 10km (with 1km options) walks in conjunction with a charitable event on June 10 sponsored by AHEAD and Shilling Beer Co. of Littleton, NH. This will be about as close to a traditional European Volksmarch as we can get stateside: there will be food and drink options (including beer) at the Brewery plus an opportunity to buy a traditional beer mug (\$15) to support local charity AHEAD. **Note:** Total fee for AVA walkers that want the mug is \$15.

Littleton is one of TSVA's seasonal events and we hope this will be the start of a long relationship with the town as this has the potential to be an annual event. Littleton is a haven for AVA Special Programs enthusiasts including Ice Cream Parlors, National Register of Historic Places, US Post Offices, Food for Thought, and Bridges, among others! Littleton was named one of the Best Towns in USA by Outside

Magazine and has a river walk, covered bridge, suspended walking bridge, historical downtown, Chutter's Candy Store, as well as proximity to many NH and VT attractions & other scenic seasonal walks. Considered the home of Pollyanna, a bronze statue of Eleanor H. Porter's creation is in downtown.

Walks: start time for the 10km is 8am-10am, and for the 6km is 8am-11am. Restaurants and business are open along the route. Shilling Beer Company event will run 11am-2pm. Overall event ends at 2pm, allowing visitors to explore other sites in the area.

For more information contact Bill Kennedy at horsemenb4@aol.com or 603-542-6359.

Littleton, NH Seasonal Event Details at http://clubs.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=106694

Historic Deerfield Recap

The day of the Deerfield walk was grey and drizzly and not all that welcoming, unlike the week before when we had the workers' walk on a lovely day, sunshine, blue skies, and much warmer. So Beate, Monica, Jack Fernandes and Bob headed out in their rain gear to mark the trails. Our first stumble was finding out that the gate to the pathway past



the dairy farm did not open until 9:30. That meant that Bob and Jack

(10km) had to go back and mark it at some point but Beate and Monica (6km) got to the gate just as the guy was unlocking it. The day got better from there. The sun came out, people started showing up, and things began looking up.

We ended up with 59 walkers. We received wonderful comments about the walk routes, the neat historic town, and even that the weather was not that bad. Quite a few people joined us from out of state and many said they had never been to Historic Deerfield. Several people paid the fee to tour the old houses and many visited the museum shop. Having the Start/Finish point inside the vending shed worked out great even though the weather turned out to be better than predicted. We did have one walker and the two-person 6km takedown crew who couldn't cross the footbridge at the end of the athletic fields as the earlier rainfall had collected to flood either side of the bridge. So there was a little excitement that was easily saved by Bea



by Jan & Bob Varnon

in her car on one side of the creek and Bob on the other. What is a walk without a little excitement?

Later on, 29 people returned for a delightful buffet dinner at the Deerfield Inn. The buzz around the tables was continuous. Volksmarchers do love to swap their stories.

Thank you to everyone who walked. Thank you to everyone who shopped in specialties. Thank you to everyone who came to dinner. Thank you to everyone who visited with the workers at the Start/Finish and at the check-points. An extra special thank you to all the volunteers who made the walk possible.

Margo Craven; Joanne Izbicki; Mimi and Dick Strack; Walter and Ginnie Stowell; Leo Bourque; Monica and Beate Hait; Ernie and Agnes Laviolette; Sharon Stumpf; Bob and Jan Varnon; Carol Ann Dorer; Nancy Estrella; Blake Mitchell; Joe LaPointe; Jack Fernandes; Ann and Karen Plichta; & Dawn and Keith Harlow.



Volksmarching events don't just happen spontaneously. It takes a commitment and many volunteer hours from the first idea until the final After-Action Report. We need walkers to walk the walks, but we wouldn't have walks without the volunteers who work on them. Thank you so much!

Photos by Beate Hait

Top left: Fog lifting over dairy farm path

Top right: Dick & Mimi Strack staffing the Start table and Margo Craven greeting incoming walkers

Far left: Scene of the flooding, with Bob Varnon across the "pond"

Left: Karen Plichta received a special dessert plate at the Deerfield Inn dinner



Walk Coordinator Speaks

by Beate Hait

Deerfield, MA – On-and-off showers didn't deter 59 folks from traveling to Deerfield to enjoy the volkswalk route in Historic Deerfield on May 6. Many thanks to Jan and Bob Varnon for spearheading this effort. See their reflections on the event on page 5.

Sudbury, MA – Saturday, August 19 – Don Meltzer Memorial Walk & Ice Cream Social. In July 2004, Don and Polly Meltzer planned a volkswalk route in Sudbury that included trails in the Gray Reservation and Haynes Meadow Conservation Land abutting their Sudbury home. POC Bev Lange has resurrected and modified that route for this year's event as we remember 2-term club president Don who died in March 2015.

Club Events in 2018 – Johnny Cole will be confirming a date this fall for a walk in Provincetown in May 2018. Looking forward to hearing from others who would like to plan an event. POCs receive much support from other club members – but we need that one person (or two) to lay out the route and secure a start location. Please let me know if you have some ideas.

Appalachian Trail Program – I heard from a few club members with suggestions for various sections of the AT in Mass. that we could consider for a volkswalk. I envision these as out-and-back routes. What we need now are club members to do the "field work." That is, walk the sections under consideration and provide input as to terrain and the sights to see so we can gather the info needed (e.g., trail rating, distance, route description with info on the turn-around-point) to sanction the event. **Would be great if we had a few "field work teams" to explore different sections during June and July.** Ideally we would have complete info to submit to AVA no later than mid-August. Contact me if you can help.

Walk 'n Mass Day Events 2017

Sat., **June 24** – Brookline, MA

Sat., **July 29** – Colt State Park, Bristol, RI – Walk and Club Picnic

Sat., **Aug. 19** – Sudbury, MA – Don Meltzer Memorial Walk and Ice Cream Social

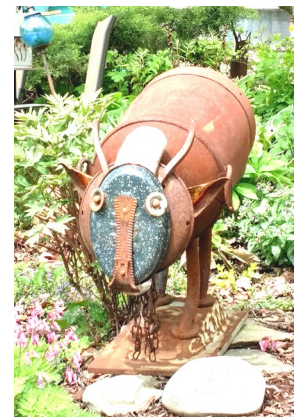
Sat., **Oct. 14** – Milford, MA

Shelburne Falls Pictures

Many Deerfield event participants also took the opportunity to enjoy our Shelburne Falls seasonal during the May 5-7 weekend.



Beate Hait



Joanne Izbicki

Clockwise from top left: Bridge of Flowers, Deerfield River mosaic, glacial potholes with dam closed, rocks with dam open

Above: goat garden art