

## President's Corner

I say it all the time, but I really do love this time of year, even in 2020! The weather is perfect for being outside. It's not too hot and not too cold. The color is magnificent! Such a feast for the eyes. I try to get out at my break and walk for about 15 minutes. There is wonderful foliage in my neighborhood and people have been very creative with their Halloween decorations. I hope you are getting out and enjoying the season. As my mom says, "stick season" will soon be upon us when all the beautiful color is gone.

I am very sad that the wet weather kept so many people away from the Tiverton walk. It was beautiful. I think the gray overcast in the morning made all of the color pop. See some pictures I took while I walked to the first checkpoint at right. I also passed an old church that looked like a haunted mansion in all the gloom. I couldn't get a picture that did it justice! Many thanks to Ann and Karen Plichta for all the work they did putting the walk together and to everyone else who worked and walked. On a side note, the checkpoint was at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church where my dad was interim priest about 20 years ago! My parents really enjoyed the pictures I sent them. He used to talk about seeing the seals sunning on the rocks on his way to the church. I didn't see any, but Mom said it's too soon. Maybe if we have the walk another time, a little

by Mary Frink



later in the year, we can trade the fall color for sunning seals!

We do still have an active walk season yet to go. There will be a group walk of Provincetown on November 7, but it's not like a regular group walk. We won't all show up at the same time and walk as a large group. You can sign in from 10-12 and walk with other people or not. There is also the traditional day event walk at Devens on November 21. I have never been to Devens and am really looking forward to it! See more information elsewhere in this newsletter. Many, many thanks to Bea Hait (Walk Coordinator), Pat Damiani (Group Walk Coordinator), and all of the POCs this year for giving us wonderful walks in such weird times.

Stay safe and Happy Halloween!

## Come Friends, Let's Walk

- ❖ Saturday, Nov. 7  
Group Walk:  
Provincetown, MA  
[See page 4]
- ❖ Saturday, Nov. 14  
Group Walk:  
Kent, CT (village)  
9:00 am (CVVC)
- ❖ Saturday, Nov. 21  
Day Event:  
Devens, MA
- ❖ Friday, Nov. 27  
Group Walk:  
Fall River, MA  
10:00 am
- ❖ Saturday, Nov. 28  
Group Walk:  
Concord, MA  
9:00 am
- ❖ Saturday, Dec. 5  
Group Walk:  
Plymouth, MA  
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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# Tiverton Photo Recap

Walkers in Tiverton on October 17 received an extra-special welcome from **Diane Morash**, POC Karen Plichta's friend, as she placed cider and decorations (including a friendly witch) outside her home on Highland Road which was along the walk route. What a lovely gesture! Thanks also to Eileen for documenting this warm hospitality!



Eileen Anderson



Eileen Anderson

Another special occurrence at this walk was **Claudia Cauchon's** completion of her A-Z book. Way to go!

Thanks to all those who helped staff the event in the cloudy-turned-sunny day, as well as those who came to enjoy the walk itself.



Beate Hait



Beate Hait

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# Trail Master's Diary: Devens

by Ann Plichta

Did you know that November 21st is Armed Forces Day? Walk 'n Mass Volkssport Club invites you to celebrate with 6km and 10km walks in Devens, the site of a now closed United States Military Installation. The first military base was established in 1656 by Major Simon Willard, a founder of the town of Concord. During the Civil War Fort Stevens occupied the site, home to the 53rd Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. Camp Devens was established in 1917 as a temporary military quarters for training soldiers during World War I. In 1929, Robert Goddard briefly used the site for his rocket operations. Camp Devens became a permanent installation in 1931 and was named Fort Devens the following year. At the beginning of World War II, it was designated as a reception center for all New England men serving one year as draftees. More than 1200 wooden buildings and an airfield were constructed. It also served as a prisoner of war camp for German and Italian prisoners from 1944 to 1946. Fort Devens was officially closed in 1996 after 79 years of service.

Walkers on the 6km route pass by Devens Commons before heading to Robbins Pond, named for Marcus M. Robbins, a Medal of Honor recipient. The trail continues past the fire headquarters before heading to the Rogers Field parade grounds. The 44-acre formal parade ground was where the Army trained soldiers and held ceremonial parades. It contains 11 soccer and lacrosse fields and was named for U.S. Representative John Rogers. The route then passes by the entrance to the Bob Eisengrein Community Center. Note the Warrior Memorial with tablets dedicated to those who died from World War I through the Vietnam War. Walkers then continue down Elm Road with historical brick residences, former officers' homes, now listed on the National Register. The route also goes

down Walnut Street with more historical residences. Walkers then pass by Devens Commons again, crossing McArthur Avenue, which is the former main gate of Fort Devens, and on to the finish.

The 10km route heads past Mount Wachusett Community College on the way to Fort Devens Cemetery. In addition to the graves of soldiers and their families of six American wars, there are also graves for 22 German and Italian POW's. POC Bev Lange and I spotted their small national flags as we walked through. The route continues to Mirror Lake, an example of a kettle pond that formed when the glaciers that had covered New England melted away. Walkers then pass by the Red Tail Golf Club, the first Audubon International Signature Sanctuary golf course in New England. The 10km route also visits Robbins Pond before passing the Fire Headquarters and heading to the Rogers Field parade grounds. After passing by the flag pole and war memorials, the route continues by Memorial Circle containing a plaque honoring Fort Devens' first commander, Colonel William A. Smith before heading to the finish.

As you walk, note the signs on the poles along with the street signs. They explain the person or battle for which each street is named. The 6km route is on mostly paved roads with one small dirt path. There are some moderate hills, giving it an AVA rating of 2A. The 10km has areas where there are no sidewalks, and also contains moderate hills, giving it an AVA rating of 2B. Join Walk 'n Mass Volkssport Club and celebrate Armed Forces Day on November 21 with 6km and 10km walk routes in Devens. Hope to see you on the trail!

**Safety First:** *If attending, please wear a mask/face covering while participating in the walk and adhere to social distancing protocols. Bring your own pen if you wish.*

# Bulletin Board

Reminder: if you were awarded coupons at our 2019 picnic based on volunteer milestone achievement, the deadline for using those 2019 coupons was extended to December 31, 2020.

Please visit the Specialties table in Devens on Nov. 21 or contact Bea Hait if you wish to purchase IVV books or other specialty items using coupons.

## Provincetown Group Walk on Saturday, November 7, 2020 (rain date Saturday, November 14, 2020)

Please RSVP to Pat Damiani (Group Walk Coordinator) by Nov. 1 to receive start location details -- [PMDWalks@comcast.net](mailto:PMDWalks@comcast.net)

Registration will be open from 10 am-Noon due to driving distances and to allow social distancing both when registering and walking.

Also while this walk is typically available only through Online Start Box, this special event will offer physical registration and stamping if desired during the 10-Noon window.

## Next Club Meetings Monday, November 2 & Monday, December 7

6:30 pm

Virtual Meetings via Zoom  
Contact Mary at  
[mfwalks2010@verizon.net](mailto:mfwalks2010@verizon.net)  
to RSVP and receive  
meeting details

## Answer to October's Cryptogram:

Everywhere is walking distance if you have the time. — Steven Wright

## Newsletter Submissions to:

[footnotes.editor@gmail.com](mailto:footnotes.editor@gmail.com)

Deadline for next issue: Nov. 29th

## Newton Year-Round Update

Newton Library now open to public on limited basis. Walk Box is once again available with the following guidelines:

- Wear a mask.
- Enter by parking lot door paying attention to the COVID-required distancing as marked.
- Walk Box on table across from check-out counter near locked front doors.

Currently the library hours are:  
Monday-Thursday 10 am to 7 pm;  
Friday 10 am to 5 pm;  
Saturday 10 am to 3 pm

Newton Free Library  
617-796-1360  
[www.newtonfreelibrary.net](http://www.newtonfreelibrary.net)

WnM POC: Marianne Marshall  
[MRBwalker@verizon.net](mailto:MRBwalker@verizon.net)

**Do you have a favorite volksmarching story to share? Did something especially memorable happen on a walk?** Send your story to [footnotes.editor@gmail.com](mailto:footnotes.editor@gmail.com) for possible publication in a future edition of **Footnotes**.



# Shoes Word Search

by Joanne Izbicki

E S E N A J Y R A M R O F T A L P  
 S S L I N G B A C K D P A D H E U  
 R M I I S A D D L E R L L E N E M  
 S O K R E K C A R T E A E N T S P  
 H C S P O T H G I H S L Y M E U S  
 I C M I H Z N K S P S L A D N A S  
 G A K L S U K I O T O E I S N O N  
 H S R E F A O L O A V L A C I P E  
 H I D E C K F O F P S L E L S E A  
 E N N L K P B E A C H B I E P N K  
 E S O T I Y R L S L I A P A I T E  
 L G A L O S H E S T I L E T T O R  
 S O F B F P P V E R S L W S G E S  
 B O W L I N G A W A D E R S N E L  
 B O O T S L A T H L E T I C I I N  
 C G D R O F X O G T E G D E W O N  
 S G N I N N U R S T E E L T O E J

athletic  
 ballet  
 beach  
 boat  
 boots  
 bowling  
 cleats  
 clogs  
 cowboy boots  
 deck  
 dress  
 elevator  
 flip-flops  
 galoshes  
 golf  
 heels  
 high heels  
 high-tops  
 loafers  
 Mary Janes  
 moccasins  
 open-toe  
 Oxford  
 penny loafers  
 platform  
 pointe  
 pumps  
 running

saddle  
 sandals  
 shoes  
 slides

sling-back  
 sneakers  
 steel-toe  
 stiletto

tap  
 tennis  
 toe  
 track

waders  
 wedge  
 wingtip  
 zoris

## October Meeting Highlights

by Marianne Marshall

### Meeting held October 3, 2020

#### Group Walks:

- Fri., Nov. 27, Fall River, 10:00 am
- Sat., Nov. 28, Concord, 9:00 am
- Sat., Dec. 5, Plymouth, 10:00 am

#### Ice Cream Parlor: 133 books completed

**Sunshine:** Congrats cards sent to Mr. & Mrs. John Allen on the birth of their son and to Mr. & Mrs. Richard Allen on the birth of their grandson; new home card sent to Janet Schaeffer.

**Trail Master:** New loops measured for Providence (yearly) and Wellesley (seasonal) walks.

#### Walk Coordinator:

- Bea suggested members consider developing walks based on rail trails. Bill Howe checking out feasibility of the Bruce Freeman Trail which goes from Lowell to Acton.
- Decided that Mary Frink & Bea Hait should be only ones with access to electronic stamps and will coordinate downloads when YRE/SE start locales are closed.

**AVA News:** Waiting for AVA Bylaws changes to arrive from AVA that conform with Texas non-profit requirements so we can review and return.

#### New Business:

- November meeting via Zoom, **Monday, Nov. 2 at 6:30 pm**. Please contact Mary Frink if you wish to receive meeting link and attend.
- WnM to consider holding Tri-State week-end event in conjunction with a walk planned in **Middlebury, VT on Sunday, October 10, 2021**.
- **WnM 35th Anniversary Program:** deadline extended 1-year to December 31, 2021 for members to earn 35 points and receive free WnM tote bag.

#### Old Business:

- Need an Activities Chairperson.
- **WnM elections:** unanimously carried that present officers—Mary Frink, President; Keith Harlow, Vice President; Marianne Marshall, Secretary; and Karen Plichta, Treasurer—remain in place.

# Walk Coordinator Speaks

by Beate Hait

**Tiverton, RI in review** – Rainy morning skies and continuing pandemic concerns undoubtedly influenced the low attendance at our Tiverton event on October 17. While we did sell all ten of the lovely October Volkssport Month award patches we ordered, total attendance was 23. The sun came out around 9:30, and the volunteers—from RI, NH, CT and MA—enjoyed chatting with one another. Thank you to Karen Plichta and Ann Plichta for organizing this walk, and volunteers Joanne Izbicki, Gregg O'Brien, Claudia Cauchon, Dana Moran, JeanMarie Josephson, Dawn Harlow, Keith Harlow, Mary Frink, Jean Morrissey, Carol West, Lee West, Verna Devine, Margo Craven, Carol Ann Dorer, Nancy Estrella, Pat Graeben and Beate Hait.

**Devens, MA** – Looking forward to seeing YOU on November 21. If you would like to walk a longer distance, you will be able to walk 16km by walking both the 10km and 6km routes – there is minimal overlap, therefore, we will need two separate 10km and 6km trail marking crews and trail take-down crews. If you're an early-morning person, the marking crew will go out at 8:00 am. If later in the day works for you, the trail take-down crew will go out at 11:30 am. Other staffing posts are available between those times. Please contact me if you can help!

**YRE/SE Participation Figures** – While last year at this time we saw year-to-date participation numbers swell overall by 300 due to the AVA convention in Albany, NY, as reflected in the data below, the numbers this year are down significantly due to pandemic restrictions.

You'll notice four anomalies: high attendance at Concord, Lexington, Newton, and Wellesley. We can thank Joanne Izbicki's determination to complete the AVA Centurion Program (100 events in one calendar year) for boosting those numbers.

Participation Q1-Q3	2020	2019
Bedford Bike	6	20
Boston Back Bay	13	47
Boston Freedom Trail	7	146
Bristol	10	26
Cheshire	1	42
Concord	104	123
Fall River	9	36
Greenfield	15	16
Hyannis	10	26
Lexington	65	65
Lowell	14	46
Newport	3	59
Newton	52	33
Plymouth	22	48
Providence	18	149
Quincy	3	38
Sandwich Bike	8	12
Sandwich Walk	24	48
Shelburne Falls	6	33
Wellesley	32	30
Provincetown	8	NA

**Walk Events in 2021** – At a recent club

meeting, it was suggested that we host day events featuring walking and biking trails in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. If you have a walking trail near you that you'd like to recommend, please contact me.

With the continuing pandemic concerns, at this time we are not planning to host a Soup Walk in spring next year. But we do expect to host walking events, and we do hope they will be supported with good attendance.

## Picture: Where is it?



*Can you name where Ann Plichta was walking amongst these blooms in late September?*