



President's Corner

Happy New Year! I hope you had wonderful holidays. Do you make resolutions? I used to, but they only lasted a short time and made me stressed out. I have a friend who chooses a word or phrase for the year. It becomes sort of like a theme for her year. I really like that idea and have done that for the last few years. I haven't picked a word for 2023, but I give myself until the end of January.

We had such a good 2022 at Walk 'n Mass! We had 4 day event walks in some beautiful places. We walked by the Charles River for Boston Special Places. We explored 2 new rail trails in Fall River and Framingham. And the picnic walk returned at Lincoln Woods State Park in RI! It was fantastic to see everyone in person and have a chance to hang out and talk. So many people came and we had such a great time. In addition to the day event walks there were lots and lots of group walks. These really helped sup-

port us and we attracted quite a few people from Meet-up to them. Many thanks to all of the POCs and to Pat Damiani (group walks) and Keith Harlow (Tuesday walks) for organizing dates and keeping the walks going.

I'm really looking forward to what is to come in 2023. The soup walk is back! It's the first one since the pandemic started. We'll be back in Holliston, revisiting old haunts. I'm going to be coordinating the food this year. I'll have more to say on that in the next newsletter. We are also having a walking weekend on the Cape in May! It's been a while since we did a weekend of walks. There will be group walks and a day event walk and 2 evening socials. I hope you'll be able to go! We are working on more day events and the group walks will start up again soon. If you have any ideas for new walks, please let me know!

Stay safe this winter and see you on the trail!

by Mary Frink

Browntail Moth Caterpillar Info from SMVA

Southern Maine Volkssport Association is hosting an informational session via Zoom on the browntail moth caterpillar with guest speaker Thomas Schmeeck, Forest Entomologist with the Maine Forest Service. The session is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 8 at 6:30 pm.**

Browntail moth caterpillars are an invasive species, now found in Maine and Cape Cod, and can cause allergic reactions similar to poison ivy.

Please register by February 6 by contacting Denise at walkinginmaine@yahoo.com and meeting link will be provided to you.

Come Friends, Let's Walk

- ❖ *Sunday, January 22*
Group Walk:
Sandwich
10:00 am
- ❖ *Saturday, March 4*
Group Walk:
Providence
10:00 am
- ❖ *Saturday, March 11*
Group Walk:
Mystic, CT
9:00 am (CVVC)
- ❖ *Sunday, March 12*
Group Walk:
Hyannis 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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December & January Meeting Highlights

by Marianne Marshall

Meetings held December 5, 2022 in Franklin, MA and January 9, 2023 via Zoom

Cape Cod Weekend, May 19-21, 2023: Three items to be finalized and then brochure produced for release with Jan/Feb newsletter.

Sunshine: (Nov) Get well to Agnes Laviolette. (Dec) Get well to Ernie Laviolette as well as welcome to new home to the Laviolettes. Sympathy card sent to Jean Jackman's son. Chris Lipson will bring a sympathy card to Elaine Johnson's memorial service in January.

Walk Coordinator:

- Holliston: Workers' walk is Sat., March 18 at 9:30; soup walk on April 1.
- Roslindale: event planning for Saturday, April 29
- Lexington seasonal: Walk start date now May 6 due to National Park schedule change.

WnM Year-round/Seasonal booklets and business cards sent out.

Trail Master: Holliston walk is measured.

TAW: Joe LaPointe writing article on Cape Cod Weekend as well as new seasonal walk in Oak Bluffs.

New Business:

Upcoming club meetings (no February meeting):

- Monday, March 6 at 6:30 pm, Stop & Shop, Franklin, 2nd floor meeting room (Zoom if inclement weather)
- Monday, April 3 at 6:30 pm, Stop & Shop, Franklin, 2nd floor meeting room (Zoom if inclement weather)

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Boston Back Bay, New Year's Day Group Walk



Bob Marshall



Bob Marshall



Bev Lange



Bev Lange

Good weather made for a fun walk, though the First Night ice sculptures didn't last!



Bev Lange



Bob Marshall

Sandwich Group Walk Photo



Beate Hait

On December 10, 2022, a small but happy crew participated in the group walk of Sandwich.

L-R: Bev Lange, Ann Plichta, Beate Hait, and Donna Sarino

Bulletin Board

Recently added
AVA Special Program

Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail (W-R)

Our walks in Boston, Concord, Lexington, Newport, and Providence (should) qualify for this national AVA Special Program which runs until December 31, 2031.

Learn more at
cb.ava.org/specprog.php

texasrailroundup.org

ivvolympiad2023.org



Next Club Meetings Monday, March 6 & Monday, April 3

6:30 pm

Stop & Shop
40 Franklin Village Drive
Franklin, MA 02038

Up the stairs past
Customer Service Desk
(if bad weather, via Zoom)

Seeking **nominations for AVA Northeast Region Director and Deputy Region Director**. Please **contact Bea Hait by February 15** if you'd like more information about what this entails or to express your interest in either of these roles.

Newsletter Submissions to:

footnotes.editor@gmail.com

Deadline for next issue: February 21st

Mark Your Calendars

Connecticut Valley Volkssport Club has announced their **2023 group walks schedule**. Walks begin at 9:00 and you should arrive at least 15 minutes ahead to register or locate the group for events with OSB registration (my.ava.org).

- Saturday, March 11—Mystic, CT
- Saturday, April 8—Kent Village, CT
- Saturday, May 27—East Greenwich, RI
- Saturday, June 3—Block Island, RI
- Saturday, Sept. 9—Windsor, CT
- Saturday, Oct. 14—Thompson, CT
- Saturday, Nov. 11—Westport, CT
- Saturday, Dec. 9—
New London, CT

Coming Soon...5 Rhode Island Counties Program

Beginning in 2023, Connecticut Valley Volkssport Club and Walk 'n Mass Volkssport Club will co-sponsor a new incentive program for walkers to complete walks in each of the 5 counties of Rhode Island. CVVC has added two new walks (**East Greenwich** in Kent County and **Block Island** in Washington County) to the three that Walk 'n Mass runs in the other three Rhode Island counties (**Bristol**, **Newport** and **Providence**).

Program details will be available soon. Meanwhile, plan to volkswalk in some towns you may not be familiar with in our country's smallest, but very scenic and interesting, state.



Walk Travels: Rockport, MA

by Carol Giesecke

When I first heard that the Piffats (Joe, Barbara, and Kathryn) were adding 5 & 10km walk routes in Rockport to their Two Town Walking Club repertoire on the North Shore, I was very excited because I had never been there, and I always love to visit a new location, especially a coastal location.

As I was browsing the MBTA transit site one day, I discovered the Commuter Rail system has a line that goes all the way to Rockport. I always enjoy taking the MBTA Commuter Rail to as many AVA walks as I can, both because I love to watch the scenery go by from the double-decker train car and because, for me, it's more fun than driving. (Of course, living in Cambridge makes it much easier for me to take the train than for many others who live farther out.) After a service interruption due to one of the railroad bridges needing repair, late this fall, I read that rail service to Rockport was being resumed as of December 18, 2022. I was all set to see if Joe and Barbara would be willing to walk with me on December 18. They kindly agreed and posted the walk to their membership. That's when I realized that I had read the announcement wrong, and service was to resume on December 19! By that time, we were committed, and I realized driving was a necessary alternative. Luckily, Marianne Marshall was willing to do the walk, and we carpooled up to Rockport on that rather mild Sunday morning. Barbara took lots of pictures so I'm sure she and Kathryn will be putting out a nice account in the next Two Town newsletter. It was a great time and, as always, Joe and Barbara told us not only about the history of the various sites on the walk, but also of their extensive work to plan the walk. They are truly amazing, knowledgeable, and dedicated walkers!

But I really wanted to ride the train to Rockport! And I wanted to do the ride and the walk in 2022. So I decided to go by train on December 24. It was the day after a rather

dramatic cold front, so Saturday was a very clear-skied, sunny day, but quite cold and blustery. It was a lovely day to see a seaport town, in my opinion! That's why we live in coastal Massachusetts, right? And that's why we have down coats with hoods, right? The Piffats included in the walk directions a way to start the walk at the train station, so I happily explored the beach, dock and town areas. I enjoyed Crackerjack's Whistle Stop Market located in the parking lot by the train station. They sell a variety of food items produced locally, including a large selection of craft beers and local wines, cheeses, candies, and frozen prepared foods. And Tuck's Candy store was also a place to get in from the cold, with its amazing collection of jigsaw puzzles and gift ideas in addition to candy.

When I go back this spring, once the walk reopens, I hope several people will join me on the hour plus train ride from North Station, enjoying the water views on the way up, and after an exhilarating walk, perhaps a coffee at Brother's Brew coffee shop or a lunch at the Hula Moon café!



Millie, the 10-foot whale in Millbrook Meadow Park



Whimsical Christmas decorations outside the floral shop

Do you have a volksmarching travel story to share?

Send it to footnotes.editor@gmail.com for publication in a future edition of **Footnotes**.

In Memoriam: Marie King

by Beate Hait

Marie King died on November 16, 2022 in Dublin, Ohio at the age of 87. A member of Walk 'n Mass since 1999, along with her husband, Bill, when they lived in Cambridge, Marie helped at volkswalks, assisted with outreach efforts (e.g., WGBH and the 2007 AARP Boston convention), and was co-chair of Boston Northeastern and Fens seasonal events from 2008 to 2011. In a Nov. 2021 email, Marie wrote, "We note our accomplishment of walking the 50 states whenever we need to say anything about ourselves. It seems a much bigger deal to me today than it did when we did it." We extend our condolences to the King family.



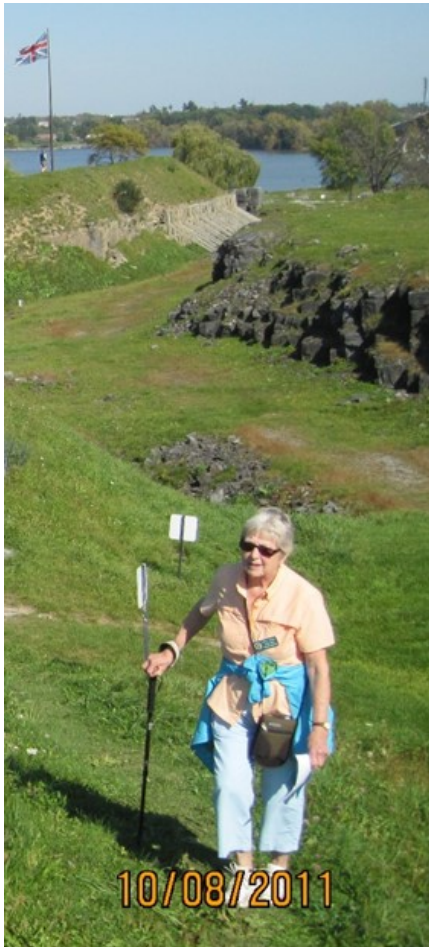
Beate Hait



June 2004

In Memoriam: Elaine Johnson

by Monica Hait



Doug Reynolds

Sadly, SMVA and WnM member Elaine Johnson passed away on December 18, 2022 in Portland, Maine. Born in 1929, Elaine was 93 at her death.

An enthusiastic walker, Elaine often drove several hours to events outside of Maine, and WnM benefitted from her attendance at many walks. Arriving late (typically due to length of drive, sometimes by missing directions), Elaine would then spend extra time/make repeat visits to the start/finish table by temporarily leaving behind a coffee cup, car keys, or jacket. She'd always return to retrieve the item(s) with a smile.

Elaine's good nature and Mainer humor will be greatly missed. Our heartfelt sympathies to her family and friends.

Elaine at a
Crown Point, NY
walk in
October 2011



In Memoriam: Jean Jackman

by Monica Hait

On December 30, 2022, long-time WnM member Jean Jackman died in Raynham. She would have reached 100 years in February 2023.

A proud veteran of the US Marine Corps who served in World War II, Jean was a (likely formidable) drill instructor. Her spirit of service included supporting Toys for Tots as well as helping at many walk events (over 70 for WnM).

Over the years, mostly in winter, Jean escaped to Honolulu, Hawaii to spend time with her daughter Wendy. Jean delighted in playing tourist host when friends were vacationing nearby. My family was lucky to enjoy a Hawaiian visit with Jean in December 2007.

Jean enjoyed talking with others about a wealth of topics, including her most recently read books. Personally, I'll miss hearing which item in *Footnotes* caught her eye. We send our sincere condolences to the Jackman family, particularly Jean's children and grandson.

Notable volunteer contributions

(compiled by Marianne Marshall):

Active member at events and meetings 1997 through 2017

Traditional Event Chairperson: Brockton

Chairperson seasonal event: Plymouth (2001, 2002, and 2003)

Volunteer at the following 70 traditional events (Start/Finish/Checkpoint/Trial Take Down/Specialties/Food/New Walker/Greeter/Trail Guide: New Bedford, Attleboro (14), Lowell (2), Bourne, Jamestown, Canton, Plymouth, Deerfield/Holyoke/Quabbin, Holliston, Newton, Falmouth, Fairhaven (2), Annisquam, Sturbridge, Newton, Lexington, Gloucester, Taunton (2), Wareham, Forest Hills, Scusset, Watch Hill, Lawrence, Sharon, Mattapoisett, E. Walpole, Hingham Town & Shore, Woonsocket, Marlborough NW, Bourne, Fall River, Zoar, Plainville, Pawtucket, N. Easton (2), Wareham, Bridgewater, Tiverton, Onset Village, Milford NW, Bristol, S. Yarmouth, Holliston (3), Cumberland, Middleton, Natick (2), Hopkinton, Amesbury, Buzzards Bay, Provincetown

Volunteer of the Month: January 2010



Beate Hait

At Holliston Soup Walk in March 2011



Beate Hait

Jean with Hait family in Honolulu, December 2007



Beate Hait

Awaiting BBQ dinner at Deerfield event in 1999



Walk Coordinator Speaks

by Beate Hait

Year-Round Events – In the first three months of the year, eight (8) walk routes sponsored by WnM are available for your enjoyment: Boston (Freedom Trail and Back Bay), Hyannis, Lowell, Newton, Sandwich, Wellesley and Providence. How many will YOU walk during these winter months? Fourteen people walked the Back Bay route in Boston on January 1 – let's keep that momentum going!

Club "Business Cards" – With the mailing of the YRE booklet in December, you also received a few "business cards" that provide website info for our club and for AVA, along with a brief description of volkswalking. These are designed to share with people you think might want to join you on a walk or with people you encounter who are curious about why you're out walking. In the blank space on the front, you may add your name (and phone/email?) if you so desire. Let's not keep the joys of volkswalking a secret. Get others involved!

Walk and Soup Social in Holliston, Sat. April 1 – Looking forward to seeing many of you at our first traditional event in 2023, and, after a two-year hiatus, getting together after walking to share camaraderie while eating soups, breads, snacks, and desserts (please, **NO nuts** in this nut-free facility). In February I'll be making calls to staff the Start, Finish, Checkpoint, and Specialties table, along with the Trail Marking and Trail Take-down crews. Will also need people to help with the food tasks at this event. But, you don't need to wait for me to call you. Feel free to contact me to let me know how you'd like to help.

Roslindale/Arnold Arboretum, Sat. April 29 – Paul Kelly and Linda Perrotto have planned a lovely walk route starting in Roslindale Square and continuing through sections of Arnold Arboretum. Brochure to come in March.

Northeast Region Cape Cod Weekend – Fri-Sun. May 19–21, 2023 – Our Northeast Region Director, Wayne Knapp, asked clubs to host multi-event weekends so volkswalkers from this

region and nationwide can travel to support one another, get to socialize, and explore some of the wonderful areas of this region one step at a time. The first such weekend was held last September in Buffalo/Niagara Falls, NY, sponsored by the Niagara Volkssport Clubs. This year it's our turn.

You received the Cape Cod informational flyer with the YRE booklet mailing, and the brochure is included with this newsletter. A Meet & Greet starts off the weekend on Friday evening, and a dinner at the Yarmouth House on Saturday evening gives participants opportunity to continue conversations and share their impressions of the Cape.

You may walk any of the routes according to your own schedule or join one or more of the scheduled group walks. Details are in the brochure. Start cards for the Hyannis traditional event for this weekend, Hyannis YRE, and Provincetown YRE (if in-person registration; OSB also available for P-town) must be turned in and books stamped no later than 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 21. Please note that reservations are required for the Meet & Greet and Saturday night dinner by May 1. You are encouraged to pre-register for the walks, which will speed up the on-site process at our host hotel, Comfort Inn Hyannis, during hours noted in the brochure.

Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard SE – Rick Almeida is the POC for this revived volkswalk route on Martha's Vineyard that is open from April through September 2023 using the Online Start Box registration process. Take the ferry from either Woods Hole or Hyannis to Oak Bluffs, and start the walk route on arrival at the Oak Bluffs ferry terminal. A great way to spend a day "playing tourist" and enjoying the sights, sounds, sea breezes, and food of this Vineyard town noted for the oldest operating platform carousel in the US, gingerbread cottages, and other well-preserved mid- to late-nineteenth-century buildings.