



STEPPING OUT!

VOLKSSPORT CLUB OF WEST POINT— SEPTEMBER 2009



SECURITY NOTICE

Any club activities listed (walks, events, cruises, social events, etc.) taking place on the US Military Academy (USMA; West Point campus) require ALL persons to provide government-issued photo IDs (e.g.: driver's license, Military ID) ; any automobiles passing through Thayer Gate will be searched by security.

Although unusual, note that access to the West Point campus may be revoked at any time due to security restrictions.

2010 REGIONAL CALENDAR

IS AVAILABLE VIA EXCEL!

From Phil Hait, Our Regional AVA North East Director— Thank you for the timely submission of new & renewal sanction requests for 2010.

Everything submitted has been reviewed, approved & submitted for publication in the 2010 edition of Starting Point.

In 2009 there were 100 approved seasonal & or year round events in the region.

For 2010 there are 96. Of these 7 are new events. Number of events by state is below:

NY 43, MA 22, ME 8, VT 7, CT 7, NH 6, RI 3

(On our VCWP club's Yahoo! Groups File Section, we have provided Phil's 2 Excel spreadsheets sheets with the event dates, sponsoring club, location, POC with email & phone number. Note our new Cold Spring and Fort Montgomery YREs for 2010!!!)

NEW MEMBERS!

Recently, we've received renewals and membership dues from the following people and/or families:

Kanner and Gordon

Thank you all and welcome to the new and returning members above! Although we do maintain our email mailing list for free, and people are welcome to walk on our walks without charge, those people who voluntarily join the club do their part to help support our club. Dues provide needed funds for many of the activities that do not generate covering income and make up some of the shortfall for other events.

NYACK THIS SUNDAY!!

This Sunday, 13 September is our annual Nyack Village Event—it is coupled with the annual Nyack Street Fair as well—A great day to walk and partake in a wonderful day's event!

NEXT CLUB GROUP WALKS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES!

NEXT GROUP WALK

HYDE PARK, 25 OCTOBER 2009

Breakfast and club meeting at 9 AM at the Eveready Diner (540 Albany Post Rd, just and across US Route 9 from the FDR Presidential Library) in Hyde Park.

Breakfast at 9, Walk starts with registration at 10 AM at the Eveready.

NEXT GROUP EVENT

**Nyack Street Fair
13 SEP - Sun**

September Fest THIS SUNDAY!!!

See http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=84136 for the details!

NEXT ACTIVITY

HOLIDAY PARTY—13 DECEMBER??

Watch our newsletter and / or emails for the details of the upcoming annual Holiday Party, tentatively being planned for 12/13/2009.

The date and venue subject to change!



2009 Regional Calendar! Our Northeast

Regional Director Phil Hait has provided us with the current calendar of events updated as of **18 July 2009** (including tentative) events. Please mark your calendars, and check with the Point of Contact or official AVA website to ensure the event is sanctioned.

We have placed it in the Yahoo! Groups file section as "Northeast Regional Calendar.xls".

Every active walker should be a subscriber (or least check frequently) to our Yahoo! Group. No need to be a member. And thanks Phil!



Club Elections for 2009-2010—The current slate (see last page) of elected officers have all agreed to serve in 2009-2010 terms. If you would like to run in a position, we will have an election of officers at the October club meeting on 25 October (see calendar) as usual!



FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL

We're reminded that Highland Falls Fall Foliage Festival will be Saturday, 17 October. You might consider this if you'd like to do the Highland Falls or West Point YREs during this same time!

NEWS FROM OUR AVA NORTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR, PHIL HAIT

Did you know that AVA has a page on Facebook? It is located at: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=22209024962>.

I will admit that until recently I knew little if anything about Facebook.

However it seems that some of my friends from various facets of my life are determined to include me and drag me into the 21st century on this issue.

That being said, I have signed up on Facebook with a profile and I encourage you to at least look at the AVA page. Maybe someone out there will be able to figure out how to utilize this medium to help bring more people to Volkssport events.

Please give me your input & ideas.

Phil Hait, ne_rd@ava.org

NEW START BOX LOCATION FOR NY WALKS

Word from Donna Coulson and Charlie Kaiser of the Princeton Area Walkers (<http://www.PrincetonAreaWalkers.com>) informs us that as of Aug 20, 2009, the Princeton Area walkers will use the following temporary start point in NYC until renovations are complete at the original start point:

The Williams (College) Club

24 East 39th Street

Between Madison & Park Aves

NYC 10016

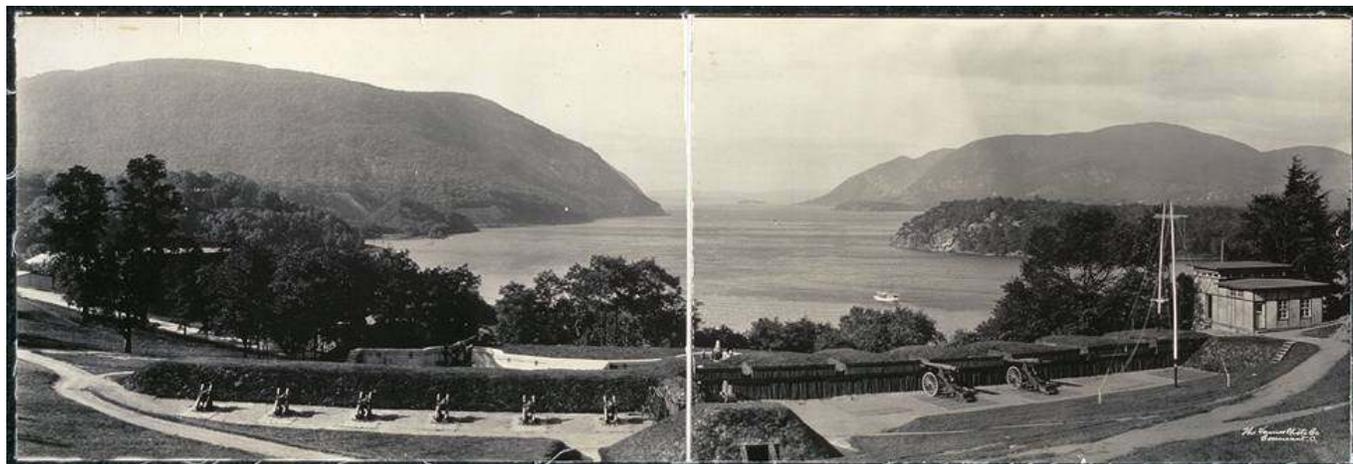
The box will be in the Cloak Room, straight ahead from the door on the right.

This is a meeting facility & hotel for alumni and business people. Please be quiet upon entering as meetings may be in session in the library or lobby.

PAWS appreciates their generosity in letting them place their walk box here.

TROPHY POINT

From Mike Green—he found this picture below from 1909 on the web in the public domain: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Trophy_Point_1909.jpg



PATRICK'S WANDERINGS!

BY NANCY PATRICK, PRESIDENT

On Saturday, 8 August, we traveled a couple of hours northwest to the charming town of Montrose, PA.

The volksmarch there coincided with the annual Blueberry Festival. Early arrivals joined a very long line for a plate of blueberry pancakes with blueberry syrup.

The festival is held on the town square...a bright spot of green surrounded by a museum of fire related items, library and town hall. The post office lawn was the place to watch a local dance class demonstrating Hawaiian dances. All around the square were vendors with a variety of wares all with a blueberry theme.

Cobbler and ice cream and baskets of fresh berries were popular. Tables with bright cloths and bouquets of fresh flowers beckoned folks to linger.

The start point for the volkswalk took some doing to find. It was in a rather obscure spot without any AVA banner or club flag. It was a registration table only; no event brochures or club information offered. There were 5km and 10 km trails available. The shorter walk was primarily in town and through a large historic cemetery. The longer trail went outside the town and onto a rail trail. The event was well attended. Three West Point members were there and a bus from the Empire State club brought a big group.

This is a very nice event and highly recommended. The Blueberry Festival is held yearly, but the volkswalk is not always offered.

MILESTONES

- Martin Januario....10 events
- Valerie Kirley 22,000 km
- Farrell and Nancy Patrick 500 events

Did we miss any others??

We need someone who can tabulate these events and distance awards from our AVA National Magazine, "*The American Wanderer*"...any body willing to help out on a monthly basis??

GREAT LAKES AVA PROGRAM EXTENDED!

Walk 10 walks along Great Lakes shores. Only part of the trail needs to be on the shore. Also, the walker must walk an event at three different Great Lakes. A 4" x 2-1/2" patch will be presented after 10 events. Program cost \$8 for an approved booklet.

Send check payable to:

Jim Muma

c/o Mackinaw Walkers Volkssport Club

1706 Pine, Belleville, IL 62226-4259

Point of Contact, Jim Muma, (618)234-8706 or email michiganjim@sbcglobal.net The above link will have a list of walks for this program.

THE ATLANTIC REGION CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND!

WORD FROM SAM TOLLETT:

Three walks, two workshops, an Atlantic Region meeting, and a banquet with a Civil War expert as the guest speaker.

Stay tuned for more information which should be released shortly. (Thanks to PAWs for passing these along.)

CROSS – BORDER WALK BEING PLANNED FOR 2010

Word from the Walk N' Mass club indicates that the Twin State Volkssport Association is working on the logistics of a cross-border walk in 2010.

Part of the walk will be in the United States, and part of the walk will be in Canada.

(From September 2009 edition of "*Footbnotes*".

2009 YEAR ROUND EVENTS SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

This is the club's 2009 schedule of Year Round Events as listed on the AVA Website and the special programs that are to be available for these walks in 2009. Many thanks to Joan Kimmel and the other club members who helped compile the information on the events

1. Cornwall

Y0252 10km

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/cornwallyre.html>

- Authors and Literary Landmarks
- Europe in the USA
- Firehouses
- Historic Churches
- Museums
- Railroad Heritage
- Riverwalk America

2. Highland Falls

Y1145 10km

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/hfyre.html>

- Authors and Literary Landmarks
- Cemetery Stroll
- Courthouses
- Historic Churches
- Museums
- Riverwalk America
- US Presidents
- Veteran Memorials
- Walkin' Waterfalls
- Firehouses

3. Hyde Park

Y1108 6km/13km

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/hydeparkyre.html>

- America's Gardens
- Authors and Literary Landmarks
- Cemetery Stroll
- Courthouses
- Europe in the USA
- Firehouses
- Historic Churches
- Museums
- Railroad Heritage
- Riverwalk America
- US Presidents
- Walkin' Waterfalls

4. Rhinebeck

Y1094 5km/10km

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/rhinebeckyre.html>

- Artistic Heritage
- Authors and Literary Landmarks
- Cemetery Stroll
- Courthouses
- Firehouses
- Historic Churches
- Veteran Memorials

5. West Point

Y0037 7km/11km

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/usmayre.html>

- Artistic Heritage
- Authors and Literary Landmarks
- Cemetery Stroll
- Firehouses
- Historic Churches
- Museums
- Riverwalk America
- US Presidents
- Veteran Memorials

Information on all of these YREs can be found on our club's website—

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/>



2009 Calendar of Club Events

We are sometime asked what a "Group Walk" (as opposed to a Year Round Event, or YRE) is. "Group Walk" * means all meet and signup together at the same time, get the trail directions and start together, then you proceed at your own pace. There are NO GUIDES for this kind of walk, nor does a group have to stay together. We usually have fast walkers, slow walkers, and medium walkers, there's almost always someone you can walk with if you join us for your first time in a GROUP WALK! ; "Event's" are single walks especially sanctioned by the club. AVA credit is provided, and these are usually a one-time deal ; perhaps repeated yearly. **BOLD RED** items are items updated from our last issue; **CONFIRMED** events are in bold face; TENTATIVE (planning dates) are listed in plain text—usually they'll become "confirmed" in a month or so. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we always reserve the right to cancel ANY event, but try very hard not to do so with CONFIRMED events.

	Day	Type	Venue or Details
13-Sep	Sun	Event	Nyack Street Fair— Confirmed! September Fest—A Quadricentennial Event See http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=84136 for the details!
26-Sep	Sat	Event	City of Hudson Event—CONFIRMED! See http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=83839 for the details—This is a new event presented for the first time by the Volkssport Club of West Point. We've had very nice dealings with the City of Hudson in setting this one up, and it promises to be fun!
4-Oct	Sun	Event	Beacon—CONFIRMED! See http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=84292 for the details!; Farmer's Market also will be held this day — We start at the dock
25-Oct	Sun	Group Walk	Hyde Park—confirmed!
8-Nov	Sun	Event	COLD SPRING—CONFIRMED! Now Sanctioned! See http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=85300 for the details
21-Nov	Sat	Group Walk	Cornwall—confirmed!
13-Dec	Sun	Activity	Holiday Party at the West Point Club —date, time, and venue to be determined
19-Dec	Sat	Group Walk	Rhinebeck—confirmed!



2010 Calendar of Club Events

Day	Type	Venue or Details
23-Jan Sat	Group Walk	West Point YRE - CONFIRMED!
21-Feb Sun	Group Walk	Central Valley YRE - tentative
6-Mar Sat	Group Walk	Rhinebeck YRE - CONFIRMED!
14 or 21 Mar Sun	Event	Goshen St. Patrick's Day Celebration - tentative (Greens, POC)
1-Apr Sat	Informational Item	Fort Montgomery YRE— Permanent YRE Trail Opens
10-Apr Sat	Group Walk	Cornwall YRE - CONFIRMED! (with new 'extreme' route option!)
24-Apr Sat	Event	Mills-Norrie (or Fort Montgomery if not YRE) - tentative (Joan, POC)
15-May Sat	Event	West Point President's Event - tentative (Patricks, POC)
23-May Sun	Group Walk	Fort Montgomery YRE - tentative
		Open date for an event, perhaps Manitoga in Garrison) - tentative (Andrew, POC)
12-Jun Sat	Event??	
26-Jun Sat	Group Walk	Hyde Park YRE - CONFIRMED!
17-Jul Sat	Group Walk	Cold Spring YRE - tentative
14 or 21 Aug Sat	Event	West Point Round Pond Event - tentative (Patricks, POC)
		West Point YRE + tentative BOAT RIDE afterwards for picnic - CONFIRMED!
29-Aug Sun	Group Walk	
12-Sep Sun	Event	Nyack Street Fair - tentative (Peggy, POC)
25-Sep Sat	Event	Hudson River Valley Ramble (Pok Bridge?) (Andrew, POC)
3-Oct Sun	Group Walk	Highland Falls YRE - CONFIRMED!
24-Oct Sun	Event	Beacon - tentative (Joan, POC)
6-Nov Sat	Group Walk	New York City Greenwich Village YRE - CONFIRMED!
4-Dec Sat	Group Walk	New York City Central Park YRE - tentative (Andrew soliciting opinions)
? Dec	Event	Annual Holiday Party - Tentative (Date and Venue TBD)

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Joan Kimmel, Secretary
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Yahoo Group!:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/volkssportclubofwestpoint/)

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The club ONLY uses the email lists for club business, and does not provide them to other organizations or people without specific individual authorizations.

We hate SPAM just as much as you do!

DISCLAIMER:

The Volkssport Club of West Point is an officially registered private organization operating on the installation of the US Military Academy at West Point. Membership and participation in all activities is open to all, regardless of military affiliation. We welcome all who wish to participate in our programs and comradely!

The Volkssport Club of West Point's website is privately owned and operated. The contents of the site, including words, images, and opinions, are unofficial and not to be considered as the official views of the United States Military Academy, United States Army, or Department of Defense. The site is not endorsed by the United States Military Academy, United States Army, or Department of Defense. Users accept and agree to this disclaimer in the use of any information obtained from this website.

We wish to thank the Garrison Commander and the Directorate of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) Office of West Point for their support, as well as saluting all the men and women of the Army and other branches of the Armed Forces of the United States serving on our behalf.