



STEPPING OUT!

VOLKSPORT CLUB OF WEST POINT— OCTOBER 2009



NYACK, HUDSON RAMBLE 2009, AND BEACON EVENTS ARE NOW HISTORY!

(Hudson Gazebo during the Hudson walk)

75 total walkers took part in the 2009 City of Hudson Ramble, Nyack, and Beacons events that were held in September and October.

With support from the City of Hudson, the villages around Nyack, and the City of Beacon, our walkers had good weather on all occasions. In Nyack, the walkers were also treated to the annual Nyack street fair along with great views of the homes around Nyack. In Hudson, the walkers toured downtown Hudson including Parade Park, overlooking the Athens Meadows Lighthouse and Beacon walkers took in the Hudson view, a Farmers' Market, and the rain-rescheduled "Spirit of Beacon" Street fair.

NEW MEMBERS!

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

- Ed Choma
- Eileen Skinner

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.



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.

NEXT CLUB GROUP WALKS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES!

NEXT GROUP WALK	NEXT GROUP EVENT	NEXT ACTIVITY
HYDE PARK—25 OCTOBER 2009	COLD SPRING—SUNDAY, 8 NOVEMBER	HOLIDAY PARTY—13 DECEMBER??

Breakfast and club meeting at 9 AM at the Eveready Diner (540 Albany Post Rd, 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.

See http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=85300 for the details!

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 **6 August 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

A reminder from September's issue: The 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!

PRINCETON AREA WALKERS ARE TAKING 5 BITES OUT OF THE BIG APPLE!

Princeton Area Walkers, New Jersey are scheduling walks in Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island, NYC for October 10-13. In combination with the 4 year round events in Manhattan and a seasonal walk at the NY Botanical Gardens in the Bronx, this will create an opportunity to walk in all 5 boroughs. This has been an exciting challenge for us and we are hoping to have a lot of walkers join us in this venture. All the walks are safe and easy to reach by car or public transportation!

Last year's walkers loved it so we were asked for a repeat. At this point, we are not sure if we will do a "threepeat" so make this your chance to enjoy NYC in the fall.

On Sunday, Oct 11 and Monday October 12, we will walk from the World Trade Center site in Manhattan, through the financial district, over the famous Brooklyn Bridge into Brooklyn Heights. The walk takes us through the historic and charming streets of Brooklyn Heights, past homes of many famous authors so qualifies for the literary and river programs. We will walk on the Esplanade, giving us fantastic views of lower Manhattan. Be sure to bring your cameras! And there are lots of great mid-Eastern restaurants to relieve your hunger!

On Monday afternoon, October 12, there will be a walk in Astoria, Queens which starts at the quirky Socrates Sculpture Park, goes through the residential streets of Astoria, past lots of Greek restaurants and then over to Roosevelt Island for spectacular views of mid-town Manhattan and the famed 59th Street Bridge (start singing the Simon and Garfunkel song now!) Please note that the sign in/start point for this walk will be at the Winter Garden at the World Financial Center in Manhattan, the same as the start point for the Brooklyn walk. You can take the subway from there to Queens to start your walk.

Tuesday, October 13 will give you the chance to walk in Staten Island, the most remote of the 5 boroughs. We will be walking in Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Gar-

dens and then through a lovely residential neighborhood of gorgeous homes. Snug Harbor Cultural Center is the product of 28 years of restoration and development to convert a 19th century home for retired seamen to a regional arts center, housing several museums. It is the largest ongoing adaptive reuse project in America and is considered one of New York City's unique architectural complexes and historic landscapes. There is a free and very memorable exhibit about 9/11 and the World Trade Center which pays tribute to the NYC Firefighters. This walk qualifies as a museum walk, garden walk and America's artistic heritage walk under the AVA special events. It also qualifies as an Island event!

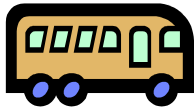
Our seasonal walk at the NY Botanical Gardens is a true gem. The walk can be done from May 1-October 31 so need not be done on the same weekend as the 3 preceding events. We will be there to assist at sign in on Saturday morning, October 10 about 10-11AM. The Gardens are always a special treat as you walk through the 250 acres of 50 gardens and plant collections. Please see the website for the gardens for their hours and fees: www.nybg.org. The walk also takes you into the campus of Fordham University. This walk qualifies for the American Gardens special event program. Please take a free map of the gardens upon entering. The walk box is located at the Information booth at the main entrance, after the ticket booth. Please call Judi on her cell if you need help that day: 732-580-5414.

Of course, we have 4 wonderful YRE walks in Manhattan: Mid-town, Central Park, Greenwich Village/Soho/Chinatown and Little Italy, and Lower Manhattan so take your pick or do them all. There is so much to see in NYC and these walks are all packed with interesting sites and qualify for many of the special event programs. Please check our website: www.princetonareawalkers.com for information about these walks or call our club president, Maureen Penta, at (732) 229-8169.

There will be a special patch for all those who complete all 5 borough walks.

For information specific to the Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island or Bronx walks, you can also contact Judi Travis at walkeejt@optonline.net or call at (732) 536-4073.

See you in the Big Apple!



CLUB MEMBERS ON TATOR TOURS!

Club President Nancy Patrick, Vice President Farrell Patrick Doris Rogers and Dorothy Basini were on the recent Tator Tours “*National Parks of the Southwest*” Volkswalking Trip.

A picture and article about the trip will be appearing in our November newsletter.

DAVE SKINNER MEMORIAL WALK

Word has it that on June 26, 2010 in Gloversville, NY, our friends in Albany club will be holding “**The Dave Skinner Memorial Walk**”.

Dave was a long time ardent supporter of Volkswalking, and a member of our club who walked many of our walks and events over the years. He passed away shortly after the 2007 AVA Sacramento convention. Your editor Andrew’s last walk with Dave was with him and his wife Eileen (also a long time walker and current VCWP member) doing part of the San Francisco dual 5KM/10KM event on the last day of that convention—As I remember it, they were doing the 10K walk, while I was doing the 5K downtown event. (There was a 10 KM Golden Gate Bridge walk earlier that morning.)

The Start Point will be the St Mary of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, 149 South Main Street, in Gloversville, New York.

Lots of details yet to be confirmed. Gloversville is north and west of the Amsterdam Exit on the Thruway. It is about 40 miles from Clifton Park.. The Albany club also have available a seasonal in Johnstown, NY (a few miles away) and Caroga Lake which is nine miles away.

We moved our previously scheduled Hyde Park group walk to a new date in June 2010 (see calendar) so that folks wishing to attend this walk may do so without a conflict on our club’s calendar. So stay tuned!



IVV EVENT AND DISTANCE AWARDS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

FROM THE AUGUST / SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER / NOVEMBER
“*THE AMERICAN WANDERER*”

Nancy Patrick received a 500 events award.

Eileen Skinner received a 1,200 events award.

Valerie Kirley received a 2,000 events award and a 22,000 km award!

These listings are searched for manually ; please let us know if we inadvertently left anyone out and/or made an error and we’ll correct in our next edition of **Stepping Out!**

VERMONT WALK

COURTESY OF WALK ‘N MASS’S FOOTNOTES



The next walk in Vermont will be on Sunday, October 18, 2009 in Vergennes, on Lake Champlain.

It will be hosted by Charlotte Phillips and Ruth Cade.

The Start / Finish will be at the Lake Champlain Museum. 5 km and 10 km trails will be offered.

An \$8.00 fee will be charged if you wish to go into the museum.

For more details go to <http://www.ava.org/clubs/tsva>.

POUGKEEPSIE’S WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON OPENS!

The world’s longest (6,767 feet!) pedestrian-only bridge opened between Poughkeepsie and Highland on Saturday, 3 October. Plans for an event or even a Poughkeepsie YRE are being made for 2010! Stay tuned—but view the website at: <http://walkway.org/> for details.

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 RE) is. A "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. (*-Thanks to ESCV for this!)

2009

Date	Day	Type	Venue or Details
11-Jan	Sun	Group Walk	West Point Group YRE – was cancelled due to snow
21-Feb	Sat	Group Walk	Rhinebeck Group YRE – was held
7-Mar	Sat	Group Walk	Highland Falls Group YRE – was held
15-Mar	Sun	Event	Goshen / Girl Scouts—was held See http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=83530
29-Mar	Sun	Group Walk	West Point Group YRE - was held
19-Apr	Sun	Group Walk	Cornwall Group YRE – was held
25-Apr	Sat	Event	Fort Montgomery — was held
9-May	Sat	Group Walk	New York City Group YRE— was held
17-May	Sun	Event	Central Valley—was held
7-Jun	Sun	Group Walk	Hyde Park Group YRE — was held
18-Jul	Sat	Group Walk	West Point— was held
16-Aug	Sun	Group Walk	Highland Falls (Farmer's Market)—confirmed! NOTE SUMMER HOURS! Breakfast club meeting at 8 AM, Register at 9 AM, walk at 9:15 AM!
30-Aug	Sun	Activity	Annual Hudson River Cruise — Cancelled
5-Sep	Sat	Group Walk	Greenwich Village— was held
13-Sep	Sun	Event	Nyack Street Fair—was held
26-Sep	Sat	Event	City of Hudson Event—was held
4-Oct	Sun	Event	Beacon— was held
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

2010

Date	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
12-Jun	Sat	Event??	(open date for an event, perhaps Manitoga in Garrison) - tentative (Andrew, POC)
19-Jun	Sat	Group Walk	Hyde Park YRE - CONFIRMED! (changed from 26 June 2010 as previously reported)
26-Jun	Sat	Event	David Skinner Memorial Walk, sponsored by the Albany AVA Club
17-Jul	Sat	Group Walk	Cold Spring YRE - tentative
14 or 21 Aug	Sat	Event	West Point Round Pond Event - tentative (Patricks, POC)
29-Aug	Sun	Group Walk	West Point YRE + tentative BOAT RIDE afterwards for picnic - CONFIRMED!
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	TBD	Event	Annual Holiday Party - Tentative (Date and Venue TBD)

STEPPING OUT!
VOLKSSPORT CLUB OF WEST
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Farrell Patrick, Vice President
Joan Kimmel, Secretary
Andrew Schmidt, Treasurer & Newsletter Editor
Thomas Scuccimarra, Trailmaster
Mike Green, Webpage Master

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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.