



# STEPPING OUT!

## VOLKSPORT CLUB OF WEST POINT— DECEMBER 2009

### WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, NANCY & FARRELL PATRICK

Driving vs. flying lets the volkswalker delve into "Starting Point" for new trails to explore. Thus, it was that we stopped in Columbus, Ohio as our Thanksgiving travels took us west. We could also stamp our book for another Capitol.

The entry for the German Village area of Columbus was a drawing card as we had enjoyed three wonderful years in Germany. The registration and starting point is at a motel near to the interstate exit. The route, rated #1, follows old brick streets passing interesting classic brick homes, many with National Historic Home designations. The trail is primarily residential but there are several German restaurants and cafes. There is also a great chocolate shop and a most unusual book shop with a rabbit warren of rooms and interesting book collections. Make Columbus a walking stop when you are passing thru Ohio.

### NEW MEMBERS!

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

**Cortes, Hegadus, Morrow, Selikowitz, Tamagna, Titus, and Weiss.**

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.

**The 2010 Schedule of club walks, including TWO new walks (one new Seasonal, one new Year Round) is contained in this edition of STEPPING OUT!**



### 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.



### 2009 Regional Calendar!

Our Northeast Regional Director Phil Hait has provided us with the current calendar of events updated as of **6 August 2009 and two 2010 Calendars** (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!

### NEXT CLUB GROUP WALKS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES!



#### NEXT GROUP WALK

**Rhinebeck,**

**Sat, 19-Dec**

Our usual breakfast meeting will be held at 8:45 AM at the Eveready Diner (540 Albany Post Rd, just north and across US Route 9 from the FDR Presidential Library) in Hyde Park.

All are welcomed to the breakfast and meeting!

(Note the 8:45 AM start since the breakfast is a little distance from the starting

point!) Registration at 10:15 AM at The Delamater House, 44 Montgomery Street (Route 9), Rhinebeck, New York. The Start Point and parking are in Office in the rear of the complex (which is off of West Market Street). Walking at 10:30AM.

#### NEXT GROUP EVENT

#### **Goshen Girl Scouts Event**

Sometime in March 2010— watch this space for sanction information (including date) and other walking details of this annual event!

#### NEXT ACTIVITY

#### **Holiday Party—13 Dec**

Sunday, 13 December 2009 at 11 AM.

Reservations closed for the party in November. So, if you RSVPed to Joan Vorbach in the timely manner, we'll see you there!



## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

BY ANDREW SCHMIDT,  
TREASURER

Our annual financial report is due to both the AVA and the IRS by November 15th. The IRS one is easy; it is a simple electronic form 990-N that signifies we did not have gross receipts as a club over \$25,000 per year. Else, we'd have to file a full IRS form 990. As Treasurer, I wish we did have to file a bigger form as that would mean we'd be bringing in buckets of money. Alas, not to be!

The form to the AVA is a little more complicated, as that is what is used to keep our 501c3 certification alive and well. Those details are the income/expense for the club, as well as the details behind the numbers. They are as follows—note that our fiscal year runs from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009. The bottom line figures are :

- Gross Income for the year was \$3069.74.
- Gross Expense for the year was \$3229.47.
- Net loss therefore of (\$159.73).

The good news is that our operating loss this year was less than last years loss of (\$172.62), which was in turn considerably less than the loss the year before of (\$410.49), so we're making progress watching our pennies.

On the down side, the number of members of the club as reported to the AVA for the period was 68 which is down for 87 from last year's filings.

Members wishing to see the breakdown of the income and expense figures and the IRS filing are welcomed to view the official records at the upcoming meeting in Rhinebeck.

I will also be preparing the participation report for our next January newsletter that will show the YREs and Event attendances for the year which we track on a calendar basis.

## YAHOO! GROUPS YAHOO! RE- MINDER ABOUT OUR YAHOO! GROUP

Readers of **STEPPING OUT!** are reminded that the Volkssport Club maintains an active Yahoo! Group on the Yahoo website. This facility is in addition to the newsletter that you're reading right now. Often, we will post additional walking materials there on a more timely basis. Items especially items such as calendars, materials from the AVA that serious walkers may enjoy, and the like are often posted there in between issues of this newsletter. Many times things are placed there that are not mentioned in this newsletter due to the timely nature of those posts.

For example, in November we posted some information and a letter from our AVA President Curt Myron concerning international IVV matters. The website also contains archives of lots of the materials of the club as well.

When one 'joins' the group, you will receive emails whenever something is posted in the files section, or if it is an email, it will automatically be forwarded to your email ID.

Anyone is welcomed to join. Just point your browser to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/volkssportclubofwestpoint/> and check it out! If you have questions, email us and we'll be glad to help.

## MINUTES OF OUR NOVEMBER 2009 MEETING

Volkssport Club of West Point met on 21 November 2009 at Park Restaurant, Highland Falls, NY prior to the monthly group walk in Cornwall. Eleven members and two guests were present.

**Treasurer's Report:** The balance on hand is \$1335.98. Andrew reported that this is our highest quarterly balance since 6/07. The largest expense we have is reproducing copies of brochures, walking directions and newsletters. This expense should be minimized in the future when we have MWR at West Point making our Xerox copies. (continued....)

Andrew also informed the club he submitted the needed AVA officer paperwork, IRS 501c3 exemption information, and filed IRS form 990-N, all as required by both AVA and IRS laws.

**Old Business:** Joan Vorbach is coordinating plans for the holiday party on 13 December. To date she has twelve signed up to go. She had a copy of the brunch menu from Shadows Restaurant in Poughkeepsie. The price is \$14.95.

**New Business:** Andrew had a comment from a participant at the Cold Spring walk. The participant suggested that our registration table should have remained manned until 4:00 p.m. as advertised. The Patricks proposed that in the future we should stamp books at registration as we currently do. We can state in the brochure as well as at the registration, that the table will be closed two hours after registration ends. Andrew will investigate if there is an AVA guideline. We will discuss this proposal at the next meeting. Cornwall YRE: Currently we only have a 10 km trail. Patricks will drive a short route to see if we can make a 5 km option. Proposed is going from the park at the river, back up to the main street of Cornwall-on-Hudson and walking straight back to River Light Park.

The Beacon event walk, previously scheduled for 24 October 2010, was moved to 10 October 2010 to avoid conflict with the Freedom Festival walk in DC.

Joan Kimmel will canvas some of the motels in the Fishkill area for a discount rate for walkers during our President's walk and Poughkeepsie Walkway weekend in May. She also suggested that we might reserve space at a restaurant for a social time on Saturday evening.

Joan also said she will write the letters and make the contact with clubs for the President' weekend.

The Fort Montgomery seasonal will begin on 1 April, new in 2010. Start point will be at the Battle Site Visitor's Center.

A new YRE will be in Cold Spring in 2010. Start point will be at Depot Restaurant.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Nancy Patrick  
President



**AVA AWARDS  
RECEIVED BY  
OUR MEMBERS  
COMPILED AND RE-  
PORTED BY BETTY AND  
MIKE GREEN**

- **Distance Awards**
  - 500 km Mike & Betty Green
- **Event Awards**
  - 30 Events Mike & Betty Green
  - 50 Events Mike & Betty Green
  - 75 Events Mike Green
  - 1250 Events Eileen Skinner

These awards were received by club members that participate in the American Volkssport Association's Achievement Awards Program. They were compiled and reported by club members Betty and Mike Green from the December 2009/January 2010 issue of the AVA's national magazine, *The American Wanderer*. If we missed any club member, please let us know so we can make a correction next issue!

AVA awards are confirmed to walkers that earn a specific number, and ever increasing levels, of both IVV-sanctioned events and distance. For more details, see <http://www.ava.org/What We Are About/vmfaq.htm#IVV Awards>.

**GOSHEN 2010 EVENT NEWS  
FROM MIKE GREEN, POINT OF CON-  
TACT**

The Goshen walk (tentatively being planned to be held on 14 or 21 March 2010, see the Event Calendar in this issue) will be changed to include more of the Rail Trail in place of the portion of the walk that went to the Seven Columns building over the rather un-even (dangerous when wet) sidewalks. (Editor's Note: The annual Goshen walk is coordinated with the Heart of the Hudson Girl Scout organization on an annual basis, and is timed to run on the Goshen St. Patrick's Day parade.)

## 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



So this month of DECEMBER is the last month this year that you can receive 2009 Second Half Walk Credit if you haven't done any of these Year Rounds since 1 July 2009!

If you haven't walked them since 1 July, do so for your final 2009 Year Round Event Credit!

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

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

## 2010 YEAR ROUND EVENTS SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

### WEST OF THE HUDSON

#### 1. CENTRAL VALLEY

(sanctioning soon, expect to be available Spring 2010)

#### 2. CORNWALL

Y0252, RATING 3, 10k, 1/2/2010 to 12/31/2010

**Start Point:** USMA Visitors Center, West Point Highway, Highland Falls

**AVA Special Programs:** Authors and Literary Landmarks, Firehouses, Historic Churches, Museums, Railroad Heritage, Riverwalk America

#### 3. FORT MONTGOMERY (SEASONAL WALK)

Y1740, RATING 3+. 10k, 4/1/2010 to 10/31/2010

**Start Point:** Fort Montgomery State Historic Site Visitor Center, 690 Route 9W, Fort Montgomery

**AVA Special Programs:** America's Gardens, Authors and Literary Landmarks, Courthouses, Forts of the United States, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Hooray for Hollywood, Museums, Riverwalk America, State Parks

#### 4. HIGHLAND FALLS

Y1145, RATING 1, 10k, 1/2/2010 to 12/31/2010

**Start Point:** USMA Visitors Center, West Point Highway. Highland Falls

**AVA Special Programs:** Authors and Literary Landmarks, Cemetery Stroll, Courthouses, Forts of the United States, Historic Churches, Museums, Riverwalk America, Veteran Memorials, Waterfalls

#### 5. WEST POINT

Y0037, RATING 2, 5k/11k, 1/2/2010 to 12/31/2010

**Start Point:** USMA Visitor's Center, West Point Highway, Highland Falls

**AVA Special Programs:** Artistic Heritage, Authors and Literary Landmarks, Cemetery Stroll, Firehouses, Forts of the United States, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Hooray for Hollywood, Museums, Riverwalk America, Veteran Memorials

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Pages 6 and 7 of this issue of **STEPPING OUT!** Have the final 2009 calendar and the 2010 calendar for Club Events. We have a great 2010 year planned, the highlights are two new YREs appearing (Central Valley and Fort Montgomery), along with a special President's/Bridge weekend with events over Saturday and Sunday, 15-16 May 2010.

So mark your calendars now!

### EAST OF THE HUDSON

#### 6. COLD SPRING

Y1633, RATING 2+, 10k, 1/2/2010 to 12/31/2010

**Start Point:** Cold Spring Depot Restaurant, Depot Square, Cold Spring

**AVA Special Programs:** Courthouses, Firehouses, Historic Churches, Museums, Railroad Heritage, Riverwalk America, Cemetery Stroll

#### 7. HYDE PARK

Y1108, RATING 3, 6k/13k, 1/2/2010 to 12/31/2010

**Start Point:** The Eveready Diner, 540 Albany Post Rd. (Route 9), Hyde Park

**AVA Special Programs:** America's Gardens, Authors and Literary Landmarks, Cemetery Stroll, Courthouses, Firehouses, Historic Churches, Museums, Riverwalk America, Railroad Heritage

#### 8. RHINEBECK

Y1094, RATING 1, 5k/10k, 1/2/2010 to 12/31/2010

**Start Point:** The Delamater House, The Delamater House Inn and Conference, Rhinebeck

**AVA Special Programs:** Artistic Heritage, Authors and Literary Landmarks, Cemetery Stroll, Courthouses, Firehouses, Historic Churches, Veteran Memorials



## 2009 Calendar of Club Events -

We are sometime asked what a “Group Walk” (as opposed to a Year Round Event, or YRE) 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! ; “Events” are one-time only walks. AVA credit is provided, and these are usually a one-time deal ; perhaps repeated yearly.

**RED** items are items updated from our last issue; **CONFIRMED** events still to be held are in **BOLD** face; **TENTATIVE** (planning dates) are listed in plain text—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 <a href="http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=83530">http://www.ava.org/gen3/data/event_details.asp?eventid=83530</a>
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 Group YRE— was held
16-Aug	Sun	Group Walk	Highland Falls Group YRE (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 Group YRE — 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 Event— was held
25-Oct	Sun	Group Walk	Hyde Park Group YRE—was held
8-Nov	Sun	Event	Cold Spring Event—was held
21-Nov	Sat	Group Walk	Cornwall Group YRE—was held
<b>13-Dec</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Holiday Party at Shadows on the Hudson - CONFIRMED!</b> <b>—RSVPs closed</b>
<b>19-Dec</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>Group Walk</b>	<b>Rhinebeck Group YRE—CONFIRMED!</b>



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### 2010

Date	Day	Type	Venue or Details
2-Jan	Sat	Informational Item	Cold Spring YRE - Permanent Trail Opens
23-Jan	Sat	Group Walk	West Point Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED!</b>
21-Feb	Sun	Group Walk	Hyde Park Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED!</b>
6-Mar	Sat	Group Walk	Rhinebeck Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED!</b>
14 or 21 Mar	Sun	Event	Goshen St. Patrick's Day Celebration - tentative (Greens, POC)
1-Apr	Sat	Informational Item	Fort Montgomery Group YRE - Permanent YRE trail opens
10-Apr	Sat	Group Walk	Cornwall Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED!</b> (with new 'extreme' route option!)
15-Apr	Thur	Informational Item	Central Valley YRE - Permanent Trail Opens (tentative date until confirmed)
24-Apr	Sat		Poughkeepsie Bridges Event cancelled; moved to 5/15-16 weekend
15-May	Sat	Event	West Point President's Event - WEEKEND - tentative (Patricks, POC)
16-May	Sun	Event	Poughkeepsie Bridges Event - WEEKEND - tentative (Andrew, POC)
23-May	Sun	Group Walk	Fort Montgomery YRE - tentative
12-Jun	Sat	Event	(open date for an event, perhaps Manitoba in Garrison) - tentative (Patricks, POC)
19-Jun	Sat	Group Walk	Central Valley Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED!</b>
26-Jun	Sat	Event	David Skinner Memorial Walk, sponsored by the Albany AVA Club
17-Jul	Sat	Group Walk	Cold Spring Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED</b>
31-Jul	Sat	Event	Mills-Norrie - tentative (Joan, POC)
14 or 21 Aug	Sat	Event	West Point Round Pond Event - tentative (Patricks, POC)
29-Aug	Sun	Group Walk	West Point Group YRE + tentative BOAT RIDE afterwards for picnic - <b>CONFIRMED!</b>
12-Sep	Sun	Event	Nyack Street Fair - tentative (Peggy, POC)
25-Sep	Sat	Event	Hudson River Valley Ramble (Location TBD) (Andrew, POC)
1-2 Oct	Fri-Sat	Informational Item	AVA National Executive Council Meeting - Albany, NY
3-Oct	Sun	Group Walk	Highland Falls Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED!</b>
10-Oct	Sun	Event	Beacon - tentative (Joan, POC) (changed date to 10/10/2010 to avoid Freedom Festival walks)
6-Nov	Sat	Group Walk	New York City Greenwich Village Group YRE - <b>CONFIRMED!</b>
4-Dec	Sat	Group Walk	New York City Central Park Group YRE - tentative (Andrew soliciting opinions)
12-Dec	Sun	Event	Annual Holiday Party - Tentative (Date and Venue TBD)

STEPPING OUT!  
VOLKSSPORT CLUB OF WEST  
POINT  
PO BOX 30  
WEST POINT, NY 10996-

Officers:

Nancy Patrick, President  
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Andrew Schmidt, Treasurer & Newsletter Editor  
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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.