



STEPPING OUT!

VOLKSPORT CLUB OF WEST POINT — JANUARY 2011 PATTY PROULX SELECTED TO BE INTERIM NERD—

FROM FOOTNOTES, WALK 'N MASS NEWSLETTER JAN/FEB '11

I want to let everyone know that I appreciate the support this region has shown by electing me as the interim NERD. I intend to give this interim position my best effort and to represent the North East Clubs to the best of my ability within the context of what will also be best for the AVA. I believe I have the experience and will continue my record of volunteer service with honesty and integrity during this transition time.

Phil has left big shoes to fill, although he has assured me he is only a phone call or email away for anything I may need. Part of my role will be bridging the gap for the remainder of this term and then becoming a point of information for the next NERD.

I especially want to thank Marilyn, Mike and Barbara as the members of the nominating committee. Holding the election for the interim position was a lot of extra work for them. As club presidents, I know we were able to help them by voting in a timely manner. It is important that every vote count. In order for any organization to remain vital and grow I think it is equally important that clubs have a choice in leadership - new people and new perspectives are more important now than ever in AVA. That is one reason I will not be a candidate for the next NERD.

Please be patient with me over the next several weeks as I make the transition. Fortunately, it is a fairly quiet volkssporting time of year here in the NE so I have a little time to get organized and up to speed with Executive Council business while finding time for celebrating the holidays as well.

This is a bittersweet opportunity. Now I know how Duncan Brantley from Georgia felt so many years ago. He was elected as the interim Southeast Region Director when I had to resign that position in November of 1988, during the last year of my term. It did help me to know that I left the Southeast in such good hands, and I hope Phil will feel the same. Our loss is the Southeast Regions gain.

Thank you again for your support. - Patty.



NEXT CLUB GROUP WALKS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES!

NEXT GROUP WALK

Jan 08 Sat 10:15AM—
Rhinebeck YRE
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! Registration and walking at 10:15 AM at The Delamater House, at the end of Garden Street, Rhinebeck - very near the Beekman Arms.

NEXT GROUP EVENT

MAY 14 SAT -
WEST POINT EVENT

In concert with MWR's 5/10km run - TENTATIVE
Details to be posted later.

NEXT ACTIVITY

Thursday, Oct 13 – Social with the Walking Adventures International—
TENTATIVE

Details to be posted at a later date as the activity draws near.



WHERE'S ALL THE GOOD STUFF THAT USED TO BE ON PAGE 1?

Due to some member's comments that they wished to see more NEWS stuff on the front page, we've moved a lot of the repetitious material that used to be on Page 1 inside the newsletter.

Hopefully, you'll be able to more quickly find the 'new stuff'!

Thanks for the comments—we always aim to please at **STEPPING OUT!**

Web Page:

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

email:

volkssportclubofwestpoint@hotmail.com

Yahoo Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/volkssportclubofwestpoint/>

Latest Newsletter:

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/westpoint/newsletters/>

Club Calendar of Events:

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

2011 Schedules included in this issue of STEPPING OUT!



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NANCY PATRICK

Happy New Year to all members and friends of Volkssport Club of West Point. We have accomplished a lot this year and look forward to another successful year in 2011.

Many thanks to our hard working and dedicated club officers. Joan Kimmel stepped down from the offices of president and club secretary after serving several terms. She continues to offer her knowledge and generously keeps us in supplies. In the fall Betty Green took over the role of club Secretary. The club meeting minutes can be found on our outstanding club WEB site. The club finances are under the steady hand and watchful eye of Andrew

Schmidt. We also have Andrew to thank for publishing our monthly newsletter. Vice President Farrell Patrick offers a steady hand to the President and works as liaison with West Point .

Kudos go also to club members who take on extra duties. Mike Green has become our computer guru.

Joan Vorbach arranged another splendid holiday party at Shadows Restaurant. Tom Scuccimarra is our official Trailmaster. We thank him for our new YRE in Cold Spring. Mike and Betty Green have tempted walkers to become bargain hunters by arranging our new YRE trail through Woodbury Common outlets. Peggy Goetz once again was POC of the annual walk in Nyack.

The club added new YRE's at Fort Montgomery Battle Site, Central Valley, Cold Spring and the Walkway Over The Hudson. Our first President's Weekend in May was a great success drawing over 100 people to each event. We appreciate the support from the Albany Club. Our thanks also to MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) at West Point and Thane Kelley for inviting our participation in the 10km walk/run, the Post Oktoberfest and the grand opening of West Point Fitness Center . Their office also assists in the reproduction of trail directions and newsletters. The club had an information table at the West Point reception for newly assigned personnel.

Attendance has increased significantly at our pre-walk breakfast meetings. We welcome all walkers and friends for this combination social and business time. The winter weather gave us a break on the day of the December holiday party. We were not so lucky on the day of the Rotary Club boat ride. A torrential downpour kept people away but the boat ride went on as planned and attendees said they had a fine time.

Finally we would give a warm welcome to all those who joined our club for the first time. We look forward to the coming year with more group walks each month and the opportunity to experience new trails.

THE JOYS OF EXERCISE!

Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$7000 per month.

My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 years old and we don't know where he is.

I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me. The only reason I would take up walking is so that I could hear heavy breathing again. I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing.

I joined a health club last year spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.

Every time I hear the dirty word 'exercise', I wash my mouth out with chocolate.

I do have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.

The advantage of exercising every day is so when you die, they'll say,'Well, she looks good doesn't she.'

If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small countries.

I know I got a lot of exercise the last few years,..... just getting over the hill.

We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

.... and

Every time I start thinking too much about how I look, I just find a Happy Hour, and by the time I leave, I look just fine.

You could run this over to your friends..... But just e-mail it to them!

I Did ! (From an e-mail sent to the Editor by a friend)

NEW MEMBERS!

Recently, we've received renewals and membership dues from the following people and/or families: 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 (unlike some other clubs), those people who voluntarily join the club do their part to help support us.

Rey

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.

NEW AVA NEWSLETTER

The American Volkssport Association has a new newsletter online that all may read—if you're interested in our national organization (and why wouldn't you be?!), point your browser to and check it out:

http://www.ava.org/The_Open_Door/Open_Door_1_DEC_2010.pdf

FINANCIAL DOINGS

Members whose memberships expire in the first half of 2011 will be receiving dues notices in the upcoming weeks in the US Mail.

The club has not raised its dues this year. For those with Internet access memberships—dues are \$10/year. For those without access to internet (basic difference is we mail our newsletters to you via US Mail), it is \$15.00/year. These dues help the club run events and support our activities such as our webpage, reproduction fees for our brochures, mailings to the club, and other infrastructure items. We thank you for your support! We watch our pennies carefully.

Additionally, this past fall, we reported our finances to our auditor as well as the American Volkssport Association. We do this to maintain our status as a 501(c)(3) approved IRS charitable organization as well as the IRS on form 990-N. High level details are as follows—members wishing any specifics, feel free to ask our Treasurer Andrew Schmidt for details—he will bring complete paperwork to the January 2011 meeting.



GROSS INCOME:

Club Member Dues:	\$	485.00
Donations:		123.37
Event Fees:		1704.00
Fund Raisers:		0
Sales of Inventory:		452.00
Other:		13.05

Total: \$ 2777.42

GROSS EXPENSES:

AVA Annual Dues:	\$	50.00
AVA Sanction Fees:		350.00
AVA Participation Fees:		783.75
Inventory Purchases:		372.94
Donations:		113.89
Administrative Supplies:		307.66
Event Supplies:		472.21
Miscellaneous Expenses:		168.15
State Association & Dues:		0

Total: \$ 2618.60

Net (Income-Expense): 158.82 (in the black)



2010 WRAPS UP ON A HOLIDAY PARTY!

Editor's Note—Club member Joan Vorbach coordinated, as usual, our annual Holiday Party at Shadows on the Hudson in Poughkeepsie on Sunday, 12 December. This was the 6th year our club has had such a party, and the turnout this year was great! **Thanks Joan!**



On Sunday, December 12, 16 Volkssport of West Point Club members gathered at "Shadows-on-the-Hudson" in Poughkeepsie for our holiday brunch. We had an "inner dining room" table this time, but I had asked for one by the windows. Last year the view of the Hudson River from the windows on the porch was diminished by the snow coming down, and this year it was covered by rain and fog! No matter, the holiday decorations and music put everyone in the spirit, and we enjoyed making the rounds of their delicious buffet, which had everything from breakfast to lunch plus desserts. The food tasted even better to me this year. I don't know of a better place than Shadows to have our annual party, but of course if any club member knows of another place they'd like to try in the future, please let me know.

Thank you also to Brenda Presnal for coming up with the idea and design of the party favor bags that we went shopping for. (We had a good assembly line.) Maybe changing the date to an earlier week-end will give us better weather, though it was much drier driving home. Another good time was had by all. This was our sixth year of having the holiday brunch.

Many thanks to all the club members who made the trip: Betty and Mike Green, Tom Scuccimarra, Eddie Choma, Joan Kimmel, Tom Nisonger, Irene Jansky, Donna Sullivan, Dorothy Basini, Doris Rogers, Nancy and Farrell Patrick, Brenda Presnal, Sharon Applegate, Sandy Gordon, and myself.

Thanks to Betty Green for the picture above as well.

- Joan Vorbach



Walking in New Mexico!
 (Editor's Note—Club member **Dorothy Basini** relates her experiences in her recent New Mexico walk as part of a Tater Tour.)

My Tater Tour again this past October was another outstanding trip. This time our walking tour covered the Southwest states of New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada. Not having ever been in any of these states before I was amazed at the beautiful landscape and fascinating cities.

New Mexico was my favorite place. In Albuquerque, I was able to see colorful hot air balloon flying in the morning skies. Santa Fe was filled with bronze statues, old churches, and pueblo houses. Walking through the White Sands Monument in Alamogordo was an experience like no other. Hundreds of miles of pure white gypsum dunes are blow by the wind and are moved over the course of time. Climbing up a ladder into the cave dwellings of the Pueblo people in Bandelier Monument in Los Alamos it is just unbelievable how these people lived. Then there was Carlsbad Caverns National Park in Carlsbad, going down 750 feet into the cave for a self guided tour was exciting. The many stalactite and stalagmites formations were so beautiful that you can't really describe them. It is something you have to see for yourself. I really hope if you get a chance someday to visit New Mexico it is truly an adventure you will never forget.

C **CLUB MEMBERS
 OPEN THE YEAR
 WITH THE
 EMPIRE STATE
 CAPITOL (ESCV)
 VOLKSSPORTERS CLUB!**

Club members Tom Nisonger and Andrew Schmidt traveled up north on Sunday, 2 January 2011 to Albany.

They walked with the ESCV club in their annual Albany YRE walk.

This walk goes by many state facilities including the State Capitol (right in the picture), the State Library and Museum (left in

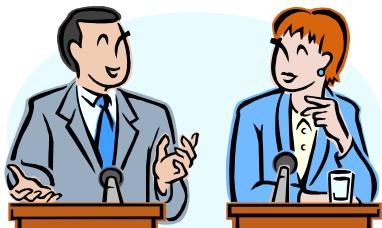


the picture), the Governor's house, and so-on. Tom is in the black, front row middle, and Andrew is right behind him with the sunglasses. Walking with other clubs is a great way to see other locations within the state and meet and great fellow Volkssporters. A number of us ate at a local Albany restaurant after the walk as well. Walk the Albany YRE!



**2011 American Volkssport Association
 17th Biennial Convention
 June 18-26, 2011
 Des Moines, Iowa**

REPORT OF THE AVA NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE NORTH EAST REGION DIRECTOR



The North East Nominating Committee for the AVA elections has identified a candidate for the position of Regional Director for the upcoming two year term. He is Doug Reynolds of the Empire State Capital Volkssporters. Doug has been active in volkssporting both with ESCV and with the Suncoast Sandpipers in Florida.

A brief biographical statement on Doug will be included in the April/May edition of The American Wanderer along with those of other candidates for AVA offices.

Under the AVA by-laws, the election will be held not earlier than ninety days before the annual AVA meeting in June. Further details on the election process will follow in the spring.

While a candidate has been nominated, anyone else interested in the position may still be considered provided they indicate their interest to the Nominating Committee by January 31.

North East Nominating Committee

Mike Green, Barbara Kolapakka, Marilyn Russell



WEB DOINGS

ONLINE CLUB WEBSITE—MIKE GREEN, WEBMASTER

The club website walking events page at <http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/walkhome.html> has been recently improved with the addition of a (MapQuest) map of the Hudson Valley showing all of our YRE's in the "2011 Year Round and Seasonal Events" table.

The first column of cells in this table lists VCWP sponsored events each with 1) a link to a event description page, 2) a "map" link to generate a separate (MapQuest) map of the event start point, and 3) the applicable AVA special programs in square brackets.

The event links have a mouse-over feature that triggers popup labels to appear on the Hudson Valley map. Also, the map pins on the large map have a mouse-over feature. Clicking on the mouse-over popups reveals more info about the events starting point; When this year's standard (one-time) events are sanctioned, they will also be added to this web-page in a similar fashion.

Directly after YRE table is a link to a 2011 Special Programs page has been added that shows VCWP events vs. special programs and vice versa.

ONLINE CALENDAR DOINGS—ANDREW SCHMIDT, TREASURER

On our club calendar, I have placed individual events for each day for the 2011 AVA Convention in Des Moines later in June 2011. If you have a mobile 'smart phone' (iPhone, Droid, Blackberry, etc.), you might wish to 'subscribe' to the calendar for updates not only for this event, but also for our club events as well that we post on the calendar throughout the month.

The URL is: is right on our club's website: <http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/> . There is a link below the calendar that leads to a full page view of the calendar where you can choose to see the agenda, month, or week view.

2011 YEAR ROUND EVENTS SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

WEST OF THE HUDSON

1. CENTRAL VALLEY

Y1958, RATING 3, 5k/11k,
1/1/2011 - 12/31/2011 -
http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/yre_centralvalley.html

Start Point: Bright Star Diner,
220 Rte 32, Central Valley, NY

2. CORNWALL

Y0252, RATING 3, 10k, 1/2/2011 to
12/31/2011—http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/yre_coldspring.html

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

3. FORT MONTGOMERY (SEASONAL WALK)

Y1740, RATING 3+. 5k/10k,
4/1/2011 to 10/31/2011

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

4. HIGHLAND FALLS

Y1145, RATING 1, 10k, 1/2/2011 to
12/31/2011

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

5. HIGHLAND—WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON

Y0797, RATING 2, 7k/12k, 1/1/2011
to 12/31/2011

Start Point: The Gateway Diner,
3579 Rt. 9W, Highland

6. WEST POINT

Y0037, RATING 2+, 7k/11k,
1/2/2011 to 12/31/2011

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

AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS

- **Central Valley** - Firehouses, Veterans Memorials

- **Cold Spring** - Firehouses, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Museums, Veterans Memorials

- **Cornwall** - Firehouses, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Museums, Veterans Memorials, Waterfalls

- **Fort Montgomery** - Forts of the United States, Museums

- **Highland Falls** - America's Baseball Walks, Firehouses, Forts of the United States, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Museums, Veterans Memorial, Waterfalls

- **Hyde Park**—America's Gardens, Firehouses, Historic Churches, Hooray for Hollywood, Museums, Waterfalls

- **Highland (Walkway over the Hudson)** — Artistic Heritage, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Hooray for Hollywood, Veterans Memorials

- **Rhinebeck** - Artistic Heritage, Firehouses, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Veterans Memorials, Waterfalls

- **West Point** - America's Baseball Walks, Artistic Heritage, Firehouses, Forts of the United States, Historic Churches, Honoring Law Enforcement, Hooray for Hollywood, Museums, Veterans Memorials

**Note: Not all trails on all
walks qualify for all events!
Each walkbox has a matrix of
what programs are for which
events**

EAST OF THE HUDSON

7. COLD SPRING

Y1633, RATING 2+, 5k/10k,
1/2/2011 to 12/31/2011

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

8. HYDE PARK

Y1108, RATING 3, 6k/13k, 1/2/2011
to 12/31/2011

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

9. RHINEBECK

Y1094, RATING 1, 5k/10k, 1/2/2011
to 12/31/2011

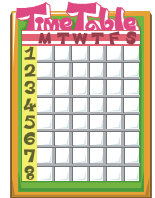
Start Point: The Delamater House,
The Delamater House Inn and Conference,
Rhinebeck

**This is for 2011!!
See the next page
for the 2011 schedule
of group walks
and other club
events for the first
quarter of the New
Year!**

2011 CLUB SCHEDULE OF GROUP WALKS AND EVENTS

This is the 2011 club schedule—the online calendar (<http://www.ava.org/clubs/WestPoint/>) is the official source of club information that also appears in the tables at the end of **STEPPING OUT!** But, this is for your planning purposes in 2011. Note we generally will do TWO group walks a month ; one of them is a club meeting.

Date	Day	Venue or Details
01/08/11	Sat	Rhinebeck Group Walk + Club Meeting
01/23/11	Sun	West Point Group Walk
02/13/11	Sun	Central Valley Group Walk + Club Meeting
02/26/11	Sat	New York City Mid Town Group Walk
03/12/11	Sat	Cold Spring Group Walk+ Club Meeting
03/20/11	Sun	Group Walk (location TBD)
04/03/11	Sun	Highland (Walkway Over The Hudson) Group Walk + Club Meeting
04/16/11	Sat	Cornwall Group Walk
05/14/11	Sat	Event at West Point
05/15/11	Sun	Event at Newburgh/Beacon
05/22/11	Sun	Fort Montgomery Group Walk + Club Meeting
06/04/11	Sat	Hyde Park Group Walk + Club Meeting
06/12/11	Sun	Highland Falls Group Walk
07/16/11	Sat	Rhinebeck Group Walk + Club Meeting
07/23/11	Sat	Event Mills Norrie
07/31/11	Sun	Nyack Group Walk
08/14/11	Sun	West Point Group Walk + Club Meeting
08/27/11	Sat	Cold Spring Group Walk
09/11/11	Sun	Fort Montgomery Group Walk + Club Meeting
09/17/11	Sat	Event New Paltz/Highland Falls Event (Ramble Walk)
09/18/11	Sun	Event (to make a weekend)
09/24/11	Sat	Highland (Walkway Over The Hudson) Group Walk
10/02/11	Sun	Event TBD (Tarrytown, Manitoba, Beacon, ?)
10/13/11	Thu	Social with the WAI
10/14/11	Fri	Guide Walking Adventures International at West Point
10/15/11	Sat	Highland Falls Group Walk + Club Meeting
10/30/11	Sun	Hyde Park Group Walk
11/06/11	Sun	Central Valley Group Walk + Club Meeting
11/19/11	Sat	Cornwall Group Walk
12/04/11	Sun	Holiday Party
12/17/11	Sat	New York City Lower Manhattan Group Walk





First Quarter 2011 Calendar of Club Events

We are sometimes 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.

Date	Day	Type	Venue or Details
Jan 08	Sat 10:15AM	Group Walk/Club Meeting before	<p>Rhinebeck YRE - CONFIRMED</p> <p>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!)</p> <p>Registration and walking at 10:15 AM at The Delamater House, at the end of Garden Street, Rhinebeck - very near the Beekman Arms. The Start Point and parking are in Office in the rear of the complex (which is off of West Market Street).</p>
Jan 23	Sun 10:15AM	Group Walk	<p>West Point YRE - CONFIRMED</p> <p>Registration and walking at 10:15 AM at the West Point Visitor's Center. No breakfast/club meeting.</p>
Feb 13	Sun 10:15AM	Group Walk/Club Meeting before	<p>Central Valley YRE - CONFIRMED</p> <p>Our usual breakfast meeting will be held at 9 AM at the Bright Star on Route 32 in Central Valley. All are welcomed to the breakfast and meeting!</p> <p>Registration and walking at 10:15 AM at the Bright Star Diner.</p>
Feb 26	Sat 11:00AM	Group Walk	<p>New York City Mid_Town YRE - Date CONFIRMED, Time TBD</p> <p>Details to be added shortly.</p>
Mar 12	Sat 10:15AM	Group Walk/Club Meeting before	<p>Cold Spring YRE - CONFIRMED</p> <p>Our usual breakfast meeting will be held at 9 AM at restaurant location to be determined. All are welcomed to the breakfast and meeting!</p> <p>Registration and walking at 10:15 AM at the Cold Spring Depot Restaurant, 1 Depot Square, Cold Spring NY 10516</p>
Mar 20	Sun 10:15AM	GROUP WALK	<p>Location TBD - TENTATIVE</p> <p>Details to be posted at a later time.</p>

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



Officers:

Nancy Patrick, President
Farrell Patrick, Vice President
Betty Green, Secretary
Andrew Schmidt, Treasurer &
Newsletter Editor
Thomas Scuccimarra, Trailmaster
Mike Green, Webpage Master

PRIVACY NOTICE

Your privacy is important to us!

If you received this email from us and you do not wish to receive electronic mail from the Volkssport Club of West Point, please send us a note to the email address to the left, let us know, and we will remove your name from our email list immediately.

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!

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.

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 camaraderie.

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.