



STEPPING OUT!

VOLKSPORT CLUB AT WEST POINT® WINTER / SPRING EDITION

Crossing the NY/PA Border like a Canal Boat

Submitted by Mike Green

Have you ever heard of Lackawaxen Pennsylvania? In the late 19th Century, Lackawaxen (Pike County, PA) was the location of 2 canal boat aqueducts designed by (and built under the supervision of) Russel F. Lord and John A. Roebling, who twenty years later would design the Brooklyn Bridge.

On May 31st, the Volkssport Club at West Point (VCWP) and the Liberty Bell Wanderers (LBW) are co-hosting a traditional one-day Volkssport walk event in Lackawaxen, PA. The one remaining aqueduct serves today as a single-lane highway bridge (the Roebling Bridge) over the Delaware River. This bridge, the oldest suspension bridge in the US, uses the original suspension cables from the 19th Century and has been fully restored to reflect its use as canal boat aqueduct. (In case you haven't figured it out yet, the aqueduct carried canal boats OVER the Delaware River.)

The first 5km portion of the 10km (AVA rating: 1B) walk route crosses the Roebling Bridge twice using the re-constructed wooden walkways on both sides of the bridge that served as canal boat tow paths. The walkways provide magnificent views of the Delaware River and a new perspective on suspension bridge technology. The walkway solid hand railing makes walking across the bridge feel very comfortable. (Oh yeah... don't forget to take your picture as you cross the NY/PA border near the center of bridge for your AVA "Border Crossings" Special Program book.)

The event start/finish point is next to Zane Grey Museum (10am-5pm), the former home of Zane Grey, famous author of western novels.

The event includes an optional, inexpensive buffet dinner (3:30pm, pre-registration required by May 2nd) at the Lackawaxen Inn. The registration form for the dinner and further event information is available in the walk brochure posted on the webpage, www.avaclubs.org/WestPoint/walkhome.html.

Walkers may also be interested in visiting The Minisink Battlefield Park, located just across the Delaware River in NY (< 0.5 miles) via the Roebling Bridge. This town park contains a number of short, easy, woodland walking paths that visit Revolutionary War battlefield sites (www.minisink.org/minisinkbattle.html). A bit further into NY (about 24 miles from the Zane Grey Museum) is the site of the 1969 Woodstock Music Festival in Bethel, NY that is now a Performance Arts Center and museum (entry fee required, see www.bethelwoodscenter.org).

Walkers may also be interested in the Milford, PA YRE (~23 miles south of the Zane Grey Museum) that features a delightful walk through the village of Milford, PA. 10km Milford YRE walkers finish their walk with a gradual climb to Grey Towers, the magnificent family estate of the first Chief of the National Forestry Service, Gifford Pinchot. (House tours are available for a small fee, see <http://www.fs.fed.us/na/gt>) (For more information on this great, one-time event contact Mike Green @ 845-781-6801 or mike@nodegreen.com)



LOTS OF EVENTS IN 2014!



Check out the club calendar (<http://www.avaclubs.org/WestPoint/>) for more details!

VCWP

Web Page:

<http://www.avaclubs.org/WestPoint/>

email:

volkssportclubatwestpoint@hotmail.com

Club Calendar of Events:

<http://www.avaclubs.org/WestPoint/>

Yahoo Group!:

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

AVA North East Region
Webpage

http://www.ava.org/clubs/reg_northeast/events.html

Weekend of Forts Volkswalks: Saturday, May 10, 2014 & Sunday, May 11, 2014**MWR Forts and Redoubts Saturday, May 10, 2014****An MWR Annual Event with Fort Putnam Tour****TRAIL DESCRIPTION**

Both the 5 and 10 km walks pass the remains of Fort Meigs and the fully restored Fort Putnam. 5K walkers will get to see much of what was available on the 10K portion of the 25th Anniversary Redoubts walk!

The 10 km walk additionally proceeds up steep paved and unpaved/rocky trails to Redoubts #2 and #4 where walkers are rewarded with magnificent views of West Point and the Hudson River. Walking sticks recommended especially for 10 km walk. This walk is not suitable for strollers or wheelchairs.

5K walk is rated 2C. 10K walk is rated 3C.

You will be able to visit Fort Putnam from 10AM to Noon.

START/FINISH LOCATION

Buffalo Soldier Field, US Military Academy at West Point, NY

START/FINISH TIMES

Registration is from 8:30 – 11 AM. Walkers can start after 9:00 AM. (Need to let runners start for 5K race.)

Finish by 2 PM.

GUIDED WALK OF FORT MONTGOMERY SEASONAL EVENT will be the next day

IVV World Walking Day**Guided Walk of Fort Montgomery Seasonal Event May 11, 2014**

Celebrate IVV World Walking Day by participating in a Guided Walk of our Fort Montgomery Seasonal Event on Sunday, May 11th at 10 AM, and earn an AVA "Certificate of Participation" (certificate limited to first 30 walkers). Visit Fort Montgomery Historic Battle Site of the American Revolution; walk to Fort Clinton within Trailside Museum & Zoo in Bear Mountain State Park, & walk around park. Walking stick recommended - Some uneven surfaces and steep hill to climb up to the trailside zoo.

START/FINISH LOCATION

Fort Montgomery NY State Historic Park Visitor's Center

690 Route 9W

Fort Montgomery NY 10922.

START/FINISH TIMES

Registration is from 9:30 – 9:55 AM. Guided walk begins at 10 am.

Event Brochure:

http://www.avacubs.org/WestPoint/brochures/2014/WP_MWR_Brchr_20140310.pdf



VCWP 25th Anniversary Weekend

October 4-6, 2013



The VCWP 25th Anniversary—Weekend of Walks in October was a great success!! Even with other clubs hosting events the same weekend and somewhat uncooperative weather on Sunday we had a turnout of 95 different attendees who did 228 walks.

A Big Thank You to everyone who participated on the 25th Anniversary committee (who also volunteered that weekend), came to the dinner, participated in the walks and/or loaned/donated needed equipment or supplies!!

Positive comments included the guided walk of Poughkeepsie, views of the Hudson from the Hyde Park trail, the guided cemetery walk and exploring the Redoubts and Fort Putnam of West Point. Dinner attendees were enthralled by Betsey Blake-see's enthusiastic talk on the West Point Redoubts and very much enjoyed the food selections and venue. Walkers also mentioned the keepsake "Passport" and well-marked trails. Diners enjoyed hearing the history of our club from Nancy Patrick (VCWP President) and Doug Reynolds (AVA North East Regional Director). AVA Awards to club members for service to the club / AVA were presented by Doug Reynolds.

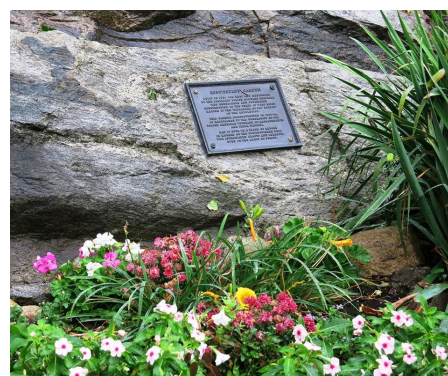
Many members wore new club apparel (shirts / caps) &/or new 25th anniversary pins (see image above).

The last minute Government shut-down created some angst and necessitated some last minute changes to Hyde Park trail routes and instructions. Thanks to the hard work of the 25th Anniversary Committee members, we were able to create a memorable walking weekend.

Attendance Stats	25th Anniversary Event					Total	
	WOTH	Hyde Park	Dinner	Cemetery	Redoubt	Walks	Pins
Pre-Paid	27	29	50	32	24	112	22
Day Of Event Paid	20	23	7	31	20	94	3
Free	5	3		10	4	22	
Total	52	55	57	73	48	228	25
Number of Different Event Attendees:	95						

Some pictures from the weekend are on the next two pages.

VCWP 25th Anniversary Weekend October 2013



VCWP 25th Anniversary Weekend October 2013



Standing: Mike Green, Betty Green, Brenda Presnal, Dorothy Basini, Farrell Patrick, Joan Vorbach, Martin Januario, Tom Nisonger and Doris Rogers.

Seated: Nancy Patrick, Andrew Schmidt and Joan Kimmel.

VCWP Incentive Books

Congratulations to the following walkers who completed the 2013 VCWP Incentive Books:

Dorothy Basini, Betty Green, Mike Green, Carol Hollar, Joan Kimmel, Nancy Patrick, Jennifer Reidy, Wilma Reidy, and Joan Vorbach! They walked all 12 VCWP Year Round/Seasonal Events at least once during 2013. They will receive their award pins at the next club meeting or group walk they attend.



2014 Incentive Card (Reward Book)

The Volkssport Club at West Point (VCWP) has AVA approval for an incentive (reward) card program. Completion of the reward book will earn a reward (probably gold star 2014 hat pin). Reward books are free. Completion of the book encourages VCWP members to support the VCWP's local YRE walks and Traditional Event walks. You do not have to be a VCWP member to complete the program.

Eligibility: Complete all 12 different VCWP - YRE/Seasonal walks. No more than one stamp per year for the same YRE/Seasonal walk will be accepted.

You can print off your own copy of the reward book from the club website. If you completed VCWP walks in 2014 prior to the books becoming available, you may write in the walk location and date for those walks. You must have registered on the walk box log for all walks. After you receive (or print) the book please record walks by imprinting event stamp on indicated numbered lines for each YRE/Seasonal walk and hand write the name and date of the walk on the location line. All awards will be ordered Feb 2015. To receive the 2014 award submit completed book (12 events) no later than Jan 31, 2015 to:

Betty Green 22 Dogwood Drive Central Valley, NY 10917

Books will be available at most club meetings. If you would like the book before a meeting you can

1) send a SASE (envelope at least 4.25" X 5.5") to Betty Green

or

2) Print out PDF from website. Print two sided or tape together and cut in half.

http://www.avacclubs.org/WestPoint/incentive/2014/Incentive_Card_2014_2sided.pdf

VCWP Member AVA Event / Distance Awards

TAW April / May 2014

Andrew Schmidt 325 Events

Maureen Penta 1600 Events

TAW Feb/March 2014

Betty Green 325 / 350 / 375 Events 3500 KM

Mike Green 325 / 350 / 375 Events 3500 KM

Carol Hollar 1050 / 1100 Events 11000 KM

Eileen Skinner 18000 KM

TAW Dec 2013 / January 2014

Carla Hosein 10 Events

Marilyn Rey 10 Events

Carol Schmidt 10 Events

Chad Mower 30 Events

Ruth Jarabek-Mower 75 Events

Michael Quinlan 1500 Events

TAW Oct / November 2013

Jennifer Reidy 10 / 30 Events

Wilma Reidy 10 / 30 Events

Dorothy Basini 50 / 75 / 100 Events 500 / 1000 KM

Betty Green 275 / 300 Events 3000 KM

Mike Green 275 / 300 Events 3000 KM

Andrew Schmidt 300 Events 3500 KM

Nancy Patrick 800 Events

**AVA 2013 Centurions -VCWP Members**

Betty Green, Mike Green, Carol Hollar & Eileen Skinner

Associate & Lifetime AVA members receive copies of The American Wanderer (TAW) in which event and distance awards are listed. TAW has great articles on walks of interest offered by various AVA clubs and AVA news. AVA members may participate in the AVA Centurion Challenge.

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VOLKSSPORT CLUB AT WEST
POINT
PO BOX 30
WEST POINT, NY 10996-

Officers:
Nancy Patrick, President
Joan Kimmel, Vice President
Betty Green, Secretary, Newsletter
Andrew Schmidt, Treasurer
Thomas Scuccimarra, Trailmaster
Mike Green, Webpage Master



Volkssport Club at West Point's QR
Code—scan with your smart phone!



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 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 at 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 at 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.