

**Membership Renewal Time:** You'll find the annual membership renewal form enclosed with this newsletter. Please complete and return with payment at your earliest convenience. If you are going to Holliston, you may drop off at the Start/Finish table for our Membership Chairperson to collect.

## President's Corner

Happy Spring? As I write this (very last minute!), listening to the Weather Channel (very bad idea), it's the first day of spring and yet another Nor'easter is headed our way. I think I heard someone just call it the Four'easter! All the lovely warm weather thoughts I was having last month as I wrote about ice cream have been buried in all this snow. Admittedly, it doesn't last as long in March as it does in other months. The sun is as strong as it is in October so snow melts away rather quickly. However, that doesn't make it much easier when trees are down and the power is out. I hope you all have escaped unscathed by all the storms.

It's hard to believe that our first event walk is coming up! The Holliston Soup Walk is April 7. That's not that long away! Get rid of your cabin fever by meeting up with friends you haven't seen since winter started. Go for a walk, have some fabulous homemade soup and desserts, and start the new walking season off right! Can you tell how much I'm trying to get out of this winter weather funk I'm stuck in? Just the thought of the commute home in the snow makes me want to break out my hiking poles and borrow some snowshoes! It would probably be faster than driving.

by Mary Frink

I do have to bring up a little business. We are still looking for someone to take over as Group Walk Coordinator or for more than one person to divide the responsibilities. The weather really will get better some day and we need someone to take on the scheduling of the group walks. This is also an election year! The offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer are elected positions and as a club, we are required to have all four positions. I will have more information at Holliston, but if you are interested in any of these positions (or in doing anything else!), please let me know.



*Mother Nature will turn on the spring weather soon, we hope.*

## Come Friends, Let's Walk

- ❖ Saturday, April 7  
Day Event:  
Holliston, MA  
(Soup Walk)
- ❖ Saturday, April 14  
Group Walk:  
Simsbury, CT  
9:00 am (CVVC)
- ❖ Saturday, April 14  
Group Walk:  
Dryden, NY  
10:00 am (FLVC)
- ❖ Monday, April 16  
Group Walk:  
Concord, MA  
(Patriot's Day  
Parade; **see page 4**) 8:00 am
- ❖ Saturday, April 21  
Day Event:  
Schenectady, NY  
(ESCV)
- ❖ Saturday, April 21  
Group Walk:  
Fall River, MA  
10:00 am [**see p. 3**]
- ❖ Saturday, May 5  
Group Walk:  
Wallingford, CT  
9:00 am (CVVC)

See club or AVA website for starting location details on these events. For group walks, please aim to arrive 15 minutes earlier to sign-in.

### Issue Highlights:

Storm Impacts in Sandwich – 2

Trail Master's Diary: Fall River – 3

Holliston Soup Update – 3

Bulletin Board – 4

March Meeting Highlights – 5

AVA Achievements – 5

Walk Coordinator Speaks – 6

Newton Pictures – 6

# Ongoing Storm Impacts in Sandwich

The winter storms and Nor'easters continue to cause erosion of sand dunes, salt marsh flooding, and other damage in Sandwich. An alternate walk route circumvents the beach & boardwalk portions of our year-round event's original route and will be in place until everything is safe & open. Boardwalk repair is hoped to be finished prior to the summer season.

On the scene reporter Joanne Izbicki indicates the Walk 'n Mass plank on the boardwalk was intact as of her last check though sections closer to the parking lot had crumpled.

Left: Margo Craven and Nancy Estrella posed on January 21

Right: Margo at same location on March 11; Nancy was safe elsewhere and had not washed away



Photos by Joanne Izbicki

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# Trail Master's Diary: Fall River Seasonal

by Ann Plichta

Changes are coming to the Fall River Seasonal Event! Don't worry...all the highlights are still there. But now we've added more! Come check out the 6km and 10km routes beginning at Battleship Cove, home to the world's largest collection of World War II naval ships.

Walkers leave Battleship Cove and pass the Gates of the City, a replica of the city gates in Ponta Delgada Azores, Fall River's sister city. From there, the new walk routes enter the Columbia Street Cultural District, celebrating Fall River's Portuguese heritage. The cobbled streets and sidewalks are reminiscent of the old country. See if you can resist the delicious aromas of Portuguese sweet bread as you pass by several bakeries! The neighborhood also features the Gothic Revival style Santo Christo church, built in the mid-1920s, and popular Portuguese restaurants.

From there, the routes head to Kennedy Park, designed by Frederick Law Olmstead, and take in a spectacular view of the Taunton River. They continue on to the downtown area, passing Gothic St. Anne's Church, built by Canadian immigrants, and St. Mary's Cathedral, the mother church of the Fall River Diocese. All three churches are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

For mystery lovers, the routes continue by the Lizzie Borden Bed and Breakfast, home to the famous 1892 ax murders which remain one of America's great unsolved crimes. Book an overnight stay if you dare or take a tour. The 6km route will then pass by downtown and return to the waterfront.

The 10km route explores the Lower Highlands Historic District with well-preserved Victorian homes and the Fall River Historical Society, an Underground Railroad station. It then visits North Park, also designed by Frederick Law Olmstead. From there, walkers will enter Veterans' Memorial Bicentennial Park with Korean War and Gold Star Memorials. There is also an impressive replica of the Iwo Jima sculpture. The route continues on a boardwalk along the Taunton River, which heads back to Battleship Cove.

So if you haven't walked the Fall River Seasonal Event in a while, or even if you have, come see what's new!

*Fall River Seasonal walks available April 1 to December 31, 2018. A group walk is planned for Saturday, April 21 at 10:00 am.*

*For further Fall River event details, see the 2018 YRE/SE Booklet (orange cover), [walknmass.org](http://walknmass.org), or [ava.org](http://ava.org).*

## Holliston Soup Walk Update:

The potluck luncheon will be served at **noon on April 7** and you are invited to join this social gathering following the morning walk. Please note the **stove/oven will not be available** so please bring any soups to share in slow cookers.

If you would like to contribute an appetizer, soup, bread, or dessert (**no nuts** please since **our host location is a nut-free facility**), please notify Chris Lipson ([c2lipson@msn.com](mailto:c2lipson@msn.com) or 781-275-0464) to indicate what you are planning to bring. Remember to bring your favorite soup bowl and spoon! Beverages and paper goods will be provided by the club.

# Bulletin Board

## Patriot's Day Parade

### Concord, MA Group Walk

Monday, April 16, 2018  
at 8:00 am

**Please carpool** if possible as parking is extremely limited around Concord on this day. Park away from the Rite Aid and businesses, NOT directly in front. Arrive on time! Group departs no later than 8:15 to arrive at North Bridge Visitor Center for bathrooms before North Bridge is closed to people.

Sometimes, the St. Michael's Parish Center parking lot access from Concord St. in **Bedford** is chained off. If you attend a club meeting and enter the Church's semicircular drive only to see the chain, please use these directions to reach the parking lot.

**GPS:** 5 Liljegren Way, Bedford; then from \*\* below  
Leaving St. Michael's semicircular drive, turn **RIGHT** to head north on Rt.62 East for 0.2 miles. Turn **RIGHT** onto Liljegren Way. \*\*Pass #5 Liljegren Way and continue along road as it curves to the right. Enter St. Michael's parking lot through rear entrance.

## Next Club Meetings Tuesday, April 3 & Tuesday, May 1

6:30 pm

St. Michael's Parish Center  
90 Concord Road (Rt. 62)  
Bedford, MA

The **bonus word** in last month's word search was Olympics, spelled backwards in the bottom row.

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Newsletter Submissions to:  
footnotes.editor@gmail.com  
Deadline for next issue: April 21st

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There's a new club in western Pennsylvania, the **Mon Valley Trailblazers**. In addition to several traditional day events planned this year, they are sponsoring a host of YRE/SE including snowshoe and bike events. Are you needing a **Z for your alphabet book**? Then head to **Zelienople** and enjoy some nourishment at the bakery start point before or after your walk. The Mon Valley Trailblazers also have a walk in **Pittsburgh** exploring the Three Rivers Heritage Trails.

Learn more: [www.MVTrailblazers.com](http://www.MVTrailblazers.com)

## Club Meeting Calendar & Locations

Meetings are generally the **first Tuesday** of the month at 6:30 pm. Location is either St. Michael's Parish Center, 90 Concord Road (Rt. 62), **Bedford, MA** or Stop & Shop community room, 40 Franklin Village Drive, **Franklin, MA**.

Tuesday, April 3 in Bedford

Tuesday, May 1 in Bedford

Tuesday, June 5 in Franklin

— no meeting in July —

Tuesday, August 7 in Bedford

Tuesday, September 4 in Franklin

\*\* Tuesday, October 2 in Franklin

Tuesday, November 6 in Franklin

Tuesday, December 4 in Bedford

\*\* Club Elections in Oct. \*\*

**All are welcome at club meetings.** We love seeing new faces and hearing other ideas!

# March Meeting Highlights

by Marianne Marshall

## Meeting held Tuesday, March 6, 2018

- Please let Chris Lipson know what you will be bringing to the soup walk in Holliston on April 7 (remember this is a nut-free facility).
- **Ice Cream Parlor: 201 books sold; 48 people** have completed the program
- Membership renewal forms will be included with the April newsletter
- Holliston press releases sent out
- **Sunshine:** Congratulations card to Bea on birth of her granddaughter, Priya; pet sympathy cards to Bev Lange and Helen Tolbert for the loss of their dogs.

### Walk Coordinator:

- If there is no other volunteer, Ann Plichta will take on co-POC responsibilities for Providence walk starting in January 2019. THANK YOU to Mary Suchodolski for her six years in this position.
- The stove/oven will not be available at the start point in Holliston.
- Pat Damiani has put an alternate route in place for Sandwich to avoid damage caused by Nor'easters.
- Schedule of traditional events:
  - Holliston on April 7 (Workers' Walk Mar. 24)
  - Springfield on May 12 (WW April 28)
  - Blackstone on June 16 (WW June 2)
  - Milford on October 20 (WW Oct. 14)
  - Attleboro on December 1 (WW TBD)

- Plymouth and Concord start locations still Rite Aid (versus Walgreens) as of this date
- Karen Kolaczyk exploring Quinsigamond State Park in Worcester for potential event.
- Thanks extended to Pat Graeben for suggesting Forest Park in Springfield for a pre-convention walk location.

### AVA Topics:

- Two new Special Programs to run from 1/1/19 to 12/31/21:
  - Carousels Across America
  - Little Free Library (must have official charter sign and number to qualify)
- WnM Members present voted for club to contribute \$50 to Big Give for AVA
- AVA dues restored to \$50

### Albany Convention 2019 (Empire State Capital Volkssporters host club):

- ID of all convention walk locations due June 1.
- All walk maps should be identical in form—Plotaroute.com suggested.
- Write-ups of pre- and post-convention walks needed by mid-April.

### Coming up:

- Don't forget WnM elections for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer will occur in October.



# AVA Achievement Awards (compiled from American Wanderer)

Congratulations to the following people on their achievements as shown:

Name	Events	Distance
Margo Craven		4,500 and 5,000 KM
Roy Damiani		4,500 KM
Joanne Izbicki		4,500 and 5,000 KM
Alida Lupsiewicz	50	
Linda Lunt		1,000 KM
Andrew Schmidt	550	
Janet Varnon		9,000 KM

Did I overlook either your event or distance award? Please let me know so I can include it in the next issue of *Footnotes*.

-Marianne Marshall,  
mrbwalker@verizon.net

# Walk Coordinator Speaks

by Beate Hait

**Traditional Day Events** – The schedule for 2018 is coming together. We still need to firm a location and date for our club picnic walk in the summer, and perhaps a walk in November. Please speak up if you have a location to suggest.

**Confirmed events to date include:**

Sat., **April 7** – Holliston, MA – Walk & Soup Social

Sat., **May 12** – Springfield, MA – Forest Park

Sat., **June 16** – Blackstone, MA – Blackstone Gorge

Sat., **Oct. 20** – Milford, MA – Upper Charles Trail

Sat., **Dec. 1** – Attleboro, MA – La Salette Holiday Lights

**Group Walks** – In the absence of a Group Walk Coordinator, each POC is encouraged to schedule a group walk after contacting me to ensure no date conflicts.

Two group walks are coming up in April: Concord on Monday, April 16 (Patriot's Day) at 8:00 a.m. and Fall River on Saturday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m.

**Seasonal Events** – April 1 is the start date for 11 of our club's seasonal walks and 2 seasonal bikes; April 28 is the start date in Quincy (our start point doesn't open until then). Be aware that sometime in the next year or so, the start points in Concord and Plymouth will change ownership and transition from Rite Aid to Walgreens.

New this year is the **Cheshire** event which features routes on the Appalachian Trail. To register for this event, please remember that you must register using the Online Start Box (OLSB). That means that there is no physical location where you would access a Walk Box, as we do for all of our Year-round and other Seasonal events. The registration, payment (everyone pays \$2.00; those wishing credit pay an extra \$1.00), signing of the waiver, directions and stamped cards are accessed electronically. To use the OLSB, first set up an account for yourself by going to [www.cva4u.org](http://www.cva4u.org), click on the link on the left of the page for Online Start Box and follow the directions. This initial process should take less than 10 minutes. Once you register for an event, you have 60 days to log back in to confirm that you've completed the route and retrieve your credit stamp for that event.

## Picture Time: Newton Group

*Hmm, which photo is from January and which is from March?*



Carol Giesecke

*Unlikely as it might seem, the snowy photo (at right) is from March 11. A spur-of-the-moment walk in Newton found Pat and Roy Damiani, Ann Plichta, Diane Peterson, and Carol Giesecke (along with photographer Marianne Marshall) enjoying some sun between storms. Photo was taken at the same spot as in January (at left: Marianne Marshall, Bev Lange, and Carol Giesecke) when there was no snow.*



Marianne Marshall