



## [Vice-]President's Corner

by Keith Harlow

Hello all, this is Keith filling in for Mary. It's Spring, so let's get ready for some walking! I actually managed to get out 10 times before my surgery in early March! I am hoping to be able to walk again by our Soup Walk on Saturday, April 5. Really looking forward to that. My very first walk was a soup walk back in 2006.

We have 2 group walks scheduled for April: Fall River on April 12 and Concord scheduled for Saturday, April 19. We usually walk on Patriots' Day Monday to coincide with the parade, but this year is the 250th anniversary of the start of the American Revolution, so the town decided to have the parade on the actual date (April 19) instead of the Monday holiday.

There are a lot of major events going on this year. May 16 to 18, there will be a tri-state weekend that is being put

on by the Twin State, Two Town, and Southern Maine clubs. Lighthouses are the focus for the weekend. Hotel spaces are running out fast so get moving if you are planning to attend; pre-registration for the walks is due April 15. Also, the AVA convention, based in Las Cruces, NM, is coming up fast: April 26 – May 4.

Finally, make sure you contact Bea to let her know if you are bringing a soup, bread, fruit, or dessert (**no nut ingredients**, please!) to our annual Soup Walk on April 5 in Holliston.

Did I mention, this is also our 40th anniversary year? Looking forward to upcoming events. We are trying to plan an event later in Concord, as well as possibly Shelburne Falls and Cheshire. Stay tuned! Well, that's it for me. Hope to see you all at the Soup Walk!

## Membership Renewal Time

by Diane Peterson

Our **membership year begins April 1st**. It is easy to renew. Complete the WnM renewal form and send it in with the \$15 payment to ensure that your membership continues throughout the 2025 season. The mailing address is listed on the bottom of the form. You will then continue to receive the club's *Footnotes* newsletter providing notices of upcoming walks and events such as the soup walk, the annual picnic, and

the after-holiday party. With our annual membership renewal time underway, please remember to choose how you'll receive our newsletter, either by email or postal mail, by marking the renewal form.

Walk 'n Mass membership is a great opportunity to meet people and visit places in beautiful New England and surrounding areas.

## Come Friends, Let's Walk

- ❖ *Tuesday, April 1  
Group Walk:  
Falmouth, ME  
2:30pm (SMVA)*
- ❖ *Saturday, April 5  
Day Event:  
Holliston, MA  
Soup Walk!*
- ❖ *Saturday, April 12  
Group Walk:  
Branford, CT  
9:00am (CVVC)*
- ❖ *Saturday, April 12  
Group Walk:  
Quincy, MA  
10:00am*
- ❖ *Saturday, April 19  
Group Walk:  
Concord, MA  
8:00am*
- ❖ *Sunday, April 27  
Group Walk:  
Boston Back Bay  
9:00am [see p. 4]*
- ❖ *Sunday, May 4  
Group Walk:  
Saco, ME 2:30pm  
(SMVA) Daffodil*

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

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# March Meeting Highlights

by Marianne Marshall

## Meeting held March 3, 2025 in Franklin, MA

**Email:** Need to review email list to determine if two lists are needed: one for e-newsletter distribution & one for walk notices/email alerts.

**Sunshine:** Sympathy cards sent to families of Richard Allen and Betty Green.

### Walk Coordinator:

- Weston: Map-guided walk on Sat., June 7; start time between 10:30am-12:30pm.
- Boston: Carol Giesecke planning an evening group walk.
- Oak Bluffs: Planning to hold group walks on Monday, June 30 and Tuesday, July 1.

### AVA News:

#### **January Checkpoint**

- AVA Lifetime Membership being sunset.

Current AVA lifetime members to retain membership benefits in perpetuity.

- AVA seeking new Special Programs to start 2027.

### **February Checkpoint**

- In response to AVA's Silent Auction notice, WnM to sent a check for \$50.

### Old Business:

Ideas needed for walks and awards for WnM's 40th anniversary.

### Upcoming Meetings:

Next club meeting on Monday, April 7 to be held via Zoom.

#### **President**

**Mary Frink**, Everett  
617-387-1577  
mfwalks2010@verizon.net

#### **Vice President**

**Keith Harlow**, Blackstone  
508-353-3336  
krhguy13@yahoo.com

#### **Secretary**

**Marianne Marshall**, Waltham  
781-899-5975  
secretary@walknmass.org

#### **Treasurer**

**Karen Plichta**, Fall River  
508-673-2374  
karenp53@verizon.net

#### **Activities Chairperson**

**open, volunteer needed!**

#### **Email Contact**

**open, volunteer needed!**

#### **Membership Chairperson**

**Diane Peterson**, Lowell  
978-987-3064  
di1258@gmail.com

#### **Walk Coordinator**

**Beate Hait**, Holliston  
508-429-3564  
beateh1@aol.com

#### **Group Walk Coordinator**

**Pat Damiani**, Sagamore Beach  
508-888-7366  
pmdwalks@comcast.net

#### **Equipment Managers**

**Keith & Dawn Harlow**, Blackstone  
krhguy13@yahoo.com

#### **Trail Master**

**Ann Plichta**, Fall River  
508-673-6553  
amplic@comcast.net

#### **Assistant Trail Master**

**Karen Kolaczyk**, Marlborough  
508-481-7389  
kkolaczyk@comcast.net

#### **Print Newsletter Circulation**

**Joel & Susan Weddig**, Waltham  
339-215-9559  
jands1971@gmail.com

#### **E-Newsletter Distribution**

**Margo Craven**, Attleboro  
magoo249@comcast.net

#### **Newsletter Editor**

**Monica Hait**, Holliston  
footnotes.editor@gmail.com

#### **Publicity Chairperson**

**Karen Kolaczyk**, Marlborough  
508-481-7389  
kimba1959.kk@gmail.com

#### **Specialties Chairperson**

**Beate Hait**, Holliston  
508-429-3564  
beateh1@aol.com

#### **Sunshine Coordinator**

**Chris Lipson**, Bedford  
781-275-0464  
c2lipson@msn.com

#### **Historian**

**Dawn Harlow**, Blackstone  
dawnvt@yahoo.com

#### **TAW Coordinator**

**Joe LaPointe**, Holliston  
landogriffin78@yahoo.com

#### **Volunteer Awards**

**Marianne Marshall**, Waltham  
781-899-5975  
secretary@walknmass.org

#### **Facebook/Meetup POC**

**Blake Mitchell**, Holliston  
kblakemitchell@gmail.com

#### **Webmaster**

**Bill Howe**, Chelmsford  
978-256-7370  
bill.howe@bvhowe.com

# A visit to Mr. Pink in Boston

by Carol Giesecke

In February, several hardy and hearty Walk 'n Mass members and one Meet Up friend took advantage of a rather pleasant February Sunday to visit some of the Winter Art installations in downtown Boston. Called Winteractive, the event is presented by the Downtown Boston Alliance and inspired by similar winter art exhibitions in Quebec. It's a way to encourage those living near Boston to come into the city in the winter. All 17 installations are within a 1.25-mile walk and can be accessed from Downtown Crossing T stop on the Red or Orange Lines. The display only runs through March 30, so by the time you are reading this, it will likely be gone. But at least you can enjoy the exhibit vicariously from this article.

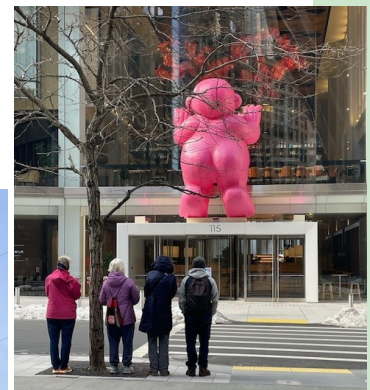
We met indoors at the Quincy Market early on a Sunday morning so that those who were driving in could find a free parking space. Ann and Karen Plichta drove in from Fall River, although they are looking forward to trying the Commuter Rail from Fall River, opening very soon. Diane and I took the T, as did our Meet Up friend Fito. I had done the Winteractive walk earlier in February so had a rough idea of where to see most of the installations. Many of the works light up, so it would be quite fun to see them after dark and I still hope to do that before the end of the month. But the highlight for me was seeing Mr. Pink around the city. These are six large pink balloons (similar to the size of the ones you would see during the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day in New York City) placed on buildings, suspended over the street, or even one in a tree.

We were walking the Back Bay 10K, but we did a bit of a detour to begin in order to see all the Mr. Pinks. They are the creation of Parisian artist Philippe Katerine, who belongs to a group of artists seeking to display "cuteness" in the physical and psychological outdoor environments. We certainly enjoyed an opportunity to see Monsieur Rose, Numbers 1-6 in Boston! Visit [www.winteractive.org](http://www.winteractive.org) to see and read about all 17 installations.



Left: Mr. Pink squeezed between buildings on Chauncy St. near Summer St.

Above: in Post Office Square with the walk group



Left: Mr. Pink suspended over Winter Street

Above: Mr Pink looking in the window of the Winthrop Center bar on Federal St. The walk group decided to be a little cheeky for this pic along with him.

Photos courtesy of Carol Giesecke



# Bulletin Board

**Do you have a volksmarching travel story to share? What's your favorite WnM memory?**

Send submissions to [footnotes.editor@gmail.com](mailto:footnotes.editor@gmail.com) for possible publication in a future edition of **Footnotes**.

## Back Bay Group Walk—Sunday, April 27, 2025

Meet inside Quincy Market at the seating area on the first floor. Gather at 8:30am to register and the walk group departs at 9:00am. Stamp and registration log available. Please contact POC Carol Giesecke ([carolclay101@gmail.com](mailto:carolclay101@gmail.com)) for further details.

## Next Club Meeting Monday, April 7

6:30 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Contact Mary at

[mfwalks2010@verizon.net](mailto:mfwalks2010@verizon.net)  
to RSVP and receive meeting details

Note: the April club meeting format has been changed to Zoom. Please contact Mary if you'd like to attend and she will share the link.

Newsletter Submissions to:

[footnotes.editor@gmail.com](mailto:footnotes.editor@gmail.com)

Deadline for next issue: April 21st

Save the dates! **Oak Bluffs** group walks on Martha's Vineyard being planned **Monday, June 30 and Tuesday, July 1.**

More details expected in the May edition of *Footnotes*.

**Come and join us for the 24th  
US FreedomWalk  
17-19 October 2025**

IML WALKING ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL MARATHONERS AND LONG-DISTANCE WALKERS

Walk Arlington [USFreedomWalk.org](http://USFreedomWalk.org)

**An International Walking Experience**

AMERICA'S WALKING CLUB ESTABLISHED 1972 Volksmarching at Its Best

# Walk Word Search

by Monica Hait

In celebration of the club's 40th anniversary, this puzzle uses location names (B, J, U, and Z) of prior WnM events. Happy finding!.



- Back Bay
- Barnstable
- Barre Falls
- Battle Road
- Bedford
- Belchertown
- Bellingham
- Belmont
- Blackstone
- Blue Hills
- Bolton
- Borderland S.P.
- Boston
- Bourne
- Bradford
- Bridgewater
- Bristol
- Brockton
- Brookline
- Buzzard's Bay

Jamaica Plain  
Jamestown

JFK Library  
Upton

Uxbridge  
Zoar

# Walking Season

by Monica Hait

In addition to the many Walk 'n Mass seasonals opening in April, other clubs in the region and around the country also have expanded walk offerings as spring arrives. Get out and enjoy the weather! Walking season is here!

Find events through [my.ava.org/find-an-event.php](http://my.ava.org/find-an-event.php)



## Walking & Dining around Rozzie Village by Paul Kelly

If you plan to take the Roslindale Volkswalk, starting at a Boston Public Library branch, your walk begins in Roslindale Square (also known as Roslindale Village). You may in fact decide to walk here because there are several eating establishments worth a visit, many of which you will pass on Corinth Street minutes before you complete the walk. Some of these restaurants don't open until 5, so you may want to plan your walk accordingly. Three are well worth the delay.

When Linda and I moved to Roslindale in 1981, there was in the neighborhood just one restaurant, Vinnie Marino's, which specialized in Italian and Lebanese cuisine. It closed in the 90s. We were forced to venture further up Washington Street to the Pleasant Café, which is still there and remains a great place to dine.

One of the hallmarks of the **Pleasant Café** is their pizza, thin-crust and rated the best in Boston by Channel 10. We order their pizza almost weekly. They also serve a full Italian menu. The Pleasant Café appeared as a location in two feature films, *The Boston Strangler* and *The Holdovers*. You might just sit in a booth once occupied by Paul Giamatti! There is ample parking across the street; 4515 Washington Street. Open 11:30am every day except Sunday, when it opens at noon.

If you don't want to venture out of the Square, you will pass several establishments on your way back to the library:

**The Square Root** is at 2 Corinth Street and serves mostly coffee, salads, and sandwiches. Open 7am weekdays, 8am weekends.

**Blue Star Restaurant** is across the street from The Square Root at 11 Corinth Street and serves breakfast and lunch items. Blue Star is open until 3pm.

**Sophia's Grotto** on or near Corinth is in a courtyard at 22R Birch Street. They offer Italian dishes well prepared. Their gnocchi is excellent! Pizzas are small but tasty. They don't open until 5pm on weekdays, but do open at 10:30am on Sunday and noon on Saturday.

**Fornax Bread Company**, at 27 Birch Street, prepares very good sandwiches and soup. Their bread is unmatched. Try the caprese on sfilatino (basil, tomatoes, and mozzarella on a long thin roll). It's our favorite.

**Mi Finca**, at 4397 Washington Street, opens at 11am every day, serving Mexican & Italian food.

On South Street, at the beginning of the walk, are two fine restaurants, but they don't open until 5pm (and they don't take reservations). If you time your walk to end around 5, you are pretty sure to find a seat.

**Delfino** (closed Monday and Tuesday) is our favorite Italian restaurant in Boston. We especially like the Piggy Figgy. Opens 5pm, located at 754 South Street.

**753 South** (also closed Monday and Tuesday) serves elevated pub fare. We have enjoyed their Cuban sandwich, the fish tacos, and the St. Louis style ribs. Opens at 5pm.

Steps away are:

**Effie's Kitchen** at 37 Poplar Street (you also passed it on the way from the parking lot to the library), which serves Greek specialties including gyros, souvlaki, and terrific baklava. It opens at 11am Monday-Saturday.

**Chilacate** at 4257 Washington Street also serves Mexican food that people we know admire. It opens daily at 11am.

**Shanti Restaurant** at 4197 Washington Street serves decent Indian cuisine and opens at 3pm. Their sister restaurant is in Quincy across the street from the Presidents' Walk seasonal start point.

**Napper Tandy's** at 4195 Washington Street is an Irish pub with good inventive hamburgers. Open weekdays at 3pm, weekends at noon.

Forty years have passed since we moved to Roslindale, and the opportunities to have a filling and tasty meal have multiplied more than tenfold. So come do the Roslindale walk and stay for a bite.



# More than just Lighthouses

by Denise Macaronas

Renew friendships and make new friends while spending a weekend exploring all that northern New England has to offer.

This walking weekend, May 16 -18, is co-sponsored by Two Town Walking Club, Twin State Volkssport Association and Southern Maine Volkssport Association. Deadline to receive all registration forms is April 15. These forms and further details about this event can be found on our website at [walkescv.org/25NEWeekend/home.html](http://walkescv.org/25NEWeekend/home.html)

There will be many opportunities for Fun, Fitness, and Friendship including Friday's Meet and Greet and Saturday's Group Dinner at The Weathervane (limited seating available). Everyone is invited to explore lighthouses along the rocky coast of New England from Northern Massachusetts (Gloucester) to New Hampshire (Portsmouth) to Southern Maine (Cape Elizabeth).

Lighthouses are not the only reason to attend this event. May is a beautiful time of year to enjoy many photo opportunities such as waves crashing against the rocky coast, serene beach views, historic sites, and gardens and spring flowers. If mist, rain, or fog happen to obscure your views, your experience may be enhanced by the melancholic sounds of the foghorn. This sound symbolizes the importance of light stations, the dedication of the men and women who have served through the years, as well as the lives saved.

Make this a Foodie Road Trip! Besides the expected seafood choices, Gloucester offers a unique opportunity for foodies to experience international cuisine from traditional Italian cooking to authentic Mediterranean



Denise Macaronas

dishes to Asian specialties and more, all right in one city. There is something for everyone in Gloucester! Portsmouth is a foodie delight with one of the highest concentrations of restaurants per capita in the nation! Portsmouth has beautiful architecture, a charming waterfront, fine food restaurants, and cafes whose chair and tables spill out onto the sidewalks, giving the city an almost European feel. For foodies looking for lobster rolls, Bite into Maine is a popular food truck at Fort Williams/Portland Head Light, the start/finish point for the Cape Elizabeth walk.



Portsmouth's Prescott Park

They offer a variety of delicious lobster rolls with six different styles to choose from. Here you can savor iconic Maine flavors while enjoying the beautiful surroundings. But beware of the seagulls – NEVER leave your food unguarded! Another big foodie town is Portland, just 5 miles away from Portland Head Light.

All three tri-state walk locations also have unique shops, craft breweries, bakeries, and more. Browse through the shops, take a brewery tour or stop in for a sweet. We look forward to seeing you in May. If you have any questions, please contact [infotristate25@aol.com](mailto:infotristate25@aol.com)

Left: Cape Elizabeth's Bite into Maine food truck

Right: the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Memorial



Barbara Piffrot

Denise Macaronas

# Walk Coordinator Speaks

by Beate Hait

## Walk and Soup Social in Holliston on

**Sat., April 5** – Volunteers are in place, and we look forward to welcoming you at this event that starts our walking season. Also, if you would like to bring a food item to share (no nuts; our start point is a nut-free venue), please contact me, so I can prepare labels for the soups and other offerings.

There are three new sights on this route since we walked it in 2023: (1) Rita's Labyrinth ([www.ritaslabyrinth.com](http://www.ritaslabyrinth.com)) on the corner of School St. and Union St. qualifies this route for the AVA Special Program A-MAZE-ing Labyrinths; (2) Blair Square (along the rail trail) was undergoing construction in 2023. I'm sure you'll be impressed with how well this space has been reimagined. (3) After stopping at Coffee Haven for the checkpoint, you'll rejoin the rail trail and get a bird's eye view from the 8-arch bridge of the construction to repair the dam and the culvert under Woodland Street, which has been closed for three years due to safety concerns.

**Weston, MA – Saturday, June 7** – The brochure for this event is included with this newsletter. Hope to see you there. If you are available to work a 2-hour shift at the Start, Finish, or Checkpoints, or to help with trail marking or trail take-down, please contact me.

**Year-round and Seasonal Events** – On April 1, 10 of our seasonal events open to join the 8 year-round events on our roster. Information regarding start point locations, hours of

operation and route descriptions can be found in multiple areas: in the YRE/SE booklet that was mailed to members last December, on the club website ([walknmass.org](http://walknmass.org)) and on the AVA: America's Walking Club website ([ava.org](http://ava.org)). If you have questions, please contact the respective POC.

Some of these events use the Online Start Box (OSB) registration process. However, **in-person registration will be available at each scheduled group walk of year-round and seasonal events.** You may then choose to walk with the group or walk on your own. Group walk dates are noted in Footnotes and posted on the club website, Facebook (AVA Walk 'n Mass Volkssport Club) and Meetup.

Announcements and reminders of club activities are sent by email. To be added to that email list, please contact Margo at [walknmass@comcast.net](mailto:walknmass@comcast.net)

**Upcoming Events** – Other than group walks of year-round or seasonal events, we currently have only two traditional/day events scheduled for this year [see left column].

Please contact me to suggest a location and date for a day event. Would especially like a location for a picnic walk and one or two walks this fall. Information about a planned event needs to be submitted to AVA at least 90 days prior to the event date, so time is of the essence to schedule walks for this year.

## Group Picture:

*Group walkers on March 1 enjoying the winter gear bedecked statue outside the Wellesley Library*



Marianne Marshall