



President's Corner

I want to start off by saying **congratulations** to the officers. Keith Harlow, Vice President; Karen Plichta, Treasurer; and Marianne Marshall, Secretary were all reelected to their current positions. Thank you so much for all that you do for the club! I was reelected as well, as President, but it feels weird to congratulate myself.

I hope you have been getting out and walking recently. The weather has been so amazing and the color is just a feast for the eyes. While you are out enjoying this wonderful weather, please keep an eye out for start points. I know I say this every month. However, we don't have any event walks scheduled yet for next year and it's our 40th anniversary! I'd really like to have some event walks where we can celebrate our wonderful club. Related to that, does anyone have an "in" at a place in Concord that has a room we can rent? The club's very first walk was in Concord and it would be nice to have an event walk there next year.

by Mary Frink

Do you have a memorable walk? My very first walk was the soup walk in Norwood in 2010. Karen Kolaczyk got me to go as she had talked me into going to the conference in Alaska that year and she thought I should become a member of Walk 'n Mass before I went. I didn't think I could walk 10K, but I did it! I remember we had to walk around a cemetery because we had Karen's dog with us and I remember the hall where the soup lunch was. I bought a new member kit and I still use the 25th anniversary soup mug I bought that day. I have the directions and brochure for that walk in a scrapbook I keep of all my walks. If you have a good story relating to a walk, please send it to footnotes.editor@gmail.com and we'll start printing them in the newsletter next year.

Trick or Treat! Happy Halloween and on to November!

Come Friends, Let's Walk

- ❖ *Saturday, Nov. 2*
Group Walk:
Provincetown
[map-guided, sign-in 10 to 12]
- ❖ *Saturday, Nov. 9*
Group Walk:
Kent, CT [AT route]
10:00 am (CVVC)
- ❖ *Sunday, Nov. 10*
Day Event:
Boston Special Places [map-guided, sign-in 8 to 10]
- ❖ *Saturday, Nov. 23*
Group Walk:
Plymouth, MA
9:30 am [parade]
- ❖ *Friday, Nov. 28*
Group Walk:
Fall River, MA
10:00 am
- ❖ *Saturday, Nov. 30*
Group Walk:
Concord, MA
10:00 am

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.

AVA HQ Address Change!

Be advised: the AVA national office moved a few doors down in mid-October 2024 due to a change in ownership at the prior location. Please note the new address:

AVA: America's Walking Club, 1032 S Alamo Street, San Antonio, TX 78210

AVA's main phone number remains the same: 210-659-2112



Issue Highlights:

October Meeting Highlights – 2
In Memoriam – 3

Bulletin Board – 4
Special Places Word Search – 5

Walk Coordinator Speaks – 6
Past Plymouth Pictures – 6

October Meeting Highlights

by Marianne Marshall

Meeting held Oct. 7, 2024 in Franklin

Sunshine:

- Card to Johanna and Pam on their anniversary; sympathy card to Joan Rossi's family upon learning of Joan's death; get well card to Pat Damiani.

Walk Coordinator:

- Low participation in yearly/seasonal walks for the 3rd quarter.
- Special Places (Boston), Sunday, Nov. 10, sign-in from 8-10am; map-guided. 10km groups at 8:45 and 10:00; 5km groups at 9:00 and 10:00.
- Need POCs and walk routes for 2025 to include in year's celebration of WnM's 40th anniversary.
- Phil Lupsiewicz to become POC of Newport seasonal walk in 2025.

New Business:

With no new candidates, and current officers agreeing to continue to serve in their present offices, it was unanimously voted: Mary Frink, President; Keith Harlow, Vice President; Marianne Marshall, Secretary; Karen Plichta, Treasurer.

Remaining **2024 club meetings** will be held at Stop & Shop in Franklin:

- Monday, **November 4** at 6:30 pm
- Monday, **December 2** at 6:30 pm

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

Paul Graveline, Andover
978-470-1971
NSArtEvents@gmail.com

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

In Memoriam

by Beate Hait

We recently learned of the deaths of three long-time Walk 'n Mass members: Joan Rossi, Walter Stowell, and Mimi Strack. We send sincere condolences to the families of Joan, Walter, and Mimi.

Joan Rossi passed away on August 31, 2024 at age 90. Between 1994 and 2011, Joan accumulated over 100 hours of volunteer time when she attended walks with her husband, Dick, who died in 2012. Joan was co-chair of the walks in Newburyport and Lynn Woods, served on the Sunshine Committee (1997–2006), staffed Start, Checkpoint or Specialties at 22 events, helped as Kitchen/Picnic Assistant at 4 events, and was named Volunteer of the Month in March 1998.



Mimi Strack died on September 10, 2024 at age 79 after a courageous six-year battle with cancer. Mimi and her husband, Dick, were club members from June 1997 to May 2017. Mimi was POC for two walks in Sturbridge (1998 and 2000). She was named Volunteer of the Month in November 2001 and assisted at walks in Uxbridge, Monson, Forest Hills, Medford, Lowell, Ashland, and Deerfield.



Dick carved a special wooden box to hold the patches and awards from volkswalks, and it soon was overflowing. Per Mimi's request, it was one of the things prominently displayed at her funeral.



Walter Stowell died on October 11, 2023 at age 86. WnM records show him volunteering at 10 events from September 2001 through October 2019 in various capacities: Checkpoint, Trail Marking, Trail Take-down, Start, Finish and Specialties. Walter's wife, Ginnie, was always by his side at these events in Wareham, Sudbury, Winchester, Lowell, Lexington, Ashland, Lowell, Deerfield, Malden, and Wakefield (a Potluck & Pie event).



Dick Strack

Bulletin Board

Did you match the unique traffic sign sighting from the October Bulletin Board to a WnM seasonal locale? It was spotted in **Fall River** near the Lizzie Borden B&B.

If you'd like to find the sign too, join the group walk on Friday, Nov. 29 at 10:00 am.



Ann Plichta

Is anyone already familiar with **gotsneakers.com**? Could it be something you would coordinate for the club as a fundraiser? We could determine acceptable collection dates at particular WnM events to try and clear out retired walking shoes.

Next Club Meeting Monday, Nov. 4

6:30 pm

Stop & Shop
40 Franklin Village Drive
Franklin, MA 02038

Up the stairs past
Customer Service Desk

For the **Plymouth group walk on Sat., Nov. 23**, please meet at **10 Cordage Park Circle at 9:15** to register and begin walking at 9:30. This will allow walkers to enjoy the parade which starts at 10.

No guarantee of restrooms at Cordage Park so please plan accordingly.

More about the Plymouth parade:
usathanksgiving.com

AVA will be conducting website maintenance for **my.ava.org** in November. They plan to do a temporary shutdown over 2 days mid-week to minimize impactful downtime for users. Exact dates unavailable at presstime.

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

The Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers are hosting a **Festival of Lights** walk in Omaha, Nebraska on **December 14, 2024**.

Walk includes the spectacular light display in the downtown area and the newly opened Heartland of America Park. And thanks to generous sponsors, The River-Front and KANEKO, everyone walks free!

my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=126723



Boston Special Places Word Search

by Monica Hait

*Not all items are on the special places walk route, some words were chosen for added fun.



Alexander Graham Bell	Chinatown	Liberty Square
Armory	College	Museum
Bay Village	Common	Otis House
Beacon Hill	Custom House	Park
Boston	Esplanade	Prudential Center
Bowdoin Square	Fenway	Red Sox
Bricks	Freedom	Special Places
Bruins	Garden	Telephone
Celtics	Hatch Shell	Zakim Bridge
Charles River	Hungarian Revolution	

Do you have a most memorable walk or volksmarching travel story to share? Send it to footnotes.editor@gmail.com for possible publication in a future edition of **Footnotes**.

Walk Coordinator Speaks

by Beate Hait

OptOutside — After your Thanksgiving Feast, you have two options to join fellow club members for a walk:

- Friday, Nov. 29, Fall River – Work Out World (WOW), 18 Pocasset Street. Sign in at 9:45 to walk at 10:00.
- Saturday, Nov. 30, Concord, MA -- Walgreens, 71 Lowell Road. Sign in at 9:45 to walk at 10:00.

Walk Events in 2025 — At this date, there are no firm dates and locations for our club walks for next year. Other activities in my life have had to take priority, and I have been remiss about contacting potential POCs and doing my own scouting for locations. Hope to have something to report next month. Would be very much appreciated if YOU would contact me with a date and location for a walk next year.

Plymouth Group Pictures Through the Years

2010



2012



2019



2016



2021



2023



Photos courtesy of
Beate Hait