



The Rover Reporter



The Newsletter of the Susquehanna Rovers Volksmarch Club

October-December 2024

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www.avaclubs.org/SRVC

President's Message



Greetings Fellow Rovers,

We recently held our memorial walk for Alice Eckardt. It was nice seeing some faces I haven't seen for a while and Alice's family. I didn't know she had as large a family as she did. They even spent money to get shirts printed. You will see them in our pictures of the event.

I hung around the pavilion until the rain stopped and then walked with Brian Petry from Maryland. I think most people walked early in the morning and got it in before the rain hit except for Alice's family. They were soaked when they finished the walk. Thanks to everyone that brought food. It was very tasty.

I was not as helpful at the event as I usually am because things were acting up with my mother. This is probably going to happen more and more, and is why I am stepping down at the end of the year. In fact this is my last president's message.

We need someone at the helm who can take the club forward, not someone who might be there physically but not mentally.

Bill



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Group Walk Schedule

Definition of Group Walk - Several walkers get together to walk a Traditional, Seasonal or Year Round event. They start off together and then walk at their own pace. Maybe they get together to eat along the way or at the end. This type of walk will not be on ava.org list of events. GP is used on our listing for these events.

York White Rose Wanderers (YWRW) are hosting their group walks 2024. They make these walks feel like a traditional event by giving walkers a range of time to start usually 9 am to noon. The complete list for the year is on their website. Call Julie Geyer 717-624-5627 to check if they will be walking if weather is iffy. **Oct 5** - Rail Trail #2, South, Brillhart Station, 2400 Brillhart Station Rd, York. **Nov 2** - Hanover, Yesteryear Antique Center, 441 Pine St, Hanover. **Dec 7** - Thurmont MD, Mountainview Convenience and Truck Stop, 140 Frederick Rd, Thurmont MD.

The **Susquehanna Rovers** meet at a certain time to sign up and go at our separate paces and maybe meet for lunch. If you can't meet us, these are year-round events and can be walked anytime during daylight hours. The time to meet is with the event. Call Pat if you want a ride. 717-379-8945.

Oct 12 - Ephrata Meet at 9 at Hampton Inn & Suites, 380 E Main St, Ephrata. Rated 1B
Nov 29 - Hummelstown Meet at 9 in Café area at Karns Food, 731 Cherry Dr. Hershey. Rated 1A
Dec 14 - Marietta Meet at 10 (Center doesn't open until 10) Columbia Crossing River Trail Center, 41 Walnut St. Columbia. Rated 1A
Jan 1 - Harrisburg - Special New Year Trail. Quality Inn -Riverfront, 525 S Front St. Harrisburg Rated 1A

Contact Pat 717-379-8945 for information or if weather is bad to see if we are walking.

Please join us. We miss seeing you.

Be sure to use this address when mailing your books.

AVA Headquarters
 1008 S. Alamo St
 San Antonio TX 78210
 210-659-2112



Meeting Location

The next few club meetings over the winter are being held via the internet. They start at 6 pm on the last Tuesday of the month. There is no meeting in December.

Contact Bill to get the internet connection link at 717-847-3567

All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Note from Judy Librandi

To the Volksmarch Club:

Saturday, September 7 was a rainy day for the Walk for Alice Eckardt but it was a beautiful event. Thank you for honoring my sister in this way. I just want to thank all those who took part in the event and to all those that provided the wonderful food. I enjoyed talking to those who knew Alice and also to be with the rest of her family.



Thank you again,
 Judy Librandi

In Sympathy

We had to say happy trails to another member of our club, Lydia Hack. She wasn't a member for long, but her efforts got us going to relocate all of our stuff from the rented garage to Pat's garage, which saved the club over \$700 a year. Thanks Lydia.

WELCOME!
NEW MEMBERS

Katie Eckardt, Patrick and Casidy Cunniff from Georgia



Group Walks

Camp Hill - July 13th- We had a small but lively group for our walk.



Bill Rhoat, Ginny Huntsbery, Jen Betar, Jan Lardizabal, and from SC, Jane Young.

Below is Regina Zapotosky, Cookie Little and Betty Jo McCoy.



David Dorheim and Judy Chioti from Maryland.

We had 15 come to walk and eat at our picnic.

Thanks to those that brought food.

Milton - August 17th
We had an even smaller group. Pictured are Bill Lore, Bill Rhoat, Scarecrow, Sis and Roy Clugston. It was supposed to rain, but it didn't, just stayed cloudy.



There were several great murals and information boards around town. This is just a part of one. All of this is paint.



This building is a solid brick wall. One mural was about the town and one featured when King Kong played at the Capital. It also featured Shirley Temple and Laurel and Hardy. The murals were amazing.

We ate at the Milltown Deli on Broadway which was very good.

Scarecrows were on some of the lamp posts. The group forced me to get a picture of me with the friendly scarecrow. Sorry if the picture scares you.

This event will be available next year also. It is a lovely day trip to Milton.



2024 Seasonal and Year Round Events

Events listed are year rounds unless stated as seasonal.

Susquehanna Rovers

These walks will have a start box unless stated OSB.

Altoona - Blair County

Wingate by Wyndham Hotel, 909 Chestnut Ave. Altoona.
Walk Dawn to Dusk. 5 or 10K Rating 1A Ask at reservation desk for walk box.
Judy Yost jpost820@gmail.com 814-932-3334

Camp Hill - Cumberland County **New this year.**

Pat Eby's house - front porch, 19 N 27th St, Camp Hill.
Dawn to dusk. 5 or 10K Rated 1A
Pat Eby, patriciaeby@verizon.net 717-379-8945

Carlisle - Cumberland County

Comfort Suites, 10 South Hanover St. Carlisle Dawn to Dusk. 6 or 10K Rating 1A Ask at reservation desk for walk box.
Pat Eby 717-379-8945 patriciaeby@verizon.net

Columbia and Marietta - Lancaster County

Northwest Lancaster County River Trail - **Bike** 35k Rated 2A and **Walk** 5 or 10K Rated 1A Columbia **Walk** - 5 or 10K Rated 1A
Marietta **Walk** - 5 or 10K Rating 1A
Columbia Crossing River Trail Center, 41 Walnut St.
Columbia Open 10 am to 5 pm Wed - Sun
Ask at desk for the walk box. They open at 10.
Sharon Miller 717-805-9540 millersd@ptd.net

Ephrata - Lancaster County

Hampton Inn & Suites, 380 E Main St, Ephrata. 5 or 10K Rated 1B
Bill Rhoat 717-847-3567 rhtpr@aol.com

Harrisburg - Dauphin County

Capital and Wildwood Park
Quality Inn -Riverfront, 525 S Front St. Harrisburg Dawn to dusk. 5 or 10K Capital Trail Rating 1A
Wildwood Trail Rating 3C; 5K trail is easier can be a 1A.
Ask at reservation desk for the walk box.
Sharon Miller 717-805-9540 millersd@ptd.net

Fort Hunter, Harrisburg- Seasonal 4-1 to 9-30. 5 or 10K Rated 1A, OSB **or contact** Regina Zapotosky at 717-545-4982 rmzapoto@gmail.com

Hershey - Dauphin County

Bullfrog Valley Trail (5 or 10K) and Town (5 or 10K) Both are rated 1A
Hummelstown Seasonal - Oct 1 to Dec 31, 2024
Karns Food, 731 Cherry Dr. Hershey
Ask at the Service Counter for the walk box.
Dawn to dusk.
Bill Rhoat 717-847-3567 rhtpr@aol.com

Lebanon - Lebanon County

Lebanon Valley Family YMCA, 201 N 7th St. Lebanon
Hours vary - call 717-273-2691
5 or 10K Rating 1A
Ask at the service counter on the right for the walk box.
Bill Rhoat 717-847-3567 rhtpr@aol.com

Mechanicsburg - Cumberland County

Rutter's #29, 714 W Main St. Mechanicsburg Dawn to Dusk 5 or 10K Rating 1A
Walk box is on window sill in café area.
Pat Eby 717-379-8945 patriciaeby@verizon.net

Milton - Part in Northumberland and other in Union **New Seasonal** - 4-1 to 9-30. 5 or 10K rated 1B. OSB **or contact** Bill Rhoat 717-847-3567 rhtpr@aol.com

Mifflintown - Juniata County

Juniata County Library, 498 Jefferson St, Mifflintown, PA 17059 Closed Wed and Sun. Open Mon, Tue, Thurs 9 am to 5 pm, Fri 2 pm to 7 pm and Sat 9 am to 3 pm.
5 or 10K Rated 2B
Walk box is in the library under a table.
Joyce Krow 717-527-4798 jakrow@centurylink.net

State College - Centre County

Arboretum, Boalsburg, Town and Campus
Super 8 Motel, 1663 S Atherton St. State College Dawn to dusk Arboretum Trail Rated 1A, Boalsburg Trail Rated 2B, Town & Campus Trail Rated 2A
All have 5 or 10K trails.
Ask at reservation desk for walk box.
Pat Eby 717-379-8945 patriciaeby@verizon.net

KSVA Events

Appalachian Trail - Walking across PA - Many options are available. **OSB only.** Marcy Lucas 717-979-3960 Lucas_mj@hotmail.com

Contact person for other events is Tom Jackson
717-677-6511 thomasjackson@embarqmail.com

Biglerville - Michaux State Forest - Piney Ridge Rd
Jan 1 to March 31 **Snowshoe** 5K to 10K Rated 1C
1287 Shippensburg Rd, Biglerville PA 17307

Fayetteville - Michaux State Forest "Smoke Zimmerman"
Jan 1 to March 31 **Snowshoe** 5K to 10K Rated 1C
Rutter's, 6837 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville PA 17222

Fayetteville - Pine Grove Furnace State Park - walk and swim, Rutter's, 6837 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville PA 17222, 5K, 10K or 14K Rated 3C

Harper's Ferry WV - Online or physical start point
ATC Visitor Center, 799 Washington St.
5K, 10K, 15K or 20K Rated 3C

Waterville - Bike Pine Creek Rail Trail - 10K to 240K. OSB

Group walks on the AT: Information is on page 5. Call or text Marcy at 717-979-3960

Please Help!

As mentioned in Bill's letter, we will be needing a new president. Marcy is the Vice President, but she lives part of the year in Maine, which wouldn't work if she became president.

The club has been hanging by a thread for many years. That is why you only see the same five people helping at events and showing up at meetings.

Our meeting sites have changed over the years depending on the president. If you are interested in being the president and Colonial Park Library isn't convenient, the site could easily be changed.

Also the Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Chair have been the same people for more than 20 years. If you are interested in any of these jobs, talk to Bill. I'm sure that these devoted folks would also enjoy a break from these duties.

You know the saying - many hands make the load light. I add that it makes it fun too.

Don't forget we also need walkers at our events.

Las Cruces, New Mexico

The Real New Mexico 3 Cities, 3 States, and 2 Countries

The 2025 AVA Biennial Convention will be held in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The dates, pending availability will be Tuesday, April 29th thru Friday May 2nd. Added to these convention dates will be pre-convention events Saturday thru Monday April 26-28, and post convention events Saturday and Sunday May 3rd and 4th. National Office staff, Convention Committee members, nation-wide volunteers, local volunteers and local visitors bureau representatives are working to provide a great event! We want to see **you** in New Mexico in 2025! Hold these dates and travel dates.

There are hotels with special rates. Check out the ava.org website for information.

Registration and more information is coming soon!

Group Walks on the Appalachian Trail

Did you know that there are two special program books for walks along the Appalachian Trail (AT)?

One is sponsored by AVA and one by KSVa. For the national special program you collect one event in each state the AT passes through from Georgia to Maine. With the KSVa special challenge book you can collect ten events along the AT and then continue to collect the whole AT distance if you want a harder challenge.

For these books the event is not a set distance, you collect an event with the distance you walk along the trail. This could be 2K or 18K, whatever you walk that day. This is a different concept than other walk events which have a set distance.

It may explain why people are not participating in this challenge. The AT can be more difficult than a town walk, however for the planned group walks, areas with less elevation change have been selected.

These group walks will be two hours with you walking as far as you are able during that time. This is a terrific opportunity to get out this fall to enjoy nature.

But for more information, please review the event at <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=124750> or contact Marcy Lucas at 717-979-3960. KSVa Special Challenge Books (\$10) and an event stamp will be available at the group walks.

Group walk dates and locations are provided below.

These are out and back walks. We will walk out for 1 hour +/- and then turn around and walk back for a total of 2 hours +/- a few minutes. The distance will vary based on your skill. The trail rating for these walk will be 2C to 3C. Wear sturdy shoes, bring poles and carry water. No restrooms at start or on the trail. Please carpool, there is limited parking at the trailheads. The hike number is from the book "Exploring the Appalachian Trail" G Scherer and D Hopey.

Please **RSVP** Marcy Lucas via text or call 717-979-3960 if attending.

Wed, Oct 2, 2024, Hike #13 North Start at SR 225 Peters Mountain Trailhead, 2300 Peters Mountain Rd, Halifax PA. Meet at 1:15 pm for a timed walk from 1:30 to 3:30. Dinner after walk at Stoney Creek Inn, Dauphin. Turnaround point will be at Table Rock on Peters Mountain Shelter. Beautiful view of the valley and Susquehanna River.

Wed Nov 6, 2024, Hike #19 South or Hike #20 North. Start at the SR 309 PA Game Comm Parking lot at N40 42.467 W75 48.455 on the right before the Thunderhead Lodge, 2520 W Penn Pike Andreas PA. Meet at 1:15 pm for timed walk from 1:30 to 3:30. Dinner to be determined. The turnaround point for the south hike will be when you reach Ft Franklin Rd. The turnaround point for the north hike will be between Knife's Edge Vista and P's Peak Vista.

Wed Dec 4, 2024, Hike #9 South. Start at Boiling Springs Iron Furnace Trailhead, 109 Bucher Hill Rd, Boiling Springs PA. Meet at 1:15 for timed walk from 1:30 to 3:30. Dinner to be determined. The turnaround points will be the edge of the woods and Center Point Knob.

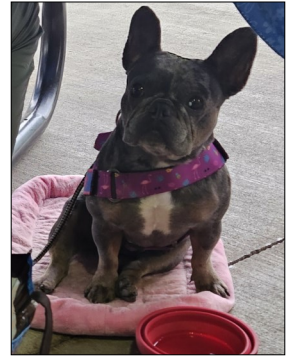
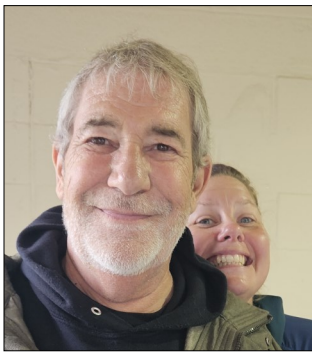
Alice Eckardt Memorial Walk September 7, 2024



Palmyra Memorial Park



Alice's family had shirts made to say that they walk for Alice or Grammy. Below is daughter Katie's family: Pat and Casidy. They came from Georgia.



Above are Jan Lardizabal, Jen and John Betar. Below are Roy and Sis Clugston.



To the right is daughter Judy's family: Troy, Kaylee, Maxwell, and Tucker. Also to the right is son Ron with sister Judy photobombing.



Thanks to the volunteers: Ellen Buller, Ziggy (photo to the right), Regina Zapotosky, and Joyce Krow. Thanks to Marcy Lucas for planning the trail and to Sheri Brendlinger who was in charge of the food.

We had a great time even though many got wet. Please join us on our next Volksmarch.

2024 ATLANTIC REGION CALENDAR of EVENTS

From ava.org as of September 17, 2024

Be sure to check with the [ava](http://ava.org) website or contact number before traveling a great distance to an event.

October

2	GP	<i>AT in PA</i>	<i>KSVA lucas_mj@hotmail.com</i>	717-979-3960
5	W	Ft Belvoir VA	NVV grunewar@yahoo.com	703-303-5543
5	GP	<i>York PA Rail Trail</i>	<i>York White Rose Wanderers</i>	717-624-5627
12	GP	<i>Ephrata PA</i>	<i>Susquehanna Rovers</i>	717-847-3567
12	W	Frederick MD	SVS alison.cellphone@gmail.com	301-828-5257
12	TGW	<i>Hellertown PA</i>	<i>LBW billri12@yahoo.com</i>	215-767-5079
12	W	Midlothian VA	LLV mtg1250@gmail.com	443-803-3456
17	TGW	<i>Bristol PA</i>	<i>LBW billri12@yahoo.com</i>	215-767-5079
18	WBS	Arlington VA	US FWF info@USFreedomWalk.org	703-209-0174
19	W	Arlington VA	US FWF info@USFreedomWalk.org	703-209-0174
20	W	Arlington VA	US FWF info@USFreedomWalk.org	703-209-0174
26	WBS	Rehoboth Beach DE	FSW fdezjuankaren@comcast.net	410-802-6106
29	M	<i>Harrisburg PA</i>	<i>Susquehanna Rovers</i>	717-847-3567

November

2	GW	<i>Hanover PA</i>	<i>YWRW YorkWhiteRose236@gmail.com</i>	717-624-5627
2	W	Patuxent MD	GGV greenbeltmva@gmail.com	301-431-6668
6	GP	<i>AT in PA</i>	<i>KSVA lucas_mj@hotmail.com</i>	717-979-3960
16	NW	Gaithersburg MD	SVS laingat@gmail.com	301-980-8932
26	M	<i>Internet</i>	<i>SRVC rhptr@aol.com</i>	717-847-3567
29	GP	<i>Hummelstown PA</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	717-379-8945

December

4	GP	<i>AT in PA</i>	<i>KSVA lucas_mj@hotmail.com</i>	717-979-3960
7	W	Thurmont MD	<i>YWRW YorkWhiteRose236@gmail.com</i>	717-624-5627
8	W	Alexandria VA	GGV greenbeltmva@gmail.com	301-431-6668
7	W	Alexandria VA	NVV hkgaramone@hotmail.com	571-243-2573
13	NWS	Williamsburg VA	PPV pbb6116@gmail.com	757-869-6116
14	W	Williamsburg VA	PPV pbb6116@gmail.com	757-869-6116
14	GP	<i>Marietta PA</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	717-379-8945
14	W	Annapolis MD	AA littlewalker1@comcast.net	301-509-6748
15	GNW	Williamsport MD	APVC kdballou@gmail.com	240-675-1028
28	NW	Fredericksburg VA	FWC rtsisco@yahoo.com	845-988-6049
31	2W	Savage MD	FHW wahasse1798@verizon.net	410-437-2164
31	W	Smithfield VA	GVC gvcwalker64@hotmail.com	757-576-0966

January 2025

1	2W	Savage MD	FHW wahasse1798@verizon.net	410-437-2164
1	W	Smithfield VA	GVC gvcwalker64@hotmail.com	757-576-0966
1	GW	<i>Harrisburg PA</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	717-379-8945

(M is Meeting; G is a Guided Walk; NW is a Night Walk; GP is a Group Walk; TGW is a Traveling Guided Walk, W is a Walk, S is a Swim, B is a Bike)

PA events are in italicized; ***Susquehanna Rovers are bold and italicized.***

UPCOMING Long AVA EVENTS

October 11-13, Hike Lincoln National Forest with the West Texas Trail Walkers in Ruidoso NM
4 hikes in 3 days on beautiful mountain paths 5K-18K

October 18-20, IML accredited walks with US Freedom Walk Festival
5K-21K in Arlington VA and Washington DC plus bike and swim events

October 25-27, Hike Hutchinson Kansas with the Sunflower Sod Stompers - Hootin It on Halloween

November 1-3, Walk around Florida with the Happy Wanderers, Mid Florida Milers and Suncoast Sandpipers at
Flagler Beach in Palm Coast Florida 4 walks a bike and swim

Save the Date

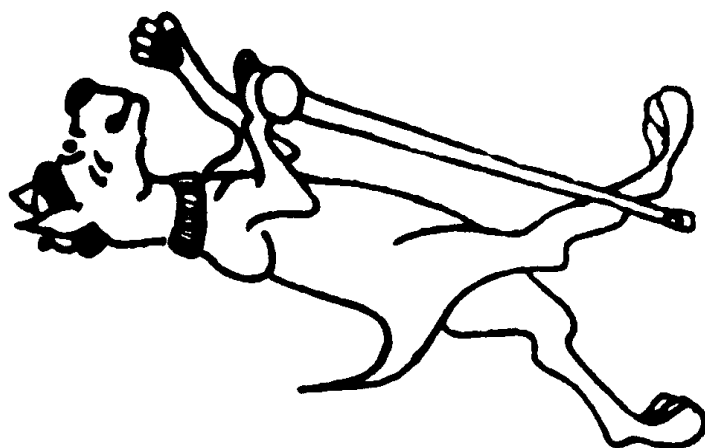
April 26 to May 4, 2025 Biennial Convention in Las Cruces, NM
3 Cities, 3 states, 2 countries.

see page 5.

Susquehanna Rovers Volksmarch Club
797A Academy Heights Avenue
Ephrata PA 17522-6915

Dated Materials

The Rover Reporter



October - November - December 2024