



The Rover Reporter



The Newsletter of the Susquehanna Rovers Volksmarch Club

July-August-September 2026

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www.avaclubs.org/SRVC

President's Message

Hi Folks,

I hope that everyone is well. We miss seeing you.

If you haven't been walking and are well, it would be lovely if you would join us for our next group walk on October 31st at Bull Frog Valley Trail in Hershey. The 5K is on an old trail up to some developments and then back through a large park and then back to the start. There are usually some ducks at the start point. The other part for the 10K then goes around the Hershey Medical Center, then back to the start point. All the trails are paved. We sign up at Karns.



We will be going to Hummelstown on the Friday after Thanksgiving, the 27th. That trail is designated as our memorial trail. We lost 2 of our members this past year, Bill Krow and Fred Welch. This trail is interesting as it goes through the town of Hummelstown and along a creek. We try to get together at the Soda Jerk Diner at the far end of Hummelstown after walking. We sign up for this walk at Karns on Cherry St in Hershey. This walk is open from October 1 to December 31.

We had a tour bus from Ohio, the Wandering Wheels walk our Fort Hunter trail on their way to Cape Cod. Unfortunately, one of their people fell when they were in New England and the Nor'Eastern was that weekend so they had to cancel their walks in Martha's Vineyard. On their return trip, they stopped to walk our Hershey town event before retuning to Ohio. There were 37 walkers. I met them at Fort Hunter. What a fun group, even the bus driver is a volksmarcher.

If you want to attend our meetings on zoom, just download the program, ask Bill to send you the code, and you will be part of the meeting. It is usually a 40 minute meeting. If we don't finish, then there is a second code for another 40 minute meeting. I think we have only used that once. Please join us. We need you to be involved.

I truly hope to see and talk with you soon. - Pat

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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 2026. 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, ywrw.org Call Jane Snurr 717-525-0216 to check if they will be walking if weather is iffy. **Nov 7** - Thurmont MD Walk, Mountainview Convenience & Truck Stop, 140 Frederick Rd, Thurmont MD. **Dec 5** - York Rail Trail Walk Downtown, Parking Lot at Route 30 & Louks Mill Rd, York.

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 year-round events can be walked anytime during daylight hours. The time to meet is with the event. Call Pat if you want a ride or need directions. 717-379-8945.

Oct 31 - Hershey Bull Frog Trail. Meet at 9 at Karns Food, 731 Cherry Dr, Hershey. We will sign up there and then drive to the start point. Regina is the POC 717-545-4982. Rated 1A, 5 or 10K trail.
Nov 27 - Our Hummelstown Memorial Walk for Bill Krow and Fred Welch. We will again sign up to walk at 9 at Karns Food, 731 Cherry Dr. Hershey and then drive to the start point. Rated 1B, 5 or 10K trail.
Dec 12 - Camp Hill, 19 N 27th St, Camp Hill. The start box is on my front porch. You can also sign up on the online start box. Meet at 9. There will be soup available when you are finished.
Jan 1 - Our Harrisburg walk, meet at 9 at Hotel Hanna on the River, 525 S Front St, Harrisburg.

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.



Meeting Location

The next club meetings will be held via zoom. They start at **6 pm** on the last Tuesday of the month. October 27, November 24, none in December, and January 26.

Contact Pat with any questions at 717-379-8945 or pateby35@gmail.com

Contact Bill at 717-817-9724 to get the code to join us on zoom. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

New Special Programs for 2027

Craft Beer, you need not go into the establishment to claim this Special Program, **Historic Places of Worship**, the building must be 100+ years old and doesn't need to still be a place of worship, and **Historic Route 66**.

Other Special Programs for 2027

A-maze-ing Labyrinths - 14 events are needed,
Anniversaries Hurrah - 25 events are needed,
Appalachian Trail - must walk in an event in all 14 states that the trail goes through, **Grain Elevators: Monarchs of the Plains** - that includes grain elevator, silo, mill, granary or grain crib 14 events are needed, **IVV-Americas** - walk in 20 IVV events in Western Hemisphere, **Lighthouses II** - 12 events needed, **Rails-to-Trails** - 16 events needed, **Step to the Beat** - 15 events are required that pass anything musical, **Walking with America's Veterans** - need 15 different qualifiers, Walking the United States (50 states/51 Capitals), **Walking the USA A-Z** - walk in a city that starts with each letter of alphabet, **Walking with the Wild Things** - 15 events needed that show trolls, gargoyles, fairies, and gnomes, **Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail** - walk in each state that the trail goes through from RI to VA.

PA Challenge Program - Walk all of the Counties, and **Appalachian Trail**

Pick one or two to work on. It is a fun way to motivate your walking.

AVA correct address!

Be sure to use this address when mailing your books.

AVA Headquarters
 1032 S. Alamo St, San Antonio TX 78210
 210-659-2112



Group Walks

July 18 - Lebanon. We cancelled walking because of the poor air quality from the wild fires out west and north.

Aug 8 - Boalsburg. There were three of us that walked. Bill was on a cruise and Marcy was in Maine.



From the left, Mary Watts, Pat Eby and Jill Steinig.

Jill is from State College. We met at the Super 8 in State College, then drove down to Boalsburg. I was too tired from getting up so early to think, so I gave us the wrong directions. I didn't know it until we parked in Boalsburg. So we guessed the trail and still had a good time. The statue of the women looking at a grave stone, shows the beginning of Memorial Day in Boalsburg.



We noticed plaques with numbers on the houses and wondered about that. We went up Academy Rd and I thought I remembered the old Academy Building. So while we walked, a woman was sitting on her front porch, so we asked her about the academy and the plaques. Turned out the Academy Building is now owned by the Lions. She also explained the plaques. The town has three walking tours that explains something about each of the buildings. It is online at www.historicboalsburg.com then select Walking Tours.

We then headed to Duffy's Tavern for a bite to eat. We thought we were done when we got back to the car, but no. We stopped at Meyers' Dairy for some wonderful ice cream. It was a fun day and such a joy to meet someone new.

Mary and I continued toward home. But on the way, we stopped to see Cookie Little in Newport. We had a wonderful time chatting with her. We even got to hear her husband practicing his bag pipe. It was lovely.

Next year there will be two new AVA special programs. Historic Places of Worship and Craft Beer. Boalsburg has them both. The Lutheran Church next to the cemetery and Duffy's Tavern still has a bar.

Sept 12 - Selinsgrove. I canceled that one because I wasn't feeling up to it.

Springfield MO June 28 - July 1, 2027

The next biennial convention will be held in 2027 so mark your calendars and save your pennies. In order to avoid the IVV Olympiad which will be held June 14 - June 20, 2027 in Luxembourg, the AVA convention will be held June 28 - July 1, 2027.

Pre-convention walks are June 26-28 with post-convention walks planned for July 2-4. Please save the dates from June 26 through July 4th plus travel time.

Since it is still early, more information will be available at a later date. Watch ava.org and future Checkpoints.

If you do not receive the Checkpoint, you can request it by emailing Hector at Hector@ava.org. Please note on the subject line: **Request for Checkpoint**. There is no charge. You will receive it via email once a month. You can keep up with what is happening at the national organization.

Bill Rhoat's Walk in London

Bill had a wonderful trip to London, Brussels and Norway. He shared part of his trip with us at our last meeting. Attending this meeting were Bill, Grant Bollen, Mary Watts, Regina Zapotosky and Pat Eby. Luckily that made enough people to vote on things.

Anyway, he shared these pictures of his volksmarch in London. Looks like he was happy to be there.



The statue to the left is the Burghers of Calais. It commemorates an event during the Hundred Years' War, when Calais, a French port on the English Channel, surrendered to the English after an 11-month siege. The statues show 6 burghers with nooses around their neck, holding the keys to the city and castle. The city commissioned Rodin to create the sculpture in 1884 and the work was completed in 1889.



The final picture shows Big Ben. This started off his tour and cruise. What a way to begin a trip. He said there were nine checkpoints on the directions. It made the walk feel like a scavenger hunt.

Thanks for sharing, Bill.

Would you like the Susquehanna Rovers Volksmarch Club to continue providing walks for your enjoyment?

I am finishing my second year as President and we will need elections in November. If you want it to continue, others are needed to step up to help with running this club.

I can't lay out trails anymore. But last year, two couples adjusted already laid out trails so we could have two traditional events. They were the Clugstons and the Zarfoss. They found and got permission for our start points and checked out the trails. Then Marcy Lucas and Bill Rhoat double checked the trails for consistency with AVA rules. We need to do one in 2027.

So we need others to help as well. Bill still works and Marcy is in Maine for half the year. They do what they can. Can you please help in some way?

-Pat



2026 Seasonal and Year Round Events

Events listed are year rounds unless stated as seasonal.
These walks will have a start box unless stated OSB.

Susquehanna Rovers

Altoona - Blair County

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

Camp Hill - Cumberland County

Pat Eby's house - front porch, 19 N 27th St, Camp Hill.
Dawn to dusk. 6/10K Rated 1A.
OSB or Physical Start Box is on porch that is always open.
Pat Eby, patriciaeby@verizon.net 717-379-8945

Carlisle - Cumberland County

Comfort Suites, 10 South Hanover St. Carlisle Dawn to Dusk. 6/10K 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

Columbia Walk - 5/10K Rated 1A

Marietta Walk - 5/10K Rating 1A

Columbia Crossing River Trail Center, 41 Walnut St. Columbia. Open 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday - Sunday
Ask at desk for the walk box. They open at 10.
Bill Rhoat 717-847-3567 rhtpr@aol.com

Ephrata - Lancaster County

Hampton Inn & Suites, 380 E Main St, Ephrata. 5/10K Rated 1B Ask at reservation desk for Walk Box.
Bill Rhoat 717-847-3567 rhtpr@aol.com

Harrisburg - Dauphin County

Capital and Wildwood Park
Hotel Hanna, 525 S Front St. Harrisburg Dawn to dusk.

Capital Trail Rating 1A 5/0K

Wildwood Trail Rating 10K 3C; 5K trail is easier and can be a 1B. Ask at reservation desk for the Walk Box.

Pat Eby 717-379-8945 patriciaeby@verizon.net

Fort Hunter, Harrisburg- Seasonal 4-1 to 9-30. 5/10K Rated 1A. OSB or Walk Box is at the Hotel Hanna with the Harrisburg walks or contact Pat Eby at 717-379-8945 patriciaeby@verizon.net

Hershey - Dauphin County

Bullfrog Valley Trail 5/10K and
Hershey Town 5/10K Both are rated 1A

Hummelstown - Seasonal - 10-1 to 12-31 5/10k rated 1B.

Karns Food, 731 Cherry Dr. Hershey
Ask at the Service Counter for the Walk box.
Dawn to dusk.
Regina Zapotosky, 717-545-4982

Lebanon - Lebanon County

Lebanon Valley Family YMCA, 201 N 7th St. Lebanon
Hours vary - call 717-273-2691
5/10K 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

Box is on Pat's porch. It is also an online start box which takes you to the start point of the walk in Mechanicsburg.
Pat Eby's house - front porch, 19 N 27th St, Camp Hill.
Dawn to dusk. 6/10K Rated 1A. Will have to drive 5 miles to start the walk. OSB or Physical Start Box is on porch.
Pat Eby 717-379-8945 patriciaeby@verizon.net

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.
5/10K Rated 2B
Walk Box is in the library under a table.
Joyce Krow 717-527-4798 jakrow@centurylink.net

Milton - Most in Northumberland and rest in Union County.

Seasonal - 4-1 to 9-30. 5/10K rated 1B. OSB or contact
Bill Rhoat 717-847-3567 rhtpr@aol.com. He has directions and stamp.

Selinsgrove - Snyder County Seasonal 4-1 to 9-30.

Rated 1B 5/10K. OSB or contact Pat Eby 717-379-8945 patriciaeby@verizon.net. She has directions and stamp.

State College - Centre County

Arboretum, Boalsburg, and Campus
Super 8 Motel, 1663 S Atherton St. State College Dawn to dusk. Arboretum Trail Rated 1A, Boalsburg Trail Rated 2B, Campus Trail Rated 2A All have 5/ 10K trails.
Ask at reservation desk for Walk Box.
Marcy Lucas 717-979-3960 lucas_my@hotmail.com

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 - Snowshoe 1287 Shippensburg Rd, Biglerville PA 17307 5/10K rated 1C. Open Jan 1 to March 31

Fayetteville - Smoke Zimmerman XC Ski Area -

Snowshoe, Rutter's 6837 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville, PA 17222 5/10K Rated 1C. Open Jan 1 to March 31

Fayetteville - Pine Grove Furnace State Park - Walk

10K or 14K Rated 3C OSB Only

Harper's Ferry WV - Walk OSB or physical start point

ATC Visitor Center, 799 Washington St.

5K 2B), 10K, 15K or 20K Rated 3C

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

Rated 1B, OSB only

Join the Susquehanna Rovers or
renew your membership today!

Memberships received now will be dated 2027.

Annual membership is still only \$10 per household. Complete the form, make check out to Susq. Rovers and mail to Susq Rovers, 19 N 27th St, Camp Hill PA 17011.

New _____ Renew _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____ - _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Names of others in household:

Are you interested in -

Helping out at events _____

Planning an event _____

Holding office _____

Receiving mailings only _____

If you don't have email, your newsletter will be mailed.

Thought for the Year

We shall never know all the good
that a simple smile can do.

- Mother Teresa

AVA's 50th Anniversary Events

The AVA has planned many special walks to celebrate this anniversary.

October 16-18 Arlington VA 25th annual FreedomWalk Festival.*

October 28-November 1 Halloween Clicks on Route 66. (100th Anniversary of Route 66)

November 6-8 Bradenton FL 35th Anniversary of Walk Around Florida.

November 14 Dayton OH Honoring our Veterans

December 5 Helen GA Weihnachten Lights Spectacular

***More info** about FreedomWalk Festival in VA (Oct 16-18) This event includes a swim that is available each day and a different walk each day. Friday is a 5K or 10K trail in Arlington, VA; Saturday a 6K or 12K or 21K or 46K trail in DC: Sunday a 6K or 12K or 21K trail including parks, C & O Canal, and the National Cathedral. A Social and Dinner are also available. For more details, www.usfreedomwalk.org

NEW! The AVA STORE

The AVA Store is open and ready for shopping. There are various styles of shirts, ballcaps and sweatshirts to choose from, customized by you.

You choose: Preferred color 50 Anniversary logo or just the AVA logo, Short sleeve or long sleeve shirt of cotton/poly blend – unisex or female cut, Dri-fit short or long sleeve in both men's and women's cuts, Crew neck sweatshirts, Vintage and trucker ball caps This is your chance to get the AVA merchandise you want. Your order can be one item or several. Clubs can order in bulk if they want. When you order, you will receive an emailed receipt, and shipping information. The price listed does not include tax or shipping/handling costs. Orders will take 7-10 days to be shipped.

Go to: https://bigfrognewbraunfels.com/americas_walking_club/shop/home.

Be the first on the trail with the new merchandise.

2026-2027 ATLANTIC REGION CALENDAR of EVENTS

From ava.org as of September 29, 2026

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

October

16-18	BS	Arlington VA	usfreedomwalk@gmail.com	703-209-0174
16	W	Arlington VA	usfreedomwalk@gmail.com	703-209-0174
17	W	Arlington VA	usfreedomwalk@gmail.com	703-209-0174
17	W	Laurel MD	laurelvolsyre@gmail.com	301-919-0465
18	W	Arlington VA	usfreedomwalk@gmail.com	703-209-0174
24	W	Kentland MD	rockpic001@gmail.com	301-520-6507
24	TGW	Huntingdon PA	mjparki@gmail.com	215-901-0767
24	WBS	Rehoboth Beach DE	president@firststatewebfooters.org	302-233-6615
27	M	<i>Via Zoom 6 pm</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	<i>717-379-8945</i>
31	GP	<i>Hershey PA –Bull Frog</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	<i>717-379-8945</i>

November

7	TRAV	Langhorne PA	pgraeve17@gmail.com	215-859-7034
7	W	Patuxent Research Refuge MD	greenbeltmva@gmail.com	571-217-9851
14	TRAV	Bala Cynwyd PA	mikeginf@gmail.com	845-781-6801
14	W	Annapolis MD Amer 50	annapolisambelers.org	571-217-9851
21	W	Havre de Grace MD	suecapp@yahoo.com	717-968-6611
24	M	<i>Via Zoom 6 pm</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	<i>717-379-8945</i>
27	W	<i>Hummelstown PA memorial</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	<i>717-379-8945</i>

December

11-12	NW	Williamsburg VA Holiday	pbb6116@gmail.com	757-869-6116
11-13	S	Williamsburg VA Holiday	pbb6116@gmail.com	757-869-6116
12-13	W	Williamsburg VA Holiday	pbb6116@gmail.com	757-869-6116
12	GP	<i>Camp Hill PA</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	<i>717-379-8945</i>
12	W	Annapolis MD Boat Parade	littlewalker1@comcast.net	301-509-6748
19	W	Fredericksburg VA Holiday	roger@everydaygiving.com	540-429-2239
31	W	Smithfield VA	paparker1@cox.net	757-851-9252
31	2W	Savage MD	wahasse1798@verizon.net	410-533-5805

January 2027

1	GP	<i>Harrisburg PA</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	<i>717-379-8945</i>
1	2W	Savage MD	wahasse1798@verizon.net	410-533-5805
9	TRAV	Ambler PA	billri12@yahoo.com	215-767-5079
21	TRAV	Bristol PA	billri12@yahoo.com	215-767-5079
23	TRAV	Telford PA	billri12@yahoo.com	215-767-5079
26	M	<i>Via Zoom 6 pm</i>	<i>SRVC patriciaeby@verizon.net</i>	<i>717-379-8945</i>

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.***

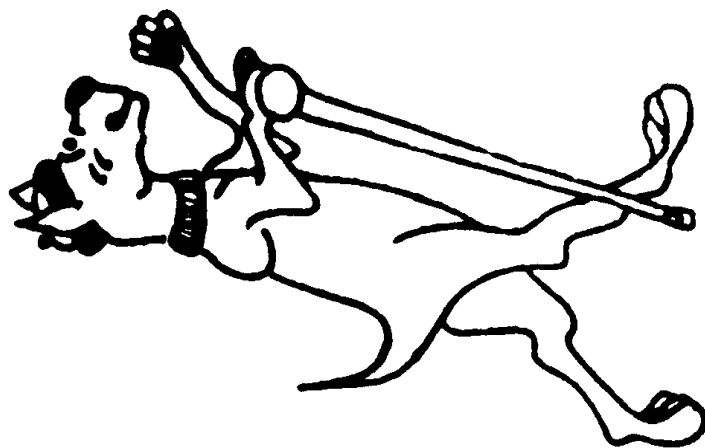
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Susquehanna Rovers Volksmarch Club  
19 N 27th Street  
Camp Hill PA 17011

**Dated Materials**

# **The Rover Reporter**



**October - November - December 2026**