

# Footsteps

Fun, Fitness, Friendship

Volume XXIII Number 6

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## The Prez Sez...

Hello NWFT club members,

As I write this article, I have been reminded of what a beautiful season

Fall can be. The colors of the trees this year are once again amazing, and the colorful trees do help make our walks this time of year even more enjoyable.

This will be my last article that I will be writing as the current President of the Nebraska Trailblazers. I would like to thank all of the various club members who have assisted me over the past two years that I have been your President. Your assistance has been truly appreciated. However it is time for me to pass the torch. We will be having our annual election of officers coming up sometime soon before our December club meeting.

Also coming up soon is our annual Lights Walk which will be taking place on Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Lights Walk this year is sponsored by KANEKO and The RiverFront. This annual event will take place this year at KANEKO at 1111 Jones St in Omaha's Old Market. The start table will be open from 4pm-6pm, off the trail by 8pm. This walk will offer a 5k and a 10k loop. The 5k will be stroller friendly.

Come and enjoy the holiday and the spectacular light displays at the shops and eateries in the downtown area. The routes are all on sidewalks and paved paths, but curbs may be

difficult to navigate in Omaha's Old Market.

We will be collecting diapers for the Lydia House at this event, which is an emergency shelter for Women and families. So start looking for diapers on sale, and please bring some diapers to donate to the Lydia House. We will also be offering hot drinks and cookies at this event, so please think about volunteering to bring some home baked cookies. There will be lots of door prizes at this event, and pets are also allowed in KANEKO.

Parking in the Old Market is not free, and we suggest using a pay lot. There is a paid lot to the West of the start and to the northeast. Directions: From the east: I-480 into NE, left on 10<sup>th</sup> St. to Jackson St. From west: I-480 northbound to Leavenworth St. Right on Leavenworth to S.13<sup>th</sup> St. Left on S 13<sup>th</sup> to Jones St. Pay lot at 10<sup>th</sup> & Jackson and 12<sup>th</sup> & Jones St.

And finally, please mark your calendars for our annual January dinner meeting, which will be taking place on Saturday January 21, 2023. Our annual dinner meeting will be taking place once again at Legends Bar & Grill, located at 6920 Pacific St in Omaha. Our dinner meeting will have a start time of 5:30 pm, dinner at 6pm, and our club meeting at 7pm. More details to come!

Please continue to Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and Happy Walking,  
~Steve

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For the latest on events and news visit our website:

[nebraskatrailblazers.com/](http://nebraskatrailblazers.com/)



or like us on Facebook



## Sandy peaks

Lake Flanagan is one of those walks that we will have to revisit. It was a great trail! The gloomy weather did keep a few walkers away. But the few that did make it to the walk had a great time. There was very little wind, so an umbrella was just the right gear. The rain made the green fields even more vibrant. It was fun looking for the benches along the trail. And the delicious blueberry babkas that Jill baked were a great treat at the end of the walk.

What a glorious day we had for our Lincoln Wyuka walk. And a great turnout. It was great to see so many from Lincoln and beyond. Rose's family brought roses to celebrate this memorial walk. And just by sheer happenstance, both the 5 and 10 K passed the memorial bench that Rose's family had placed on the MoPac Trail.

On a different note, our seasonal and year round walks have had very low numbers of walkers this year. I don't know if it was because the summer was so hot or if our walker demographic is changing and we have more walkers wanting to walk in groups. We will have to wait to see if the numbers pick up now that it has cooled off. The POCs of these walks put in a lot of work to make sure we have them available to walk at any time. If you are a newer member and would like some more walking opportunities but don't know how it all works, let a board member know and they will help you. The Online Start Box (OSB) has had some success. We have had 56 walkers utilize it so far this year. Most of those are out of town walkers and the walks with the greatest numbers are the three Chadron walks and Lincoln. We are not renewing Hanscom Park or Memorial Park next year. Memorial Park is closed for the year, but you still have time to walk Hanscom Park!

Hope to see you at the pie walk on November 5!

~Sandy

## Walker of the Year Nomination

Diane Fenlon



I nominate Diane Fenlon for Walker of the Year. She has been an active member of the Coordinating Committee since 2014 and has used her artistic skills to design donation boxes, raffle baskets and table decorations. You can often find her in the kitchen at our soup and pie walks and at the cookie table for our lights walk. She has been

POC for Chalco Hills, one of our most popular YREs for many years and walks it often. She has also been our historian for many years, attending and taking pictures at our events, and putting together beautiful scrapbooks of memories.

## Officer Nominations

The following is our slate of officers for the 2023 year:

President	Lori Anderson
Vice President	Joyce Sobczyk
Treasurer	Jill Champley
Secretary	Dave Brown

On November 21 our current club president, Steve Burkland, will be sending out an email with a link to voting. We encourage everyone to vote using that link. Club voting at the December meeting will be limited to a voice vote, approving (or not) all officer nominations since all are running unopposed.



The Papillion Junior Woman’s Club is sponsoring its 4<sup>th</sup> annual

*‘A Celebration of Trees’*



**What:** Christmas Trees decorated by local businesses, nonprofits, individuals and organizations. *Nebraska Trailblazers is sponsoring a tree!*

**When:** Friday November 18<sup>th</sup> 4–8  
Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 9–2

**Where:** The Belvedere Polish Home 201 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Papillion, NE

**Enjoy:** Our café serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.

**Browse:** Our boutique to find the perfect gift

**Purchase:** Raffle tickets to win a lovely raffle prize

**Appreciate:** the beauty of each unique Christmas Tree

**Admission:** \$1.00

Admission and raffle proceeds go to support *Sheltering Tree*.

All other proceeds go to benefit those in our community who are in need.

**NWFT 2023 Schedule**

Mar 4 Soup Walk Divine Shepherd Church, 15005 Q St.

*April 1-7 Walking Week*

Apr 1 Sat Bockfest Crescent Moon/Max & Joe’s, 3578 Farnam

Apr 2 Sun YRE Group walk –Wabash Trace 2 p.m.

Apr 3 Mon ACE–OPPD arboretum followed by meal at local restaurant 5 p.m.

Apr 4 Tue ACE–Walnut Creek 10 a.m.

Apr 5 Wed YRE–Chalco evening walk 5 p.m.

Apr 6 Thu ACE–Gene Leahy Mall: walk to Orpheum for a one hour tour then eat at food trucks 10 a.m.

Apr 7 Fri ACE–Heron Haven 2 p.m.

May 4 Little Italy starting at Gene Leahy Mall 5 p.m.

May 13 Mother’s Day Walk Lake Cunningham, Entrance 3

May 20 Chadron State Park–Free Day

June 3 Need start point

Sept 15-17 Regional Roundup–Le Mars IA, Plymouth County Historical Museum, 335 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SW

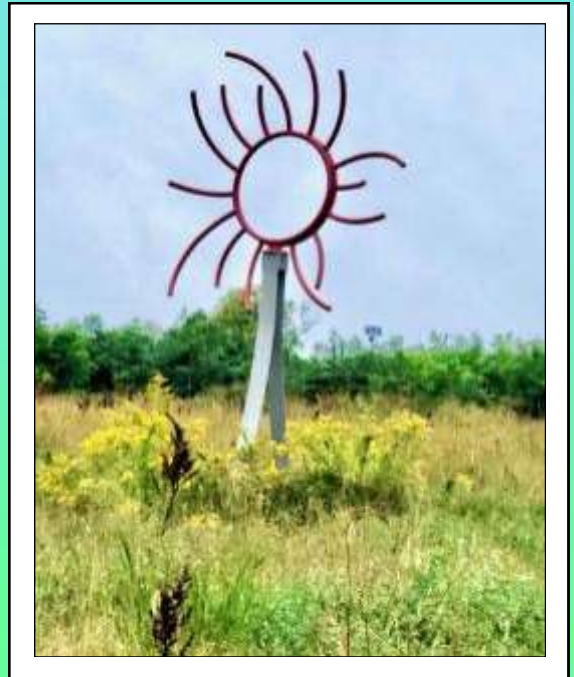
Oct 7 Peak Performance, 519 N. 78<sup>th</sup> St. Keystone Trail

Nov 4 Pie walk–Citylight Mosaic Church Westminster Presbyterian), 3416 Woolworth Ave.

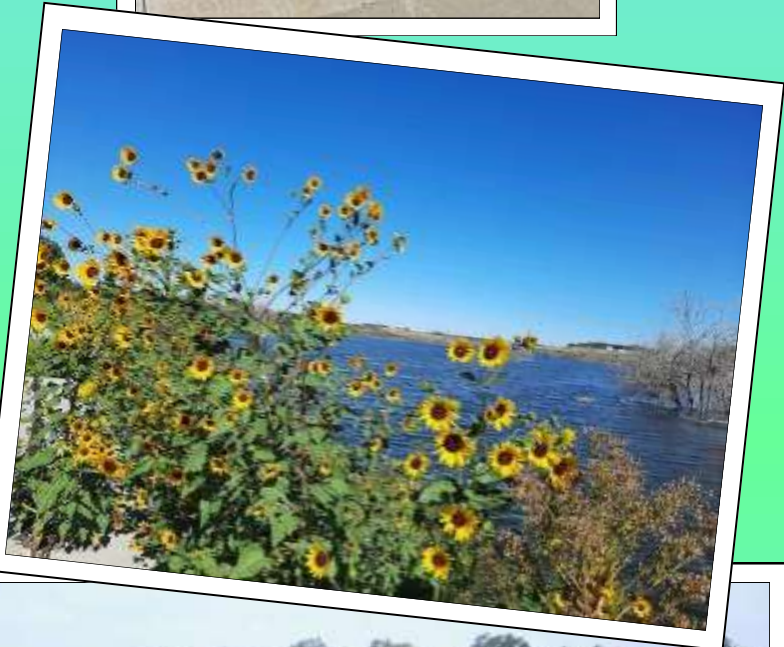
Dec 2 Lights walk–it is hoped that if the walk goes well this year that they will host again next year.



# Flanagan Lake



# Flanagan Lake





# Wyuka

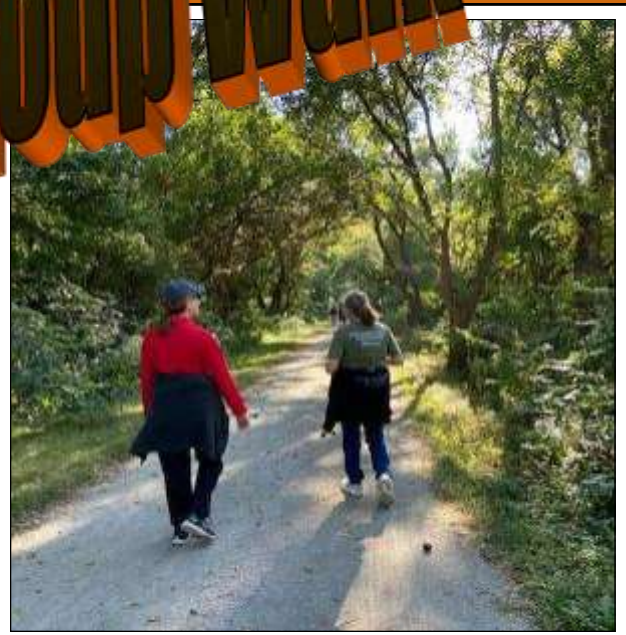


# Wyuka





# Wabash Group Walk







# Mark your calendars: Upcoming Events!!

## November

- 5 Keystone Pie Walk, Omaha NE ..... Nebraska Trailblazers
- 5 Snail Lakes at Sucker Lake Walk, Vadnais MN ..... Twin Cities Volkssport
- 5 Ste. Genevieve Town Walk, Ste. Genevieve MO ..... Gateway Milers NFP

## December

- 3 Old Market Holiday Lights Walk, Omaha NE ..... Nebraska Trailblazers

## January

- 2 New Year's Day Kickoff, West Des Moines IA ..... Greater Des Moines Volkssport Assn
- 4 East Towne Indoor Mall Walk, Madison WI ..... Madison Area Volkssport Assn
- 7 Northtown Mall, Blaine MN ..... Lake Country Wanderers
- 18 East Towne Indoor Mall Walk, Madison WI ..... Madison Area Volkssport Assn

If there is a perfect day for walking, consider one of our YREs!



Remember...

If Omaha schools are closed due to weather, our club meeting will be canceled.

## NWFT Officers

President  
Steve Burkland

Secretary  
Dave Brown



Vice President  
Lori Sue Anderson

Treasurer  
Jill Champley

## Speakers

- Nov 7 Joslyn Castle
- Dec 5 Dodge House: From Mansion to Museum
- Feb 6 Scheels: Walking Equipment
- Mar 6 Dick Warner: Council Bluffs History
- May 1 Bonsai Society



## Meeting News

Our next meetings will be November 7 and December 5 at Maple Ridge Retirement Community, 3525 N 167<sup>th</sup> Cir., Omaha, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Maple Ridge Room with a short program before the business meeting. Just a reminder that the club meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. with some exceptions: no meetings in January, July or August, and it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in September. Don't forget that at each meeting, we have a drawing for a \$10 door prize. Contrary to popular belief, you don't have to be a club member to win this.

## Club Dues

Club dues are \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a family membership, prorated for the year (see membership form on our website).

Please send renewals to: NWFT  
PO Box 8147  
Omaha NE 68108

## Send in Your Newsletter Info

To place info/articles/photos in the next newsletter: NWFT, PO Box 8147, Omaha NE 68108