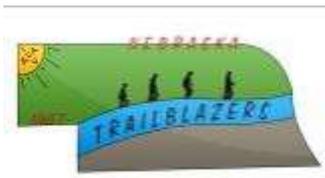


Footsteps

Fun, Fitness, Friendship



The Prez Sez...

Hello NWFT 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 have been amazing and help make our walks this time of year even more enjoyable.

is 4:00—6:00 p.m. and off the trail by 8:00. Cost is \$3 for all walker and children in strollers are free. Pets are not allowed inside the building.

Come and enjoy the holiday and the spectacular light displays at the shops and eateries in the downtown area. This walk will offer a 5k and 10k route! You can decide at the checkpoint which you would prefer to do. The routes are all on sidewalks and paved paths, but curbs may be difficult to navigate in Omaha's Old Market. Along with our host, Urban Abbey, we will be collecting diapers and wipes for the YES (Youth Emergency Services) Maternity Group Home. Sizes 3 and 4 are most in demand for their outreach program. We will be selling "diaper shares" (suggested donation of \$5). Donations are not required in order to walk.

Please help protect our volunteers by masking when you are in the registration area. You can register at the following link: <https://forms.gle/WMExpB4Se5GFTvn7A>

Directions: From the east: I-480 into NE, left on 10th St. to Jackson St. From the west: I-480 northbound to Leavenworth St. Right on Leavenworth to S. 13th St. Left on S. 13th to Jackson St. Parking in the Old Market is not free. There is a pay lot across the street from Urban Abbey, and metered parking in the areas with parking garages to the north and west.

And finally, please mark your calendars for our annual January dinner meeting, which will take place on Saturday, January 15 2022. Social time is 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 and our club meeting is at 7:00. Location and further details to be announced.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy
and Happy Walking,
~Steve

Keep your Fall walking shoes on and come join us for our next walk. Taking place on Saturday, November 6, is our Little Bohemia Pie Walk. This event will take place at the American Postal Worker's Union, AFL-CIO, located at 1270 S. 13th St. With a start time of 9 a.m.—12 noon, walk at your own place and finish your walk by 3 p.m.

Bring a pie! We will walk the trail and then enjoy pie and coffee with our fellow walkers. Extra pie will go to New Visions Shelter. If you would like to walk with a group, get there a few minutes before 9:30 a.m. There will be a 5k (3 mi) and 10k (6 mi) option. Cost is \$3 for all walkers and children in strollers are free. Children accompanying adults will receive a free award. Please help protect our volunteers by masking when you are in the registration area.

You can register at the following link: <https://forms.gle/McnPMSMdjaYufG1N9>

For all history buffs, take a stroll through Little Bohemia and Little Italy and find out about these groups that have added to America's melting pot.

To get there: take 13th St. to 13th & William. The APWU is on the northwest corner. Take the entrance on the northeast side of the building. There is parking in the APWU lot behind the building as well as the Bohemian Café parking lot across the street. Note the mural on the back of the building!

Also coming up is our annual Lights Walk, which will take place at Urban Abbey, located downtown at 1026 Jackson St. in Omaha's Old Market district. The start time

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For the latest on events and news visit our website:
<http://www.netrailblazers.club/>





Sandy Peaks

This article was written by Lucinda Mays from Chadron. These are some highlights of the Chadron State College YRE. Look for information on the other two walks in upcoming newsletters.

Chadron State College Walk, Chadron, NE by Lucinda Mays

Chadron State College's trails curve through the natural terrain of Nebraska's Pine Ridge that form the south boundary of campus. The north end of the trail takes hikers past pollinator-attracting wildflower beds, water catchments for windbreaks of native trees, and new student housing landscapes filled with high plains low-water-use plants.

The buffalo grass trail carries pedestrians past an intentionally developed water-conserving landscape of the college's Rangeland Complex, which is home to CSC's rodeo team and rangeland program.

On a clear day, as the trail continues west, buttes and other rock formations in Dawes County can be seen from the trail. The historic C-Hill, which was built in 1924, is passed on this route and a quick jaunt to the top offers views of the southern Black Hills of South Dakota. Just past C-Hill and

as the trail meanders to the south, hikers can stop by the CSC Labyrinth, a project designed and created by the Art Department and community volunteers. The labyrinth was



built in an abandoned water cistern that once served as Chadron's water storage tank and provides respite in nature and an opportunity for reflection and contemplation to those who enter.

The Mari Sandoz Heritage Trail, the concrete trail locally known as the "Snake," winds through the Thompson Natural History Preserve and is highlighted by crossing the upper dam at Briggs Pond and coursing to a scenic overlook of the city at the top. Benches allow users to rest and take in views. This trail connects back to the grass trail, traversing above the college's new track and past the starting line of the cross country course, or brings users out to the recently-renovated football stadium and Chicoine Center, home of the college's athletic department.

~Sandy

Walker of the Year Nominations

I would like to nominate Diana and Jim Webb for Walker of the Year. Since coming to Nebraska Trailblazers only a few years ago, Diana and Jim have jumped right in with both feet. They adopted two of our YREs for several years. They actively explore the area looking for new walking opportunities. Diana took over the meeting programming, finding great speakers for the past two years. And Diana, with Jim at her side, is responsible for most of those great pictures in our newsletter, on Facebook and on Meetup. She has even put our club on the map with her winning photo in the AVA photo national photo contest. Jim has served as our club's Vice President. For these reasons, Diana and Jim Webb should be 2021's Walker of the Year.

2022 NWFT Events

Traditional Events

- Mar 5 Soup walk- St. Johns UCC, Council Bluffs
- April 2 Bockfest—Crescent Moon, Omaha
- May 14 Auburn & Humboldt walks
- May 21 Chadron
- June 4 Glenda Tucker & Joyce McNair Memorial Walk, Grand Island
- Sep 10 Flanagan Lake
- Oct 29 Lincoln Wyuka Cemetery walk-Rose Quackenbush Memorial Walk
- Nov 5 Pie Walk , Great Plains PVA
- Dec 3 Lights walk, TBD

National Walking Week Events

- Apr 1 Prairie Queen—daytime walk
- Apr 2 Traditional walk
Bockfest Crescent Moon
- Apr 3 Chalco—Afternoon walk
- Apr 4 Bob Kerry Bridge—evening walk
with possible club meeting in park to follow
- Apr 5 Keystone Trail—day walk
- Apr 6 Walnut Creek—evening walk
- Apr 7 Wabash Trace—afternoon walk

Weekday Walking ACE or Group Walk Events

- Apr 26 Day walk in Neb City—Apple Blossom Festival
- May 24 Downtown Ace day event
- June 18 Group walk in Seward
- Nov 25 Opt Outside?
- TBD Memorial Park Group Walk

Monthly evening one-hour walks

ACE events—Suggestions:

- Arts Hotshops, Sculpture Park
- Architecture
- Pioneer Pioneer Park
- Sports TD Ameritrade

Other Events

- May 30 ACE event Memorial Day at Performance Pavilion with Meca Grand Opening event

New Special Programs for 2022

Rails to Trails

Rails to Trails qualifiers: North Platte, Chadron White River Trail, Bob Kerry Bridge (if used for downtown), Wabash Trace. One day events: Valley View (if used Soup Walk)

Small Town Town Halls

Town Hall qualifiers: Ashland, Council Bluffs, Nebraska City, Seward. One Day events: Auburn, Humboldt



Elections and Voting



Elections for our 2022 Club Officers and 2021 Walker of the Year are coming up! Every adult club member with an email address will

be asked to vote online, starting on November 16th. Online voting closes November 30th. Only those members who do not have an email address will be mailed a ballot, which must be returned by December 1st to the address on the ballot, using the member's own stationery and stamp.

If 2 adults in the household share an email address, 2 online ballots will be sent to the same email address. Adult #1 will have one color at the top of the page and Adult #2 will have a different color at the top of the page. If this is too confusing, just come to the December 6th in-person club meeting in the chapel at Morning Star Lutheran Church at 331 S. 85th Avenue in Omaha and vote a paper ballot there. Remember to wear your mask at the meeting and to bring your own pen – those will not be provided.

Results for the club officer election will be announced immediately at the meeting. Results for the 2021 Walker of the Year will be announced at the January dinner meeting, still being planned.

In Remembrance



Dannie Peters, of Lennox, SD, died Monday, October 25, 2021 at Sanford USD Medical Center, Sioux Falls, SD from complications of a heart condition.

Dannie Gene Peters was born on May 9, 1943, near Chancellor, SD, the son of George G. and Alice Mae (Timmerman)

Peters. He attended rural school and then graduated from Lennox High School in 1961. He went on to earn an associates degree from the Community College of the Air Force in business and accounting.

On January 11, 1962 he entered the US Air Force where he served honorably for 24 years until his honorable discharge and retirement on August 31, 1985. He attained the rank of SM Sgt and had earned several meritorious and commendation medals and ribbons for his outstanding service. Dannie was also awarded an outstanding unit award for his various roles in the finance area the US Air Force.

On February 6, 1965 he was united in marriage to Ellen Parker. The couple made their home in Austin, TX, Germany, Fargo, ND, Grand Forks, ND, additional time in Germany and Mississippi. He was also deployed to Thailand for one year. After retirement in 1985, the couple made their home in Lennox.

He was a member of the Chancellor American Legion and the Volkssport Association. Dannie and Ellen walked in all 50 states and 50 state capitals. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and travel. Most of all he loved his family.

Besides his parents, Dannie was preceded in death by one sister, Carol Highstrom.

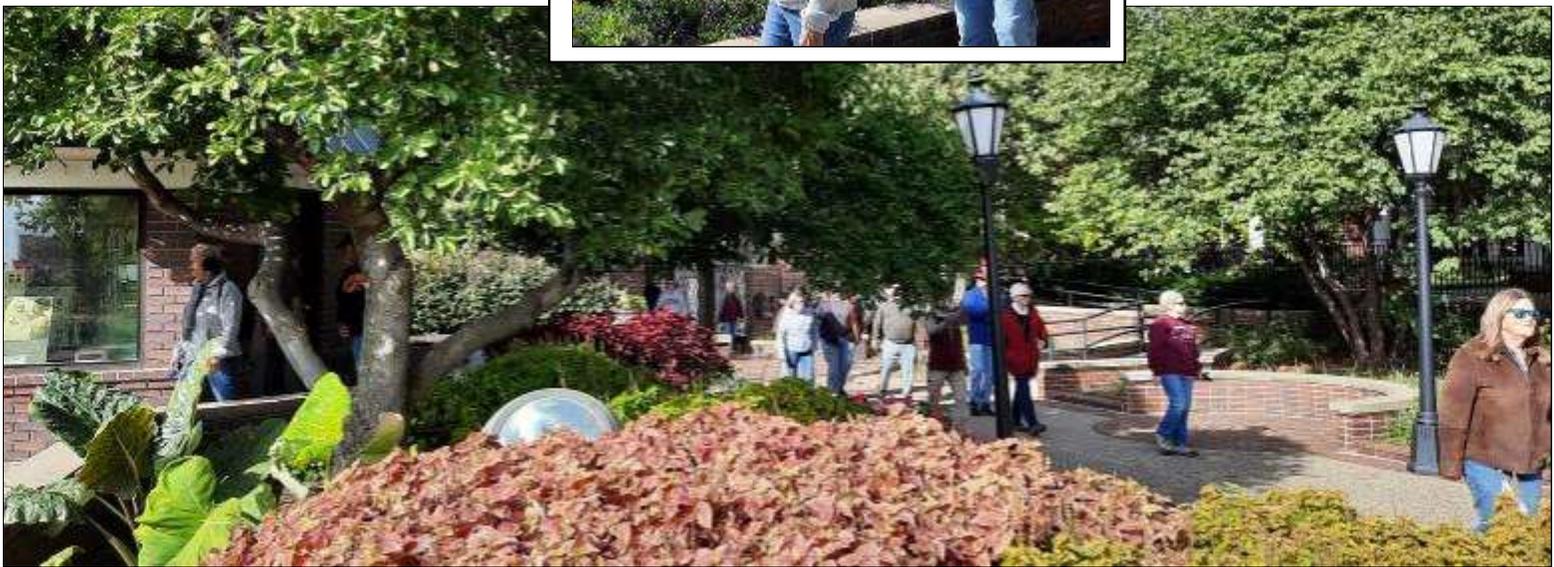
Grateful for having shared his life are his wife of over 56 years, Ellen; four children: Kevin (Cheryl) Peters, Jackson, MS, Kimberly (Aubrey) Russell, D'lo, MS, Jennifer (Steve) Folkens, Larchwood, IA and Jeffrey Peters (Lindsay Nicola) Lennox; 12 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren; siblings: Ron (Kerry) Peters, Hot Springs, SD, George (Susan) Peters, Jacksonville, FL, Jack (Mary) Peters, Garretson, Bob Peters, Sioux Falls and Julie (Charles) Fowler, Lillian, AL as well as a host of other relatives and friends.

Graveside services and burial will occur at a later date, at the Black Hills National Cemetery, Sturgis, SD.

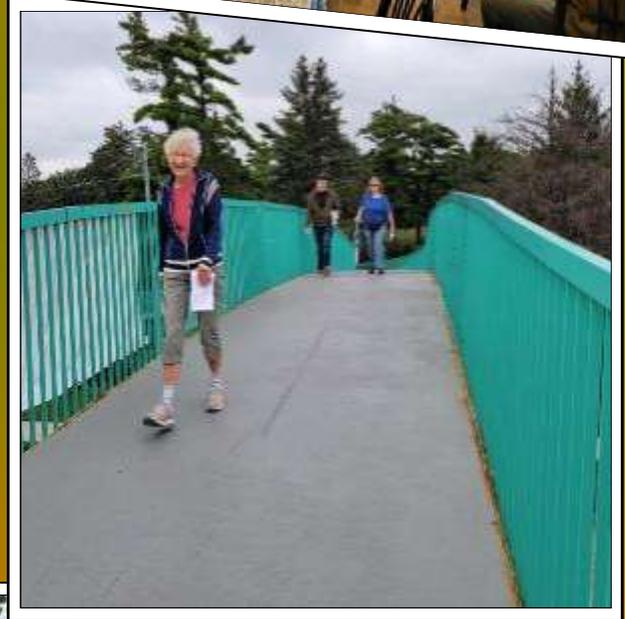
Hanscom Park



Photos courtesy of Diana Webb



Midtown Walk



Photos courtesy of Diana Webb



Mark your calendars: Upcoming Events!!

November

6 Little Bohemia Pie Walk, Omaha Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers

December

4 Lights Walk, Omaha Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers

January

1 New Year's Day Kickoff, West Des Moines Iowa's Walking Club

1 New Year's Day Walk Inside Mall, Blain MN Lake County Wanderers

2021 Lights Walk



2021 Lights Walk
December 4th
check-in/register
from
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
off the trail by 8 p.m.

Our annual Lights Walk will start at the Urban Abbey at 1026 Jackson Street, Omaha. The

5k trail dodges the construction downtown and gives the walker a look at the Old Market and surrounding blocks. The 10k route adds on a visit to the Creighton University campus and the Hot Shops Winter Open House. Our checkpoint for both routes will be at Omaha Virtual Reality in the Capitol District.

We will not be collecting toilet paper nor gloves, hats and the like this year. Instead, our host has asked that we donate diapers, especially sizes 3 and 4, to support the church's outreach program with YES – Maternity Group Home. Diapers are not covered by any social benefit program and are very expensive for anyone on a tight budget. So, we're offering "diaper shares" for a \$5 donation! Your name will go on a star (see above) and be hung at the Start Table. Let's fill the sky with stars at this walk!

The Urban Abbey supports itself with its coffee shop, so please support our host by buying your hot drinks from them. We will be offering our traditional complimentary cookies to our walkers, so that means a lot of baking needs to happen before December 4th. Take advantage of those early sales on baking supplies and make and freeze cookies as you have time. We'll need at least 25 dozen cookies, depending on attendance. If you would like to bake or donate cookies but can't make it to the walk, let us know and we can pick up from you. Look for the SignUp Genius email for volunteers and indicate there if you can help. Thanks for making this a great night for our walkers!

Speaker Schedule



TBA



Meeting News

Our next meeting will be December at Morning Star Lutheran Church, 331 S 85th St., Omaha, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the chapel area (masks are required). with a short program before the business meeting. Just a reminder that the club meetings are the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. with some exceptions: no meetings in January, July or August, and it is the 2nd 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.

Changes to Club Dues

Information on the club dues structure for 2021 is as follows:

- Anyone who joins in **2021** will join for free and their membership expires 12/31/**21** (a benefit that Lincoln members who join us will like).
- All club members current as of 1/1/**21** have their memberships expire 12/31/**21**.
- All club members in 2021 who wish to be club members in **2022** will pay \$10 individual or \$15 family due by the annual banquet in January **2022**.
- Anyone who joins later in **2022** will have their membership pro-rated so that it expires 12/31/**22**.
- Since club members who adopt a YRE/SE/Traditional Event have no annual dues, per our by-laws, they will receive 5-coupons valued at \$3 apiece for use only at our club events.

Renewal is \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a family membership.

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,



snail-mail: NWFT, PO Box 8147, Omaha NE 68108