

# Footsteps

Fun, Fitness, Friendship



## The Prez Sez...

Hi everyone,

I hope everyone is ready to start the 2025 walking season. I wanted to enlighten you all about the RiverFront in Omaha. The RiverFront is a centralized gathering place for locals, and a space for visitors too. This public park serves as a gateway between the historic Old Market and north downtown Omaha while providing a scenic pathway down to the Missouri River's shore. The RiverFront honors the area's past by preserving beloved structures, protecting storied buildings and rehabilitating aging fixtures. Between flourishing native landscaping, robust public art and recreational diversity, The RiverFront has something for everyone.

While the park land is owned by the City of Omaha, The RiverFront is privately managed by the Metropolitan Entertainment & Convention Authority (MECA). MECA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that also operates the CHI Health Center Omaha arena and convention center and Charles Schwab Field Omaha ballpark, both located in the north

downtown area. MECA oversees the everyday activation and maintenance of The RiverFront, while providing oversight of park operations and security.

With the help of local program partners, like our club The Nebraska Trailblazers, and other sponsors, The RiverFront is able to offer a wide range of free events and activities that cater to guests of all ages and abilities. Our Club has been approved as a partner to help MECA with community awareness by hosting demonstrations, classes or events at The RiverFront! Check out the calendar at The RiverFront as they post our events that help advertise our walking club. On April 19, we have been asked to have a booth at their Eggcellent Adventure Easter Event where we can use our new table cover with our logo. Just wanted to let you all know how great this partnership is to our club and take the chance to attend some of their events.

See ya on the next walk,

~Lori

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





## Sandy Peaks

Yay, Walking Season has begun! By the time you get this, our first walk of the year should be a thing of the past. And it was all about the past as we walked through historic Florence. The Historical Society welcomed us into the Mill, the Depot and the Bank, all museums with a great history. So much interesting stuff. Florence was almost named Rock Bottom due to the rocky bottom of the Missouri River, making it a good place to put a bridge. Instead, it was named for the founders adopted daughter. And the founding of the city of Florence was itself unusual in that it was able to utilize existing infrastructure left behind by the Mormon's Winter Quarters four years after they abandoned the area to move on to Utah. And I had never heard of a "Wildcat" Bank. The only Wildcat bank in Nebraska that was never robbed was the one in Florence. Even the construction of the bank was interesting to me. They ordered the vault, installed it, surrounded it with brickwork, then built the bank around it! That vault is there to stay. I love these types of stories.

Speaking of stories, check out the popup walk on Pi ( $\pi$ ) Day. Stroll with us past the story boards starting at noon on March 14. We will start at Lewis and Clark Landing between the Luminarium and the playground. Learn all of the facts about this fascinating mathematical constant and finish off the walk with a mini pie

(while supplies last).

Walking Week is filled with unique events. Don't forget to preregister for Glacier Creek and the Joslyn tour. We need to have final numbers for the Joslyn tour by March 5 and Glacier Creek by March 30. Let one of the board members know if you would like to carpool to Glacier Creek or the Lied Platte River Bridge walk. If there is interest, we will set up a meeting place and some rides. If you picked up the original brochure at the annual meeting and didn't pick up the sticker at the last club meeting, do note that the Mandan Park walk has been canceled due to park construction. Instead, on April 4, we will meet at the Lewis and Clark Landing between the Luminarium and the Discovery Playground and make our way across the Bob Kerrey Bridge.

### Walking Week:

- Tuesday, April 1-Shadow Lake
- Wednesday, April 2-Glacier Creek Preserve
- Thursday, April 3-Joslyn Art Museum Tour
- Friday, April 4-Bob Kerrey Bridge
- Saturday, April 5-Lotus Monastery, Council Bluffs
- Sunday, April 6-Lake Zorinsky
- Monday, April 7-Lied Platte River Bridge

~Sandy



# Annual Meeting



# Annual Meeting





## Mark your calendars: Upcoming Events!!

### Mar

- 1 Historic Florence Walk, Omaha NE ..... Nebraska Trailblazers
- 9 St Patrick's March Madness, Lawrence KS ..... Sunflower Sod Stompers

### Apr

- 5 Historic Council Bluffs, Council Bluffs IA..... Nebraska Trailblazers
- 5 2 Cities, 2 States Weekend, Arkansas City, KS..... Sunflower Sod Stompers
- 6 Lake Zorinsky, Omaha NE ..... Nebraska Trailblazers
- 17 Northeast Nebraska Volksmarch, Crawford NE.....Northeast Nebraska Trails Association
- 17 Historic Snusville, Des Moines IA ..... Greater Des Moines Area Volkssport Assn

### May

- 8 Huffin' & Puffin' on the High Plains of Kansas ..... Sunflower Sod Stompers  
Cimmaron, Dodge City, Greensburg, Jetmore, Kinsley, Pratt, St. John
- 18 Myre Big Island State Park Spring Fun Walk, Albert Lea MN.....NorthStar Trail Travelers

## Longtime Members

If you are 85 years old, we have great news for you! Any member who has reached this milestone is entitled to receive a FREE Lifetime Membership! Simply notify one of the officers that you are 85 (or more) years young and they will handle the rest.

Congrats!!

## NWFT Officers

President  
Lori Sue Anderson

Secretary  
Dave Brown



Vice President  
Joyce Sobczyk

Treasurer  
Jill Champley

## Meeting Speakers

March 3    Omaha Conservatory of Music  
                 Gretchen Crane

May 5     Midwest Winds Kitefliers  
                 Randy



## Meeting News

Our next meetings will be March 3 and May 5 at Maple Ridge Retirement Community, 3525 N.167 Circle, Omaha, at 7:00 p.m. There will be a short program and a short business meeting followed by refreshments. 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, April, 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

Dues are \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a family membership. Anyone who joins later in 2025 will have their membership pro-rated so that it expires 12/31/25

Please send 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