

Stepping out of Bounds in Downtown Billings on the President's Walk  
20<sup>th</sup> AVA Biennial Convention  
By Frank Sayers

On Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, our second walk in Billings will be the President's walk in downtown Billings. The first General Session of the 20<sup>th</sup> AVA Biennial Convention will have been completed and it will now be time to enjoy our Brewery Walk with an evening of history, brewing, parks and higher education.

You will be taken to the Western Heritage Center built in 1901. It is one of the few remaining older public buildings in the city. Along the walk, we will pass Armour Cold Storage, Old Firehouse No. 2, and the Babcock Theater Building that was built in 1907. It houses a 750-seat theater, 14 second story apartments, and main floor retail spaces.

Then on to Pubs Galore! Carter's Brewing, Trailhead Spirits, Billings Depot, Uberbrew, Yellowstone Valley Brewing. All the way through downtown Billings you will walk past Big Dipper Ice Cream, Montana Brewing Company, Rock Creek Coffee roasters (after all, you still have to be able to walk more!!).

The Moss Mansion, built in 1902-1903, was home to the Moss's and their six children, the grandparents, and a staff of three, then past the Billings Chamber building, home of Visit Billings, whose personnel have been so very helpful in putting together our Best Convention Yet! Walk by the Yellowstone Art Museum on the way to the Dude Rancher Lodge. Completed in 1950, the Dude Rancher Lodge quickly became a local showcase and popular hostelry for people from all over Montana and the United States, and is where our 5K participants will be picked up and taken back to the Convention Center and the Start/Finish.

The 10K will continue past the McKinley School, through Pioneer Park, a 32-acre gem within the city, then up to Montana State University to Rimrock Rd, where looking up you can see the bluffs where you will be walking tomorrow morning. We continue onto the campus of Rocky Mountain College, where you will be transported back to the Convention Center and the Start/Finish.

All in all, a delightful walk through the history and pubs of Billings, Montana. It will surely be a highlight of your visit.