



Washington DC Area Volksmarching Club

WANDERFREUNDE

January 2010

A Note from the President

The new year arrived with the same cold, windy weather that we "enjoyed" for the final month of 2009. Fortunately, experience tells us that the seasons do change, so we know that some great walks in super weather await us in the coming year.

But before we turn to 2010, let's provide an update for our many non-local members of our final event of 2009, the Alexandria Holiday Event. December 5 foreshadowed a month of "real winter" with cold northerly winds, falling temperatures, and variable kinds of precipitation that only measured a few inches but still seemed pretty formidable as it fell. The lousy weather severely dampened attendance at the Alexandria Scottish Christmas Parade, and it cut into our event's participation, as only 72 walkers appeared. This was the lowest attendance ever for this event, and while disappointing, it was understandable. We had ordered far fewer awards than we had in the past, so the financial "hit" wasn't as bad as it might have been, and the spirits of those who did participate were positive.

Special thanks go to the following individuals who worked at holiday walk:

Steve Arnett	George Satterthwaite
Sandi Cahill	Nancy Stenger
Cheryl Eavey	Ken Wilson
Marshall Hansen	Tom Baerwald

So with 2009 behind us and more than 350 days to go in 2010, our club finds itself in good shape in its planning for the year. Following are the events we will conduct:

Sun, April 18 -- Washington DC (Marriott Wardman Park Hotel) -- a one-day walk in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers.

Tues, April 20 -- Alexandria VA (Barrett Branch Library) -- April evening walk.

Tues, May 18 -- Alexandria VA (Barrett Branch Library) -- May evening walk.

Tues, June 15 -- Alexandria VA (Barrett Branch Library) -- June evening walk.

Tues, August 17 -- Alexandria VA (Barrett Branch Library) -- August evening walk.

Tues, September 21 -- Alexandria VA (Barrett Branch Library) -- September evening walk.

Sat, October 9 -- Clarksburg MD (Little Bennett Regional Park) -- a one-day walk.

Sat, December 4 -- Alexandria VA (Barrett Branch Library) -- a one-day walk in Old Town.

The eight walks we plan to function together with our two year-round events -- the National Mall walk and the Iwo Jima Memorial Walk (both of which start at the Columbia Plaza Apartments at 24th St. and Virginia Ave NW in Washington DC) give our club an excellent line-up for the year.

Get all of these walks on your calendar, and join us for as many as you can.

And if you can do so, please join us for our monthly meetings. Until we start evening walks, we will meet at the Barrett Branch Library in Old Town Alexandria at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of the month, so those dates in upcoming months will be January 19;

February 16, and March 16. Once our evening walks begin, we may hold meetings while club officers staff the start/finish point, but if other members want us to start at 7:00 so that they can walk and then participate, we will gladly do so.

Very best wishes for a great 2010, and enjoy your walks and all else you do!

Thomas Baerwald, WDCAVC President

Looking for a Calendar?

Please note that the Atlantic Regional Calendar now is attached (or mailed) as a separate file.

Although WDCAVC Vice President Nancy Stenger now calls Hastings, Nebraska, home, she continues to do much good work for our region, including maintaining an up-to-date regional calendar online.

You can access that calendar at:

<http://www.walkvirginia.com/AtlanticRegionCalendar.html>.

You can print paper copies in PDF or Excel format from links at the bottom of that page.

Thanks a bunch, Nancy!

NO MINUTES!

No, it's not that we were late in getting the minutes together. We simply didn't have a meeting in December.

Watch here for the January minutes in the next issue of *Wanderfreunde!*