Strategic Planning – A roadmap to the future

By David Bonewitz, Chair, Strategic Planning Committee

How many of us would want to go on a Volksmarch with unmarked trails and no map or directions? Well, that is what it is like when a business or organization is operating without a Strategic Plan. Without a Strategic Plan, you have no idea what success looks like or where you are headed. That is a lot like shooting an arrow into a wall, drawing a target around it and declaring success. Looks good until reality hits and you have to do something like pay the bills. We have seen what the numbers have looked like for AVA over recent years with the continual drop in numbers of clubs, numbers of walkers, etc. While we could point to our arrow in the center of the target we painted, our reality is we must make changes if we are to survive as an organization.

In order to make our way into a positive future, the American Volksport Association is in the process of developing a Strategic Plan. While this was done at least once in the past, it was never apparently implemented. Given that we are a bottom-up organization with clubs at the core, we are going at Strategic Planning this time from the bottom up.

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) will be made up of one

Strategic Planning continued on page 3

Photo contest winners — People

Seventy-four entries were submitted for the contest representing 24 individuals and/or clubs. Awards Chairperson Linda Neu presented 23 recognition award ribbons for winning entries during the 2015 AVA Biennial Convention in Salem, Oregon.

There were nine competition categories including three for Photography (People, Places and Things), Traditional Event Brochures, YRE/Seasonal Event Brochures, Club Newsletters, Club Websites, Club Logos and a new category for this year’s contest, Event(s), Community Engagement and Publicity.

First Place — Mike Lanpher, Mid Florida Milers Walking Club, taken at Zion Trail Emerald Pond.

Second Place — Jerri Mitchell, East Tennessee Wanderers, Maryville YRE, TN.

Third Place — Jan Weeks, Asheville Amblers.

The AVA Convention experience

By Henry Rosales

It was such a pleasure visiting with the Volksporting community face to face during the 19th Biennial AVA Convention in Salem, Oregon. Sam and Martha Korff did a fantastic job spearheading and working with the planning committee. Hats off to the 19th AVA Convention Committee, volunteers, presenters, exhibitors, silent auction donors, NEC members, AVA headquarters team, Swiss Hiking Tours, Walking Adventures International, Tater Tours, Tom and Louise Baltes, AVA clubs and everyone who supported this AVA signature event!

Although I have not quite fully digested everything that I experienced at the convention here are some of my initial thoughts and highlights after my very first convention.

✓ Volksporters are the friendliest and most welcoming people on this planet!
✓ Volksporters have more endurance and energy than the energizer bunny!
✓ The rumor is true, Volksporters do love to eat (and some like to drink!)
✓ Volksporters have a passion for life and deep appreciation for nature.
✓ Volksporters love adventure and a good challenge.
✓ Volksporters have strong values of love, family, commitment, and integrity.

In all honesty I was touched by the generosity and kindness that Volksporters shared with everyone they came into contact with at the hotel and on the walking paths. It was awesome to see Volksporters taking pictures of nature and spending time reflecting on the pier at the lake.

Convention experience continued on page 3
The 19th B iennial Convention was a great success and a fantastic one it was. Sam Korf, his c ommitee and volunteers deserve a well earned round of thanks and applause for the great job they did in planning and executing all facets of the Convention.

The 19th NEC has been formed and will take office July 1. It will consist of Dennis Michele, President; Holly Pelking, VP; Sam Korf, Sec; Larry Lehman, Treasurer; Tom Jackson, AT RD; Linda Neu, MA RD; Jerry Wilson, NC RD; Betty Green, NE RD; Nancy Wittenberg, NW RD; Suzie Glass, PA RD; Frank Sayers, RM RD; Glen Conyers, SC RD; David Bonewitz, SE RD and Susan Medlin, SW RD. These will be your representatives for the next two years as we guide theAVA to new and better heights. All are extremely qualified and eager to get the job done.

In this regard, we will be establishing a Strategic Plan to bring new life and vitality to our sport. David Bonewitz, Committee Chair of the Strategic Plan Committee, has an article in this issue concerning where and how. I wish to emphasize that this will be a bottom up approach with individual, club and state association inputs solicited and used as his committee works out the details.

The next two years will bring on changes but the core will remain the same – enjoying Volkssporting and introducing it to others. Hopefully, we will continue to produce premier events. Traditional, Year Round and Seasonal, which will help us in this regard. Our goals of fun, fitness and friendship, especially fun, should be the hallmark of all our events.

Finally, I want to thank all those who supported me in my reelection as President. I will try my best to fulfill the confidence you have shown me.

Dennis Michele e

Wow! The 19th Biennial AVA convention is in the books. You came, you walked, and we are pretty sure you went home happy. So hats off to everyone who came to Oregon. We were glad you were here. Thank you for 4,076 convention walls completed. You are an awesome group of compassionate Volkssporters.

Thanks to Mother Nature for fantastic weather. I’m sure no one was concerned that they didn’t get to wear their raingear.

As electronic evaluations start coming in, I’m sure we will get some valuable input to pass along to Montana. If you have gotten the evaluation, be sure to complete and submit it. Your participation in the evaluation process helps keep this sport alive and our conventions happening.

The Convention Team recognizes the many people who helped out along the way: convention participants who stepped up and volunteered; the people and the organizations who let us use their facilities and areas, and helped with the paperwork; the ham radio operators who helped with safety at Clear Lake and Mt. St. Helens; The Salem Bike Club for developing a bike route and leading the group bike ride; and The Grand Hotel staff and the Convention Center staff — regardless of what we asked for they were able to find a way to get it done!

The Convention Team really was ready and and we did roll pretty much to the beat of the same drummer for all nine days. Now we must complete our report and pass it along to the Montana group. Thanks for helping us be successful. We’re glad you came to Oregon, and see you in Billings in 2017 e

The official newspaper of the American Volkssport Association (AVA), Americas premier noncompetitive sports organization.

Published bimonthly by the American Volkssport Association (AVA) a non-profit, educational association that promotes fun, fitness and friendship by providing non-competitive walking and other sporting events for everyone. The AVA represents the United States as a member country of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV) and administers all IVV programs in the United States.

Published by: Typesetting la Macque

AVA permits The American Wanderer (TAW) article reprinted to chartered AVA clubs; cite TAW and issue date. Articles and photographs should be submitted directly to The American Wanderer at taw@ava.org. (Emails preferred.) Contact editor for submission guidelines.

Advertising rates are available on request from the American Volkssport Association National Headquarters: 210-659-2112, fax: 210-659-1212, avahq@ava.org or email: avawebmaster@ava.org. Subscriptions through Volkssports Associate membership are $25/individual and $30/family for one year. Canadian addresses add $10. Single copies $4. Renewals and address changes are due to AVA HQ by deadline:

COPY and advertising deadlines:

February/March issue – Dec. 25
April/May issue – Feb. 25
June/July issue – Apr. 25
August/September issue – June 26
October/November issue – Aug. 25
December/January issue – Oct. 25

The American Wanderer
August/September 2015
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Much has happened on the National Event front since the last issue of TAW. We saw World Walking Day (May 8 and the weekends on either side), National Trails Day (June 6), and National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. All of these gave clubs opportunities to participate in events that were shared by other clubs across the nation. Some clubs submitted pictures which can be seen elsewhere in this issue.

Still to come this year is National Volkssport Month in October. Here is a month-long opportunity to share our love of Volkssports with those who haven’t been lucky enough to find out about us yet. Consider a Traditional Event with the special patch available from AVA headquarters, or do a group walk of a YRE but use the National Volkssport Month link to garner some additional publicity. Consider other opportunities to get some public exposure. The East Tennessee Wanderers secure space in two glass cases in the Blount County Library to display record books, patches, medals and more. Display title cards, like “Family Friendly Adventures” and “Fun, Fitness and Friendship” to try to build interest. The top of the cases are a great place for grabber cards and brochures for future events. Over the month, many thousands of folks will have had a chance to learn about Volkssporting and the AVA.

National Events

By David Bonewitz

At the most recent NEC meeting, the council discussed National Events. There was a consensus that none of the events since Time to Walk could really have been expected to generate the kind of excitement that 10-11-12-13-14 did. It is also obvious that attempting to manufacture interest with smaller events just dilutes the energy and excitement. Clearly, we need to find a truly national-scale event and get our planning out ahead of the clubs as they set up their annual schedules.

The next big event that appeared could be a large-scale national event was in the last issue of TAW as AVA’s 40th Anniversary. However, when one looks at the history of AVA, things aren’t as clear and obvious with regard to an anniversary date. The date suggested is actually the 40th anniversary of the first Volkssporting event in the United States, not the birthday of AVA. A big weekend event is being planned for June 10-12, 2016 in Richardson, Texas, by the local Texas clubs to replicate that first Volksmarch. Watch for more information as everyone will be invited to come down and celebrate. Since we are looking for ways to get clubs involved across the nation, one of the audience members at the June 2015 NEC meeting, Judy Johnson (Tahoe Trail Trekkers), suggested that we encourage clubs to celebrate their “firsts” throughout the year. To avoid appearing old and stogy with a “40th Anniversary,” Chris Zegelin subsequently suggested a slogan of “Celebrating our first steps toward fun, fitness, and friendship.” Taking that as our guide, our big National Event for 2016 will be a year of celebrations.

Clubs are encouraged to go back into their club history and replicate their first Traditional Event. We will develop a boilerplate news release that will tie the club’s “celebrating our first steps toward fun, fitness, and friendship with the celebration of the first Volksmarch in the United States. For those clubs who register their event as part of this celebration, there will be a special slug in their event stamp. We will also look at developing a patch and t-shirt to go along with this theme and our national celebration. While we will work to give clubs good exposure throughout the year, at the end of this year of celebration we will run a special feature highlighting all the celebrations across the nation.

Now it’s time to stop and research your club’s history. Make a plan to join clubs across the U.S. celebrating in 2016 the beginning of Volkssporting in the U.S. by “celebrating our first steps toward fun, fitness, and friendship.”

Convention experience

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These are values that I believe we are slowly losing as a society, I do not believe I ever saw anyone talking on a cell phone during a walk. I have to admit I was guilty of this a couple of times! Instead, Volkssporters were sharing stories and laughter with each other and simply taking in the beauty, almost as if they were one with nature. This was very unique to witness in this day and age of virtual reality. If only we could capture this in a time capsule for future generations.  Some areas are clearly dealt with. Some areas are clearly contentious issues that must be dealt with. Some areas are clearly common sense where we need to develop guidance, such as finding our target audience, facilitating growth of clubs, proving enhanced support of clubs, improving our product, etc. Other areas are potentially more “explosive,” such as free walkers, membership in AVA, electronic TAW, use of modern technology, etc. In all of these areas, the strategic plan will be seeking to provide AVA with direction and common goals. Some things will be easy and can be done quickly. Others will require careful incremental implementation. It needs to be stressed that this is a grassroots effort. The members of the SPC will need the input from Volkssporters and non-Volkssporters in their region to come up with the best ideas. You can be a part of this process of developing a roadmap for AVA’s future. Even if you aren’t able to be on the SPC, you can feed ideas to your region’s representative. There will be one or more surveys of the clubs and of the AVA’s membership. You will make a valuable contribution by responding candidly to those surveys. Get involved! Don’t let AVA take another step into the future without the best set of directions that we can write.
### 2015 Hall of Fame

This is the highest award presented by the American Volkssport Association. It recognizes exceptional contributions to the AVA and the promotion of Volkssporting in the United States.

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### 2015 AVA President’s Award

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<td>David Bonewitz</td>
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### International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV) Honors

The IVV may recognize individuals within the AVA for services, deeds, and accomplishments concerning the international aspect of our organization.

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<td>Paul A. Lamb</td>
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### Meritorious Service Award

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<td>Keziah Bercher</td>
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<td>Jim Farley</td>
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<td>Pat Lauter</td>
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<td>Ed Grant</td>
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<td>Joan Grant</td>
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### Mid-America Region

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<td>James Blessing</td>
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<td>Jan Henderson</td>
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<td>Jason Jordon</td>
<td>Garfield Heights, OH</td>
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<td>Debra Ann Knoop</td>
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### 2015 AVA Publicity Contest Winners

**Photography - People**

1st Place: Joan Lanpher, Mid Florida Milers Walking Club
2nd Place: Jerri Mitchell, East Tennessee Wanderers
3rd Place: Jan Weeks, Asheville Amblers

**Photography - Things**

1st Place: Sam Streitch, Kitsap Volkssporters
2nd Place: Jan Weeks, Asheville Amblers
3rd Place: Mike Lanpher, Mid Florida Milers Walking Club

**Events & Track Events**

1st Place: Madison Area Volkssport Association
2nd Place: The Upstate Pathfinders
3rd Place: Liberty Bell Wanderers

**VRE/Seasonal Event Brochure**

1st Place: Walk’n Mass Volkssport Club
2nd Place: Empire State Capitol Volkssporters
3rd Place: Dogwood Trailblazers

**Club Logo**

1st Place: Black Hills Volkssport Association

**Event(s), Community Engagement and Publicity**

1st Place: Randolph Roadrunners Volkssport Club
New Regional Directors introduced

Jerry Wilson, North Central Regional Director

I’m Jerry Wilson of Madison, Wisconsin and I’m the new regional director for the North Central Region. My wife, Pam, and I have been married 35 years on July 25. We have two grown children, Aaron and Tracy. We walk regularly, but our children stopped when the teen years struck, though each reached the 100 event milestone.

I’m a charter member of the Madison Area Volkssport Assn. (MAVA or Dairyland Walkers) in Madison, WI. I am a past-president, and currently serve as its newsletter editor. I am a walk box coordinator for the capital event; responsible for assembling Year Round and Seasonal event participation reports; POC for occasional Traditional walk events including the local 2014 Time to Walk event and the 2015 Veterans Week event.

I am retired after working for the State of Wisconsin for 35 years. The final 10 years I worked with the Dept. of Natural Resources on Clean Water Fund.

Other volunteer involvements:
- Current president of the Madison Area USBC Bowling Association
- Current president of the Friends of the Military Ridge State Trail
- Volunteer with the WI Chamber Orchestra for Concerts on the Capital Square

Suzi Glass, Pacific Regional Director

Walking has always been a part of my life. During high school at YMCA summer camp, several times I completed the 20-mile hike up Ol’ Grayback, so-called because the top was barren of vegetation. My husband of 46 years, John, and I met in a hiking class in college. In our early family years with two daughters, we walked and hiked trails and neighborhoods around the areas we lived in Denver, CO, Helena, MT, Las Vegas, NV, Upland and for the last 30+ years, San Jose, CA.

My AVA walking began in 2002, thanks to my sister and brother-in-law, Betsy and Bruce McDevitt. Since that introduction, I’ve walked over 950 events and 11,000 km reaching Centurion Achievement in both 2013 and 2014. We have kept credit walking in the family — both daughters, sons-in-law, and all seven grandchildren walk. Traditional event organizers love to see the 13 of us arrive at their start points!

In addition to my participation as a walker, I am an active member of both the Tahoe Trail Trekkers and the South Bay Striders. The Monterey, Carmel, and Point Lobos, CA YRE’s have been our responsibility since 2010. The Union City, CA, 10 km and 5 km routes were my creation and I helped design the Half Moon Bay and Fourth of July Parade traditional event walks. Since 2009, I have edited the quarterly California Volkssport Association magazine, The COMPASS.

AVA growth can occur by involving upcoming generations, changing to meet the needs of families and appealing to those who use the Internet and social media. As the Pacific Regional Director I will work to ensure AVA’s future.

Susan Medlin, Southwest Regional Director

I am 55 and a retired Army Intelligence Officer. I started Volksmarching in Augsburg, Germany. My friends (including my future husband Darren) and I had a great time walking in Bavaria and ended up with an awesome supply of beer steins. Darren and I married in Denmark in 1988. Our assignments included Hawaii, Maryland and Virginia. My all time favorite job was in J2J as part of the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, where I was the J2 Action Officer of the Year (1999). I retired on December 31, 2003 and followed Darren and his Air Force career to San Antonio, Santa Monica, California, Navarre, Florida and Colorado Springs, Colorado. After Darren retired we moved back to San Antonio. Our sons Travis (Texas State University graduate) and Kyle (a Junior at Texas A&M at Galveston) are both still in Texas. In my spare time I love to Volksmarch, read, garden, cross-stitch, work on my stain glass projects, watch movies and exercise at Golds Gym.

Betty Green, Northeast Regional Director

Background: My husband, Mike Green, and I became active Volkssporters in the spring of 2007. We had participated in our first Volkssport traditional event in Cold Spring, NY in September 2006 as part of a Hudson River Valley Ramble event put on by the Volkssport Club at West Point (VCWP). Like many first time accidental Volkssporters we enjoyed the walk but set the information aside. Thanks to a shoulder injury I incurred the following spring my interest was rekindled in an activity that didn’t require two good shoulders. We became active in doing YRE walks on our own, club breakfasts and traditional events. We soon also became AVA Associate members. In April 2009 we became AVA Lifetime members. I have been VCWP Secretary for a number of years and was newsletter editor for one year. Mike is VCWP webmaster. We have actively planned and been point of contacts for traditional and year round events. We were very active on our club’s 25th Anniversary committee. We attended the AVA Convention in Iowa in 2011 but were unable attend other AVA conventions due to work constraints.

AVA Milestones: I (we) have completed over 500 Events, the Walking A-Z book; 2013 and 2014 Centurion Challenges and several other AVA Special Programs. We have completed our club YRE Incentive Books since the inception of the yearly challenge. We are currently working on completing 50 States/51 Capitals, Border Crossings and Centurion Challenge 2015 and other AVA Special Programs. We have participated in YRE/SE for all current northwest region clubs and have participated in traditional events for almost all current northeast clubs. We frequently participate in events in other AVA regions.

Goals: I have much to learn about the workings of the AVA at the national level. I look forward to the challenge and commitment to the AVA and the Northeast Region. I want to see the AVA not only survive, but thrive and am excited about becoming a part of the process to make this happen.

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AVA Milestones: I (we) have completed over 500 Events, the Walking A-Z book; 2013 and 2014 Centurion Challenges and several other AVA Special Programs. We have completed our club YRE Incentive Books since the inception of the yearly challenge. We are currently working on completing 50 States/51 Capitals, Border Crossings and Centurion Challenge 2015 and other AVA Special Programs. We have participated in YRE/SE for all current northwest region clubs and have participated in traditional events for almost all current northeast clubs. We frequently participate in events in other AVA regions.

Goals: I have much to learn about the workings of the AVA at the national level. I look forward to the challenge and commitment to the AVA and the Northeast Region. I want to see the AVA not only survive, but thrive and am excited about becoming a part of the process to make this happen.

Susan Medlin, Southwest Regional Director

I am 55 and a retired Army Intelligence Officer. I started Volksmarching in Augsburg, Germany. My friends (including my future husband Darren) and I had a great time walking in Bavaria and ended up with an awesome supply of beer steins. Darren and I married in Denmark in 1988. Our assignments included Hawaii, Maryland and Virginia. My all time favorite job was in J2J as part of the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, where I was the J2 Action Officer of the Year (1999). I retired on December 31, 2003 and followed Darren and his Air Force career to San Antonio, Santa Monica, California, Navarre, Florida and Colorado Springs, Colorado. After Darren retired we moved back to San Antonio. Our sons Travis (Texas State University graduate) and Kyle (a Junior at Texas A&M at Galveston) are both still in Texas. In my spare time I love to Volksmarch, read, garden, cross-stitch, work on my stain glass projects, watch movies and exercise at Golds Gym.

Betty Green, Northeast Regional Director

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AVA Special Programs in Savannah, Georgia and East Central Florida

By Gloria Pratt

Are you still completing AVA Special Program books? The Happy Wanderers Walking Club in Port Orange offers 12 YREs that qualify for 22 AVA Special Programs. The events are in Cocoa Beach, Daytona Beach, DeLand, Flagler Beach, Mount Dora, New Smyrna Beach, Ponce Inlet, Port Orange, Saint Augustine and Sanford and Savannah, Georgia.

Seven of these are Special Programs that expired December 31, 2014 but current participants have until December 31, 2015 to complete the books. These programs are: America's Bakeries, Classic American Diners, Celebrating Golden Cinemas, Strolling Somewhere Over the Rainbow, Strutting' Down Main Street, Walking America’s Murals, and Works Projects Administration (WPA).

For additional info go to ava.org (Events, then Search Events, narrow search by Special Program) or happywanderersfl.org.

AVA Special Program — Water Fountains

Runs January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. Walk 20 sanctioned events that pass public water fountains or splash pads. Fountains can be natural or man-made. Fountains in yards will not count. The water does not have to be running. No drinking fountains, arcing fountain or waterfall will count. The info needed in the book includes the date, the place where the fountain is found, city and state. No duplicate stamps and only one qualifier per stamp. Cost $10. Prizes: 3 trophies. When ordering a book, please include your email address for our information, if you have one.

Sponsored by Lawton Walkers, email walkingfan@ladl.com, Sharon Snyder, 1714 NW 49th Street, Lawton, OK 73505. Or sebentley51@aol.com, Suzi Bentley, 1104 SE Alta Lane, Lawton, OK 73501.
Promoting Indiana events
using Meetup

By Jim Blessing

Last January, the President of our Indiana State Association asked me to present a Meetup at our January meeting. I accepted and on the day of the meeting, received a phone call from our President, who was rather exasperated over the phone. I had brought the Meetup to our meetings and our President was not pleased. He didn’t believe it was a good idea. I explained to him that I had been asked by the President to present Meetup to the group and that I believed it was a great idea. He didn’t seem too convinced. But I explained to him that Meetup was a social networking website that identified local groups and activities that matched members’ interests. Meetup groups include many varied activities including wine tasting, book reviews, travel, walking, hiking, biking and other sports. There is no cost to the general public to join Meetup. Meetup groups (who pay to participate) advertise events to attract new participants.

Meetup participants who indicate walking as an interest are invited to join our Meetup and participate in its events. Since its inception about 16 months ago, we have advertised 45 Traditional and Year Round events and have attracted approximately 370 Meetup participants.

The cost of hosting the Meetup site (which has been funded by the State Association) after a substantial initial discount is about $15 a month. Initially, we had only one location (Indianapolis). However, we recently expanded to two more locations (Evansville and Fort Wayne), which are all covered by the single Meetup fee. Having three Meetup locations within the state makes it easier for participants to find walking events near their local areas.

One of the best ways to use Meetup to increase walker participation is to host Year Round walks. A major advantage of Meetup is that it turns our Year Round events into guided walks that encourage social activities and fellowship among walkers. After the walk, we often meet for dinner or drink at the local restaurant or micro-brewery. These events attract not only new participants from Meetup, but also regular Volkswalkers, who would not have known about this walk had it not been published on Meetup. We have had as many as 25 walkers come to a Meetup Year Round event. Now whenever I do a Year Round event, I put it on Meetup to encourage people to join me.

Meetup is a great way to market our walking program to people who otherwise would be unaware of it. Most people prefer to walk in groups and Meetup facilitates that. Our organization’s greatest challenge is finding new walkers. Our three Meetup locations currently have 300 (Indianapolis), 85 (Fort Wayne) and 55 (Evansville) for a total of 440 Meetup members, who receive regular emails alerting them of upcoming Meetup events. If we can get only a small fraction of these Meetup members to come to our events, this can have a significant boost in our attendance numbers.

Start of Year Round Meetup at Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis.

Who are these participants? Some are our regular Volkswalkers, who have joined our Meetup. Some are former Volkswalkers who had essentially stopped coming to our events. The major portion, however, are Meetup people who had never previously attended a Volkssport event.

While some of these new participants came only once or twice, others became regular participants. Although a few started as free walkers, we have sold numerous New Walker Packets. In fact, some of our new walkers have helped us sell these packets and have participated in activities like trail cleanup. Recently, one of our new walkers volunteered and was put in charge of setting up the trail for an upcoming Traditional event.

Many of our new participants are looking for new places to walk and new people to meet and walk with. The Meetup site facilitates uploading photos taken during the walk. This is quite popular, with some walkers uploading numerous photos.

Thinking Out of the Box recap

By Deb Kruep

Thanks to everyone who made time to think out of the box at the convention! It was an honor to have so many committed to making a difference and moving Volkssporting into the future.

The workshop was the easy part. Now is the time to take out that box. You know where it is, buried under all those receipts and brochures from Oregon! Open it up and put all those good intentions to work.

Have you ordered a Come Walk With Us banner fromAVA? Are you putting your club name on it? Most importantly are you using it? Remember those potential new walkers do not know our lingo. Do they know you are there? They have no idea that IVV flag represents you. Stand back and look at your start point. Is it interesting enough that it would pique the curiosity of passers by? Move! Get the word out.

Have you contacted your local Chamber of Commerce? Get that free advertising. Be seen. Be part of the festival, don’t hide from it. Get your club name and logo out there for all to see. Keep it simple, keep it constant. Have you looked into Mail Chimp?

Have you googled your local high school for that NHS coordinator? Contact them in September after school has had a couple of weeks to calm down. Make a list of areas where and when (hours) you need assistance so you will be organized when you speak with them.

Is your event worth $3? Remember, you are not selling a walk. You are selling an experience, whether it is geographical, social or a fun gimmick. You also have more than one customer. We talked about the three Volkssport customers — your long time walker, the newer walker and the walker to be. Make sure to vary your walks so there will be something for everyone. Many young walkers look for the “experience” and not a patch or a stamp. There is room for all in Volkssporting.

Most importantly, have you contacted me to set up a youth workshop in your area? Let’s get those Girl Scouts walking with your club. It can be done and the workshop will give you the tools to succeed. The committee will be holding a workshop on August 8 in Columbia, Missouri. We are also scheduled to have one in Florida in February 2016. The workshop is designed for three clubs and is limited to 8-10 clubs depending on the number of representing participants. It is informal but informative. You will receive step-by-step instructions and learn everything you need to know to bring those Girl Scouts and youth to your club and to our sport. Please email me at avayouth@ava.org to reserve a place at these workshops or to request one in your area.

Thanks to all who took time from walking to come together to preserve the future of our sport. You walked out excited — let’s spread that excitement to the AVA nation! e
AVA Special Program — Fraternal Organizations

Runs January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015. Finish 20 AVA sanctioned events that pass directly by a structure where a Fraternal Organization meets or a structure or facility that is sponsored or supported by a Fraternal Organization and has a sign or equivalent indicating the Fraternal Organization’s name. Books go on sale November 23. Order by including your check for $40 with your name and mailing address to Posto Dutch Paciers Volksschul
t March Club, Inc., Attn: Fraternal Organizations, PO Box 7445, Lancaster PA 17604-7445. Pre-ordered books will be mailed not sooner than three weeks prior to the beginning of the event per AVA regulations.

AVA Special Program — Border Crossings

 Runs January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2023. The participant must physically cross the border from one state to another while on a volkssport event. Walking, swimming, biking and cross-country ski events all count. Borders between counties do not count unless they are in different states. International borders will count as long as they are part of an IVV event. Submit a photo of your border crossing making it a personal mini photo album or keep notes to make it a mini journal of your adventures in your passport. You may do the same border crossing on 15 different days by dressing up in different clothes, wearing a different hat, carrying a stuffed animal, toy, etc; in each photo. Walk 15 sanctioned events. Cost passport book $10. Patch: 3”x4”. Sponsored by the Michigan Pathfinders, Tom Martin, 3958 Cross Creek Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46217-3700, 317-787-9776 or fritz martin@mw.net.

AVA Special Program — Ports of Call

 Runs January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2018. Walk 24 AVA sanctioned events that pass directly by a structure that is sponsored or supported by a Fraternal Organization and has a sign or equivalent indicating the Fraternal Organization’s name. Books go on sale November 23. Order by including your check for $40 with your name and mailing address to Posto Dutch Paciers Volksschul March Club, Inc., Attn: Fraternal Organizations, PO Box 7445, Lancaster PA 17604-7445. Pre-ordered books will be mailed not sooner than three weeks prior to the beginning of the event per AVA regulations.

AVA National Program — Walking the United States

Earn special recognition! Complete an AVA walk in all 50 states or in all 50 states and capitals and Washington, D.C. The basic state or capital program earns a certificate. Books are: $56.50 each, (includes shipping). A separate book is required for each program — order two books if participating in both programs. An optional Deluxe Package is available upon completion that includes a state or capital certificate, a large patch, and a patriotic T-shirt. Details are on the back of each book. Order your “Walking the United States” record book directly from AVA Headquarters, Attn: AVA Headquarters, 1001 Pat Booker Rd., Suite 101, Universal City, TX 78148-4147. Email karen@ava.org.

AVA National Program — Walking the World

Walk 26 cities — A to Z. For example walk in Al-bany for A, Zanesville for Z, etc. The program will continue indefinitely as long as there is interest. Cost: $8 (includes shipping) for an event book. Once you complete the event book you qualify to receive a beautiful patch. Note: X is a wildcard and can be a walk at any event that is not already marked off. Include email for our info when ordering.

AVA National Program — Walking the USA A-Z

Walk 26 cities — A to Z. For example walk in Al-bany for A, Zunesville for Z, etc. The program will continue indefinitely as long as there is interest. Cost: $8 (includes shipping) for an event book. Once you have completed the event book you qualify to receive a beautiful patch. Note: X is a wildcard and can be a walk at any event that is not already marked off. Include email for our info when ordering.

AVA National Program — Ports of Call

Runs January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2018. Walk 24 AVA sanctioned events in cities that include “port” in their name. These could be real ports or that pass a location that is now or historically has been a port. Some ports are: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_tower; ohiobarns.com/othersites/watertowers/wt.html; 1800recycling.com/2011/03/water-towers-recycle-houses. Cost: $10; 3”x4” embroidered patch. Include email for our info when ordering. Sponsored by Lawton Walkers. Contact Sharon Snyder, 1714 NW 49th St., Lawton, OK 73505, 580-355-2930 or walkingfan@aol.com; or Suzi Bentley, sebentley51@aol.com, 1104 SE Alta Lane, Lawton, OK 73501, 580-355-1885.

AVA Special Program — Water Towers

Runs from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016. Walk 20 sanctioned events that pass a water tower which must be seen from the trail. They come in all shapes and sizes, many converted to apartments or penthouses. Water towers can be in unique shapes: i.e., corn cob, catsup bottle, mouse ears, smiley face or milk bottle. Most water towers remain plain or with a city name. Only one stamp will be accepted and only one qualifier. Include date, subject name, city and state for the book. Helpful websites are: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_tower; ohiosources.com/watertowers/wt.html; 1800recycling.com/2011/03/water-towers-recycle-houses. Cost: $10, 3”x4” embroidered patch. Include email for our info when ordering. sponsored by Lawton Walkers. Contact Sharon Snyder, 1714 NW 49th St., Lawton, OK 73505, 580-355-2930 or walkingfan@aol.com; or Suzi Bentley, sebentley51@aol.com, 1104 SE Alta Lane, Lawton, OK 73501, 580-355-1885.

AVA Special Program — Boardwalks

Runs January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. A boardwalk is a paved or hard surface path or trail that is utilized as a walking path and trail over bogs and wetlands and above fragile ecosystems. Boardwalks may be along or overlooking beaches. The boardwalk must be at least 25 feet in length, usually built of wood but those constructed with a type of composite lumber are acceptable for use in the special program. Qualifier for 15 different sanctioned events. One entry, per calendar year, is permitted for Year Round and Seasonal events. Duplicate event numbers, for multiple day traditional events is not allowed. Cost $10, patch: 4-1/2”x3”. Checks to Virginia Vagabonds. POC: Art Whitaker, 15 Gibson Road, Hampton, VA 23666, email Martinrover@verizon.net, phone 757-766-3965.

AVA Special Program — Starting Point Book Cover Contest

AVA Headquarters is searching for photos for the front and back covers of the Starting Point book. Color photos only please.

Photographers must attempt to incorporate in their photo submissions the AVA logo and walkers in action (preferably frontal shots with faces showing). Images should, in some way, express our core values of “fun, fitness, and friendship.”

Here are a few recommendations: (1) When using your digital camera, adjust for the highest resolution available and set the frame/picture size for the largest possible frame. (2) Submit your image as an attachment to your email or send us an electronic file on a PC formatted CD. ROM image resolution should be a minimum of 5.2 megapixels (2560x2048). (3) Don’t format the photo in your camera for size or lighten/darken the image. Do not crop it. The more the image is changed, the more the detail and quality is lost. (4) Finally, avoid downloading photos from the internet. They are low resolution and do not reproduce well.

Deadline for submission is August 14, 2015. Entries become the property of AVAHQ, will not be returned and may be used for AVA marketing and promotional purposes. Judges will select winners based on technical quality, originality, creativity, interest and AVA related themes. First place entry earns the front cover with second selected image appearing on the back. The two winning photographers each will receive an official AVA jacket.

Email your submission to avawebmaster@ava.org or mail your CD to: American Volkssport Association, 1001 Pat Booker Road, Suite 101, Universal City, Texas 78148. ©

How The San Francisco Bay Bandits got its name

By Lui Yakas

I noticed our club was among the clubs listed in the TAW article about how some clubs got their names. Ours is quite simple. We had our beginnings over 30 years ago on the Presidio, as part of the recreation program on Post and the local senior center. As many soldiers brought Volksschul marching back from their stint in Germany, it was a natural for the Presidio to sponsor the walking club. Great perks being part of the military program! The best was when the recreation director got buses for us to travel to far reaching walks of other clubs. Those were the days.

But, let me return to how the Bandit got its name. As the club being a natural part of the Presidio, our name was just as natural. It was well known that raccoons made their homes, not only on Post, but throughout San Francisco. San Francisco, as small as it is, has many woodland areas that make good raccoon habitats. The raccoon is known as the bandit, because of the facial mask marking, plus being nocturnal, a great time for bandits to be on the prowl. Our club was small, not only in San Francisco, but throughout the Bay Area. Hence, the name San Francisco Bay Bandits. ©

Order your 2016 Starting Point!

Pre-orders only accepted. Go to ava.org and download the order form so you don’t miss out on your copy!
Patti Mortimer did it again!

I did it again! In April 2015 I completed Volkswalks in all 50 states for the second time, and also completed the 50 State Capitol challenge.

Each took about nine years. My first Volkswalking vacation took from summer 1988 to September 1997. Fast-forward almost a decade later to 2006, and I started again, focusing on the state capitols. All the state and national walking challenges our organization comes up with adds a lot of fun to Volkssporting for additional reasons to travel our great country.

My favorite memories are trips where the main reason to go was to do a state capital walk, but also included memorable side trips. The 2007AVA Convention in Sacramento provided the walk on Angel Island and across the Golden Gate Bridge. In 2008 after walking in Denver, I did a side trip up to Pike’s Peak via the Cog Railway before heading to Santa Fe. It was incredibly beautiful, perfect weather and I could see for hundreds of miles in all directions. In 2009 I flew to Philadelphia for an art exhibit dedicated to one of my favorite artists, Cezanne, and then drove to Harrisburg, stopping in Gettysburg and Hershey, all very fun and memorable.

One of the best events in the history of Volkswalking is the annual Crazy Horse event. I first did that walk in 1995, and then again in 2010, and it was just as memorable as the first time. I highly recommend this event, as it is the only weekend in the year that hikers are allowed on the monument. I walked the state capitols of North and South Dakota, as well as Devil’s Tower in Wyoming, another event I highly recommend. In 2011 a trip to Honolulu included the state capital walk, as well as the walk to the top of Diamond Head, which is a must.

Two particularly memorable trips were “fly in, fly out” one-nighters. In 2011 I flew to Minneapolis, took their public transportation to the start point in St. Paul, hung out at the Mall of America later and flew home the next day. In March 2013 I flew a red-eye to Nashville in a snow storm, used public transportation, did the walk, enjoyed dinner downtown and flew home the next morning. I spent only 21 hours in Tennessee.

A “seven states in seven days” road trip in April 2013 got seven state capitols: Madison, WI; Springfield, IL; Indianapolis, IN; Columbus, OH; Frankfort, KY; Charleston, WV and Lansing, MI. I even got to Xenia, OH for the “X” for “Walking the USA from A to Z.” It’s fun to say I actually walked in a city starting with “X” instead of using a wildcard.

My two trips to Washington D.C. were highlights, including the 17k walk all over the city, the White House, the Kennedy Center, and, of course, some road trips for additional state capitols. I also went to George Washington’s home in Mt. Vernon and Thomas Jefferson’s home, Monticello, in Charlottesville, VA.

Finally, I took two trips to Boston, one in the fall of 2014 and one this spring. I got to stay at the Trapp Family Lodge (of Sound of Music fame) in Stowe, VT. This spring I enjoyed all the extra days I spent in Boston soaking up the history, climbing the 294 steps to the top of the Bunker Hill Monument and visiting the home of John Adams in Quincy.

So many adventures in so many states... wonderful memories! I highly recommend Volkssporting your way around the U.S.

MILESTONES

Bonnie Carlson finishes her 50 state walks

Kudos to Bonnie Carlson who completed her 50th state walk in beautiful Coeur d’Alene, Idaho! The trip was planned in conjunction with theAVA Convention located only a short seven-hour drive from the start point of the Idaho walk, Bonnie traveled with her daughter and granddaughter on this special trip. The three generations of ladies completed the Tubbs Hill route around Lake Coeur d’Alene on a beautiful sunny day. It was a great walk to finish the 50 state book. The women followed up the week with walks in Spokane before journeying to Salem for the remainder of the convention. Bonnie is a member of both the Windy City Walkers and Illinois Trekkers walk clubs. Some fellow walkers and friends held an impromptu party at the Grand Hotel in Salem with cupcakes, blackberry pie and sparkling cider to celebrate the accomplishment. Congratulations Bonnie! 😊

50,000 Bike kilometers

Bruce Hawkes from British Columbia watches as his book gets stamped to finish 50,000k in his IVV Bike book. He did the convention bike event to reach this goal. 😊

AVA Special Program — Cities in Song

Runs January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Popular songs have been written about many communities across the United States. Here’s an opportunity to walk those places made famous or memorialized by song. The song title could mention a place or it can be included in the lyrics. Examples: I left my Heart in San Francisco, New York, New York, or Wichita Line man. Route 66 mentions a number of communities. Use a song once and only one city per song. Walk 20AVA sanctioned walks to receive a distinctive black, white, and red patch. Cost $10. Patch: 3 1/2”x5”. Sponsored by the Sonoma County Stompers, email sonomastompers@yahoo.com, Don Deal, PO Box 6838, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

AVA Special Program — Walk the Path of Inventions

Runs January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. It is easy and exciting to complete this program with only 20 different walks. The walk qualifiers include but are not limited to: walks going by well-known inventors or researchers homes, gravesites, labs, workplaces or museums; walks with named streets, parks, statues, and building of famous inventors or researchers as part of the route; walks going by universities and colleges with published research or notable work on invention that have taken or presently are taking place. Use each walk once. Cost: $10 for 4x5” patch. Send to Finger Lakes Region Volkssport Club, Sue Connelly, 1041 Church Street, Cortland, NY 13045. For more info sjconnelly@aol.com.

AVA Special Program — Food for Thought

Runs January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. Walk 15 events multiple times if there are multiple qualifiers. Stay hydrated! What better challenge than one that encourages participants to eat (or think about eating), drink and have an appetizing experience while maintaining good health? Program encourages walkers to select from a menu of events that have food-named or food-related characteristics. Qualifying events are those that occur in a place named for a food or beverage item. Qualifying events may also feature a food or beverage reference. Cities, counties, bodies of water, or parks, etc. count but no street names. For a list of qualifying events, see http://centralminnesotavolkssports.wix.com/cmv. Sponsored by Central Minnesota Volkssports. Cost $10. Award is a 3 1/2”x4” “Breakfast Oranges” patch. Mail book orders to Lois Head, Central Minnesota Volkssports (CMV), PO Box 2162, St. Cloud, MN 56302-2162. For more info, 320-252-7348 or LMHead@StCloud-State.edu.
AVA Special Program — Points of Reference

Runs from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2018. This is intended to encourage walkers to become more aware of where they fit in the world geographically, historically, and temperature-wise as they relocate from event site to event site – 15 in all. Details of Reference include general locations, when there are multiple qualifiers. (No street names, please.) For a list of qualifying YREs and Seasonals, see http://centralminnesovolkssports.wix.com/cmv. Cost: $10 per patch. 3-½”x4”. Checks to Central Minnesota Volkssports (CMV), Lois Head, Special Program Coordinator, PO Box 2162, St. Cloud, MN 56302-2162, LMHead@StCloudState.edu or 320-252-7348.

AVA Special Program — Walk the USA — Street by Street

Runs January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2018. Walkers will all 50 states by walking named streets named in cities or states in the USA on any sanctioned AVA or IVV Traditional or Year Round event. Walkers will be allowed to stamp a maximum of three (3) states per event so long as the qualifier is walked for at least one (1) block. Expand your qualifiers! Match a city-named street with the state that has a city with that name. If a walker walks on a Springfield street, for example, and already has the state of Illinois claimed in their book for this program, then they may want to use it for Missouri, Ohio, Massachusetts, Virginia or Oregon! Books cost $10. POC: Tulia Walking Club, c/o Teressa Arnold, POC, 1001 E. Tacoma Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012; email arnoldroa@hotmail.com.

AVA Special Program — National Register of Historic Places

Runs January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Walk 20 sanctioned events that pass anything to do with the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) which could include historic buildings, public monuments, parks, memorials, battlefields, military sites, and such. There must be a plaque with a date of the event on it. Include: date, name of building, city and state. No duplicate stamps and only one qualifier per stamp. Cost $10. Patch: 3-½”x4”. Checks to Central Minnesota Volkssports (CMV), Lois Head, Special Program Coordinator, PO Box 2162, St. Cloud, MN 56302-2162, LMHead@StCloudState.edu or 320-252-7348.

AVA Special Program — United States Post Offices

Runs January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. Walk 20 sanctioned events that pass anything to do with post offices in the United States. Includes postal offices, post offices of state and federal agencies, post offices of universities and colleges, post offices of the U.S. mail, etc. Qualifiers will be allowed to stamp a maximum of three (3) states per event so long as the qualifier is walked for at least one (1) block. Expand your qualifiers! Match a city-named street with the state that has a city with that name. If a walker walks on a Springfield street, for example, and already has the state of Illinois claimed in their book for this program, then they may want to use it for Missouri, Ohio, Massachusetts, Virginia, or Oregon! Books cost $10. POC: Tulia Walking Club, c/o Teressa Arnold, POC, 1001 E. Tacoma Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012; email arnoldroa@hotmail.com.

AVA Special Program — National Register of Historic Places

Uses your eagle eyes to ascertain the enigmatic haunts of exotic creatures as well as the discernible dwellings of domesticated animals. Find 15 animal place names or major distinctive features. (Lake Swano (Aberdeen, WA) or the historical Ellis Lodge in Raton, NM.) Any animal-related term also qualifies. (Nemo, SD Guest Ranch Walk or the Chattanooga, TN Hunter Museum.) For a list of some but not all qualifying YREs and Seasonals, see http://centralminnesovolkssports.wix.com/cmv. Cities, counties, bodies of water, or parks, etc. with animal names count but no street names, please. Events may be used multiple times when there are multiple qualifiers. Cost: $10, patch: 2-½”x3-¼”. Checks to Twin Cities Volkssports (TCV). Lois Head, TCV Special Program Coordinator, PO Box 2162, St. Cloud, MN 56302-2162, LMHead@StCloudState.edu or 320-252-7348.

AVA Special Program — Amphitheatres

Runs January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. Any amphitheatre qualifies, walk 15 YREs or Traditional events that pass a maximum of three (3) states per event so long as the qualifier is walked for at least one (1) block. Expand your qualifiers! Match an amphitheatre with a state that has an amphitheatre. They are usually built with a semi-circular, round, oval, or square plan with tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatres for entertainment, performances or sports do not qualify, nor those built without tiered seating. Commercial amphitheatre events are open only to Volkssporters also qualify. No street names! County, province, city, town, village, park or preserve, body of water or bridge, mountain or distinctive building, etc. If the name of the place uses the name of a historical character – from religious saints to secular politicians, artists, athletes or entertainers – it qualifies. Either names recognized internationally, nationally or the local celebrities qualify. Cost: $10 for 3-½”x4” patch. Send completed book to AVA Special National Officer Book, 1001 Pat Booker Rd, Suite 101, Universal City, Texas 78148. POC: AVA Headquarters, 210-659-2112 or email karon@ava.org.

AVA Special Program — Lakes and Reservoirs

Booklet is approved by the AVA National Council in support of Special Funds Development. The IVV stamp may be placed in this book. Conditions: Collect the special stamps from Regional Directors, National Officers and the AVA Executive Director at sanctioned events. Only stamps with the special center slug denoting the NEC member at the event qualifies. Cost: $10 per book to address below (no shipping, no discounts) or purchase from your local Regional Director or other National Officer. When you have all 15 stamps, send completed book to AVA Special National Officer Book, 1001 Pat Booker Rd, Suite 101, Universal City, Texas 78148. POC: AVA Headquarters, 210-659-2112 or email karon@ava.org.

AVA Special Program — You’ll Never Walk Alone

Runs January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. Create your family tree of walking friends as you learn about the history behind the place names where you walk. Names of queens, kings and chiefs qualify as well as place names that include references to royalty. (i.e. Princeton.) Names with suffixes such as “ton,” “ville,” or “burg,” etc. qualify. Memorial walks named for Volkssporters also qualify. No street names! County, province, city, town, village, park or preserve, body of water or bridge, mountain or distinctive building, etc. If the name of the place uses the name of a historical character – from religious saints to secular politicians, artists, athletes or entertainers – it qualifies. Either names recognized internationally, nationally or the local celebrities qualify. Cost: $10 for 3-½”x4” patch. Send completed book to Central Minnesota Volkssports, Attn: Lois Head, PO Box 49th Street, Lawton, OK 73505. Or sebentleys51@aol.com, Suzi Bentley, 1104 SE Alta Lane, Lawton, OK 73501.

AVA Special Program — Animal Safari

Use your eagle eyes to ascertain the enigmatic haunts of exotic creatures as well as the discernible dwellings of domesticated animals. Find 15 animal place names or major distinctive features. (Lake Swano (Aberdeen, WA) or the historical Ellis Lodge in Raton, NM.) Any animal-related term also qualifies. (Nemo, SD Guest Ranch Walk or the Chattanooga, TN Hunter Museum.) For a list of some but not all qualifying YREs and Seasonals, see http://centralminnesovolkssports.wix.com/cmv. Cities, counties, bodies of water, or parks, etc. with animal names count but no street names, please. Events may be used multiple times when there are multiple qualifiers. Cost: $10, patch: 2-½”x3-¼”. Checks to Twin Cities Volkssports (TCV). Lois Head, TCV Special Program Coordinator, PO Box 2162, St. Cloud, MN 56302-2162, LMHead@StCloudState.edu or 320-252-7348.

AVA Special Program — Rivergate

Runs January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. Walk 30 sanctioned events that pass anything to do with rivers, lakes, and man-made waterways in the United States. Qualifiers will be allowed to stamp a maximum of three (3) states per event so long as the qualifier is walked for at least one (1) block. Expand your qualifiers! Match a city-named street with the state that has a city with that name. If a walker walks on a Springfield street, for example, and already has the state of Illinois claimed in their book for this program, then they may want to use it for Missouri, Ohio, Massachusetts, Virginia, or Oregon! Books cost $10. POC: Tulia Walking Club, c/o Teressa Arnold, POC, 1001 E. Tacoma Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012; email arnoldroa@hotmail.com.

AVA Special Program — Special National Officer Book - S.N.O.B.

AVA Special Program — National Register of Historic Places

AVA Special Program — Points of Reference

AVA Special Program — Walk the USA — Street by Street

AVA Special Program — United States Post Offices

AVA Special Program — National Register of Historic Places

AVA Special Program — United States Post Offices

AVA Special Program — Amphitheatres

AVA Special Program — You’ll Never Walk Alone

AVA Special Program — Animal Safari

AVA Special Program — Rivergate

AVA Special Program — Special National Officer Book - S.N.O.B.
Representing the Region

By Frank Sayers

The 19th AVA Biennial Convention is in the books. Nearly all the clubs in the region were represented. And a good time was had by all. Speaking of a good time, it was my privilege to present to the AVA membership on Friday a proposal to host the 20th AVA Biennial Convention in Billings, Montana. The Empire State Capital Volkssporters also presented their proposal for the convention to be in Albany, New York. After the presentations, the regions were allowed to discuss what they had just seen, and then we voted. When the votes were counted, Albany received 68 and Billings 144. The Rocky Mountain Region would like to sincerely thank Billings 144. The Rocky Mountain Region would like to sincerely thank the region for the convention to be in Albany.

Also, take the time now to get your Senior Access pass to the National Parks, so you can get in pretty much for free. Not only are there many available seasonal walks in Utah, Wyoming and Colorado, but on the way to the convention in Billings we are planning a walk inside the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument in southern Montana. We are also proposing walks in Buffalo, Wyoming; Red Lodge, Montana; and Cody, Wyoming, in addition to the three great walks we will have in Billings.

Our first walk was in Georgetown. This walk took us through downtown and past many charming homes built in the Victorian era. It also took us up on Guannella Pass Road to enjoy wonderful views overlooking the town and along Clear Creek. We also ran into a few burros that were getting warmed up for a race that was to start later in the morning. It was a very enjoyable walk. We were a little concerned about the storm clouds forming overhead, but most of us were able to finish without getting wet. However we dove through some pretty heavy rain driving back down to the Denver area.

The next day we did two walks. We started out in the morning doing a walk in Broomfield. Early in the walk we were delighted to find a whole flock of white pelicans swimming in a small lake that we walked around. Then we walked on a trail called Field Open Space. We saw many little birds in the grasses along the trail and then walked by Brunner Reservoir before returning to the start walk. It was a great way to start a very nice day.

Then we continued to the start of the Denver walk. Although we’ve walked in Denver many times we did some things on this walk that we hadn’t done before. We started out by walking by the entrance to Coors Field and walked the whole length of the 16th Street Mall. There we ate lunch at Panera Bread and saw lots of people dressed up as cartoon characters since Comic Con was going on that day. We also enjoyed seeing the Capitol with its dome all decked out in its new gold leaf coating and got our picture taken on the step that says “one mile above sea level.” As many times as we’ve been there we’ve never done that. It was a fun walk.

The next day (Memorial Day) we did our last walk in Littleton. We did a short walk around the church that was our start point and then drove over to Johnson Reservoir to walk around it. We took a side trip to see the Columbine Memorial dedicated to the students and teachers who lost their lives in the Columbine High School shooting tragedy in 1999. It is a very moving memorial. Then we continued on past Columbine High School before going back to Johnson Reservoir and continuing back to our start point.

We want to thank Kevin and Dale for all the wonderful walks we’ve done over the years. We know they spent many hours of their lives to make it possible for us to walk in all the counties. Eleven years and 64 counties — we are finally done. Yeah! Monday, June 5, 2016

AVA Special Program — Lady Liberty

Runs January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2018. Each walk must be an AVA sanctioned event in which walkers walk by, or able to see from the trail, any Statue of Liberty or replica. The qualifier must be stationary and non-moving, i.e. flags do not count, nor people costumed as Lady Liberty. Murals of the Statue of Liberty will also qualify. Complete 15 different events to receive award. Books cost $10. POC: Tulsa Walking Club, c/o Teresa Arnold, POC, 1001 E. Tacoma Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012 email: arnoldtea@hotmail.com.

By Annette Kester

Colorado finale to county walks on Memorial Day weekend

This Memorial Day weekend we again enjoyed some very nice walks put together by Kevin Ross and Dale Boone. This year we only had four walks to do, as that was all we needed to finish walking all the counties in Colorado.

Our first walk was in Georgetown. This walk took us through downtown and past many charming homes built in the Victorian era. It also took us up on Guannella Pass Road to enjoy wonderful views overlooking the town and along Clear Creek. We also ran into a few burros that were getting warmed up for a race that was to start later in the morning. It was a very enjoyable walk. We were a little concerned about the storm clouds forming overhead, but most of us were able to finish without getting wet. However we drove through some pretty heavy rain driving back down to the Denver area.

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Pacific Region events
By Suzi Glass

Mendo Madness
Join the Shasta Sundial Strollers for a walking weekend August 21-23 in Mendocino, that they call “Mendo Madness.” The biennial event features walks in two state parks and a Bragg town walk that honors the lumber industry’s legacy there. In the walk listed as McKerricher State Park, the route includes the old logging road, Haul Road, continues into the park and out to the Pacific Ocean. The Russian Gulch State Park walk, though rated 4C, includes a beautiful waterfall that is worth the effort. Registration opens at noon on Friday and 8 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday at Laurel’s Deli & Desserts, 401 No. Main St, Fort Bragg. Enjoy a cool weekend by the sea!

The COMPASS Turns 25
The July, August, September issue of The COMPASS, a publication of the California Volkssport Association (CVA), celebrates the magazine’s 25th Anniversary. Each edition sports the logos for the California clubs and there is a 25-question Trivia Contest spread throughout the pages. Contest winners receive a free subscription to The COMPASS for 2016. Back issues can be viewed at cva4u.org.

ITLAPD is Coming!
Over 10 years ago, “International Talk Like a Pirate Day” (ITLAPD) was created by two bored radio announcers. They set it for September 19 and used the airwaves to impart pirate lingo, cite little known facts and generally talk like a pirate. The Sacramento Walking Sticks uses the day for a traditional walk held in Old Sac. As walkers traverse the bricks and boardwalks and along the river, they can easily imagine the residents and visitors to the area in the 1850s. Club members not only talk like pirates, they decorate the start point and even dress like pirates! They encourage all to “Grab your parrot, lower your eye patch and talk like a pirate at the International Talk Like a Pirate Day” (ITLAPD). Like a Pirate Day is sure to be a fun-filled weekend.

AVA Centurion Achievement Challenge
The Centurion Achievement Challenge encourages and recognizes those who make a special, serious commitment to the “Fitness” aspect of our Fun Fitness Friendship slogan. Participate in 100 events in a single calendar year.AVA will recognize your accomplishment with a distinctive patch. A lifetime of fitness begins with a single stride. You must be an A VA Associate Member (annual or lifetime) to participate. A VA membership is separate from local club membership. Cost: $15; $10 for additional books purchased by the same person in the same calendar year. For info contact Karen at AVA HQ, 210-659-2112 or email Karen@ava.org. Submit payment with a completed Centurion registration form to: A VA Centurion Achievement Challenge, 1001 Pat Booker Rd, Suite 101, Universal City, TX 78148.

A National Trails Day Celebration — Murrieta Creek Regional Trail
By Doris Telles
After years of planning, on June 6, National Trails Day, the first phase of the Murrieta Creek Regional Trail was opened to the public and Volkswalkers were there for the festivities and the ribbon cutting. Through the organizational abilities of Kathy Bundy of the Low Desert Roadrunners, Volkswalkers celebrated the day with an officially sanctioned special event walk. Also, Volkswalkers helped the celebration by staffing various booths and helped keep the public safe by working as crossing guards.

The Murrieta Creek Regional Trail is a 16-mile-long multiuse trail for hikers, cyclists and horses. The trail connects the cities of Temecula, Murrieta, Wildomar and Lake Elsinore. It runs along the Murrieta Creek corridor and will intersect with nearly all of the present city, county and historic trails in the region. The trail will be completed in a couple of years providing the project continues to receive funds. The present development of the trail has been funded by the Riverside County Flood Control District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Technical assistance was provided by the National Park Service.

On April 23, the California Department of Parks and Recreation gave the four city trail planning team, in partnership with the Santa Margarita Group of the San Gorgonio Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Merit Award for Planning. The award for the Murrieta Creek Regional Trail Plan will be presented to the planning team at the California Department of Parks and Recreation’s upcoming Trails and Greenways Conference.

Photos of the Murrieta Creek Regional Trail event can be seen at the following Internet site: meetup.com/Volkswalking-in-Southern-California-open-to-everyone/photos/26219426/.

Tristate 2016 in Laughlin, Nevada
The Las Vegas High Rollers and Strollers welcome you to Tristate in Laughlin, Nevada on April 8-10, 2016. If you’ve attended this popular event in past years, you’re sure to enjoy this edition. You’ll see new walks and have a chance to meet your friends (old and new). Mark the dates now and make plans to meet up on the banks of the Colorado River.

We’ll set up five walks for the weekend with registration tables just off the lobby in the Aquarius Casino Resort. Three walks directly start from the hotel. One will follow the Colorado River upstream to Davis Dam along a newly opened heritage greenway trail. Two others cross the Colorado or follow a river walk downstream past casino row.

Two walks require a short drive to the start point. The Rotary Park walk in Bullhead City, Arizona, will follow another trail system to a loop through a golf course and waterfront community. At the end, you’ll have a chance to sample the long-running “Burro BBQ.” A different short drive will get you to another Colorado River walk in historic Needles, California.

You’ll walk in California, Nevada and Arizona. If you are completing special programs, be sure to bring you books. We’re planning a Saturday evening get-together with door prizes, giving you a chance to meet new walkers and greet old friends.

Laughlin is an easy 90-minute drive south of Las Vegas. There are plenty of campgrounds in the area, and soon you should be able to make special-rate room reservations at the Aquarius Casino Hotel, our registration point. We’re still working on details and we’ll post updates on our website (lvhrs.org). Send us an email at lvhrs1985@yahoo.com and we’ll keep you up-to-date. Mark your calendars now — this is sure to be a fun-filled weekend.

Pacific Region continued on page 13
By Susan Fine

As Mark Twain once said “The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated.” And that sums up the revival of the Sun Country Striders volksmarch club in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

The club is reinvigorated with new leadership to continue to offer outstanding Year Round and Traditional events. The Year Round in Las Cruces is back, as of July 1, so those walkers doing theAVA Special Program “Walking the Old Spanish Trail” can qualify in Las Cruces. The walk starts at the Hotel Encanto de las Cruces at 705 S. Telshor Boulevard, and the trail includes spectacular views of the Organ Mountains and Mesilla Valley. The Striders plan to create several Year Rounds for 2016 to showcase the beauty of southern New Mexico. There is also a sanctioned Traditional event in Ruidoso, New Mexico on September 12 hosted by the club in conjunction with the R&R Celebration honoring all military. The Volkswalks are at Grindstone Lake and Canyons and promise breathtaking views.

As we all know, it’s hard to run a club when people don’t volunteer to help. Current leadership was tired after managing the club for decades, so the club was on the brink of folding. A meeting was held and the members agreed that the Sun Country Striders need to continue. New leadership has stepped up, and is working with past leadership for smooth transitions.

Sun Country Striders is the only Volksmarch club in southern New Mexico. We hope you will join us for a Year Round or Traditional event, as we “rise like a Phoenix” and continue to remain a club that all AVA members can be proud.

For information contact Henrietta Varga, queta_69@hotmail.com or Derrill Rothermich derrillrothermich@hotmail.com.

The Randolph Roadrunners’ Junction, TX Year Round event

By Martin Callahan

The Randolph Roadrunners’ Volkssport club of Universal City, is ending its Junction 10k and 5k Year Round Event on December 31 and now is your last chance to enjoy this interesting walk.

Junction is the county seat of Kimble County and is located about 105 miles northwest of San Antonio. The city had a population of 2618 during the 2000 census. It was founded in 1876 and derived its name from its location at the convergence of the North and South Llano rivers. The city has an official nickname of “The Land of Living Waters” because there is more flowing water in Junction and Kimble County than any other county in Texas.

Walkers will follow a trail through the Junction City Park, past the Schreiner Park and across the South Llano River Bridge built in 1937 for a magnificent view of Lake Junction. After crossing the bridge you will then enter Kimble County River Park and pass by a huge boulder that was used in the 1908 Civil War veterans’ reunion that included Union and Confederate veterans. After strolling through the park Volkswalkers will then follow the trail back across the bridge and through town past historic buildings, the Kimble County Museum, the county courthouse, and many Texas Historical Commission markers and monuments.

The most poignant memorial along the walk trail is in front of the county courthouse and in honor of Private Burt M. Fleming. Private Fleming was awarded the French Croix de Guerre posthumously for gallantry while serving in the 143rd Infantry of the 36th Texas Infantry Division during World War I.

Junction is the shipping and marketing center for Kimble County’s livestock and farm production. It is also the center for hunting in Kimble County, one of the top counties for deer hunting in Texas. Tourism, cedar oil production, and pecan processing are also important to the town’s economy. You can learn about what to see and do in Junction online at junction-texas.com.

So many Texas Historical Commission markers and monuments.

The event qualifies for these AVA Special Programs: Bakeries Family Owned, Fraternal Organizations, Honoring Our Flag, Main Street, Murals, National Register of Historic Places, Old Spanish Trail Auto Highway, Trekking With the Trees and Water Towers.

For information on the Junction Year Round Event walk, other YREs, and Traditional walk events contact Ellen Ott at 210-723-8574 or email ellenott@sbglobal.net. You can print copies of walk brochures by visiting the club website at: http://ran dolphroadrunners.info/.

Ellen Ott got caught off guard at the Convention Awards presentation when the audience sang Happy Birthday to her.

Southwest Region continued on page 14
Southwest Region continued from page 13

Murphy Central Park in September

By Maggie Cole

On Saturday, September 19 the Plano Walking Club will host a 5k and 10k walk in Murphy, Texas beginning at the Murphy Central Park. The walk will include the Maxwell Creek Trails. Girl Scouts are welcome and a patch will be awarded after completing one of the walks.

Murphy is a city in suburban Collin County, primarily at the crossroads of Farm to Market Road 544 and Murphy Road, and is located north-east of Dallas. Murphy is a fast-growing community with a history that goes back to the early 1900s.

The first settlers in the Murphy area were Comfort and Lydia McMillen and their six children, who arrived from Arkansas in 1846, settling on a branch of Muddy Creek, later named Maxwell Creek. With the McMillen family were Lydia’s brothers, James and Henry Maxwell. By 1850, William and Dorothy Murphy’s family was renamed for James Murphy, who donated land for the Murphy Train Depot. The City of Murphy was officially established with the State of Texas on September 29, 1958.

Murphy remained a farming community from late 1880-1970 and the railroad became a shipping point for cotton, corn and onions. The Old Murphy Schoolhouse was built in 1938 as a WPA project and housed elementary and high school students. The school and post office closed in the 1950s, and by 1970 the population dwindled to 136 people. School chil-

dren attended schools in nearby Plano. Farmers began to sell their large farms for housing developments. The old school house was renovated to serve as city hall and a community center.

The Murphy Central Park walk starts at the park pavilion adjacent to the Plano Sports Authority. Some features of the park are an amphitheater/stage, restrooms/concession stands, a spray park, a playground and a pond. The walk will be on a nature trail as well as a concrete hike and bike trail. Murphy Central Park is located between the municipal buildings and Murphy Middle School.

The walk continues on the Maxwell Creek Trails which includes a pavilion, half-sized basketball court, backstop and a granite nature trail with interpretive kiosks about the native plant material and history of Murphy. It is the trailhead for the Maxwell Creek Trails with a long footbridge spanning the babbling rock bottom creek and towering shade trees along the creek. Currently a concrete trail extends north one mile to McMillen Road and one mile south to McCreary Road, or you can cross the footbridge west over the creek to The Preserve.

The Murphy Central Park pavilion where the walk starts on Saturday, September 19.

The West Texas Trail Walkers

Palo Duro Canyon events

By Linda Fields and Susan Noonan

Put Columbus Day weekend, October 9-11, on your AVO to do list. Join the West Texas Trail Walkers for our 35th year of walking events at West Texas parks. We venture back to the high plains of the Texas Panhandle for a weekend of walks in Palo Duro Canyon State Park and the Wildcat Bluff Nature Center. This rugged area was among the last strongholds of the Comanches and Apaches in Texas. Palo Duro Canyon is known as the Grand Canyon of Texas. It is second in size only to the Grand Canyon in the U.S. The Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) of the 1930’s constructed most of the buildings and roads still in use by park staff and visitors.

Friday, October 9 walks are at Wildcat Bluff Nature Center, about 16 miles north of Canyon, just west of Amarillo. A branch of the historic Gregg-Marcy Wagon Trail from Santa Fe to Fort Smith passed through here. Wagon ruts are still visible today. The start is inside the nice, new Gilvin Natural Science Center. A wine and cheese party will be held for club volunteer workers and new members at the host hotel, Best Western in Canyon on Friday evening at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, October 10 we are walking three new trails in Palo Duro Canyon State Park. — Comanche, Rylander Fortress Cliff and the Rock Garden — with breathtaking views of the canyon. You will see why Palo Duro Canyon is the most visited state park in Texas? The annual club dinner and business meeting is at 7 p.m. at the Alumni hall on the campus of West Texas A&M University in Canyon. The menu is “A Taste of Italy.”

Sunday, October 11 concludes with a walk on the Lighthouse trail. This is the feature walk in the state park and includes sweeping views of the “Spanish skirts” and the lighthouse rock formations.

Be sure to check out our superb new website at westtexaswalkers.org to see the flyer, print out the registration forms and glance at the collection of beautiful pictures of the canyon. Our host hotel for the weekend is the Best Western, 2801 4th Ave., Canyon, Texas 79015, 806-655-1818. ❖

Walk Fort Worth’s urban parks on September 26

By Susan Fine

When Tarrant County Walkers hosted a walk two years ago through some of Fort Worth’s beautiful urban parks, a bridge over the Trinity River wasn’t finished. So the club is reviving the walk as a traditional Volkswalk on Saturday, September 26 to include the pedestrian bridge. Registration is at the Tom Thumb grocery store, 3000 South Hulen in Fort Worth. Start time is 8 a.m. through 11 a.m.

The trail through Foster Park and Overton Park are good examples of urban parks maintained by the City of Fort Worth. Originally part of the Edwards Ranch, founded in 1846, the parks were formed when the Edwards family donated lands for Trinity Park, then later Overton Park. Foster Park runs along a cat tail filled creek. Several species of birds and other wildlife can be seen along the trails.

The trail is mostly flat on paved walkways and is rated 1A. If walkers wish to do an optional 3k, it will include the pedestrian bridge over the Trinity River totaling 13k. This part is rated 2B.

Pets are allowed and water will be available at the start and check point.

Directions: From I-30 west of downtown Fort Worth, take the Hulen exit south and drive two miles. Tom Thumb is on the right in a large shopping center.

For more info, contact Bill Wighton, billwigton@gmail.com or 817-847-5185. ❖

Southwest Region continued on page 15
Southwest Region continued from page 14

The Castroville Area C of C — “Walk Back in History” Volksmarch

By Martin Callahan

The Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting its 12th Annual 10k and 5k “Walk Back in History” Volksmarch on October 3. Castroville, also known as the Little Alsace of Texas is located on the Medina River and US Highway 90 W, 25 miles west of downtown San Antonio in eastern Medina County. The town was named after its founder, Henri Castro, who obtained a land grant from the Republic of Texas to establish a colony. Henri Castro and his mostly Catholic Alsatian farmers first settled on the scenic bend of the Medina River in September 1844.

There are over 300 preserved historic buildings in and around Castroville, many of which sit in the old part of town, now a National Historic District. A large number of these original buildings were constructed more than 170 years ago and are still being used as residences or businesses. The sign “PCH” on these historic buildings stands for Pioneer Castroville Home. You will also have the opportunity to visit numerous antique shops, restaurants and the famous Haby’s Bakery after your walk along the trail.

The 10k and 5k walk routes are rated 1A and begin at the Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce at 1115 Angelo Street, Castroville. You will follow a winding trail through historic and residential areas on mostly flat, easy for walking city sidewalks and low traveled streets, out to the countryside along a portion of the scenic Medina River and back through the scenic Regional Park to the finish.

This event qualifies for the following AVA Special Programs:

- Celebrating Golden Cinemas, Fraternal Organizations (Hermann Lodge), National Register of Historic Places, Strolling Somewhere Over the Rainbow, Walking America’s Murals, and You’ll Never Walk Alone.

The start time is between 8-11 a.m. and finish by 2:30 p.m. The Chamber of Commerce also offers a Year Round event that starts at Sammy’s Restaurant, 202 US Highway 90 E. in Castroville. For more information on this walk or the Year Round event, call Jeanie Haby at 830-538-3142 or email Jeanie@cas-troville.com. To view the information on the walk online, go to castroville.com/volksmarch.html.

AVA Special Program — Alternative Capitals

Runs from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. Twelve different sanctioned events encourage walkers to experience the historic significance of the places chosen to headquarter state, territorial, tribal or national governing bodies. Any route located in a place that was once the capital or that goes past a building or the site of a former building that served as the capital (including any building or site that exists in a current capital city) qualifies. In addition to historic sites, events will also qualify if they are held in a city known as the “— Capital of the World” or the “Capital of —” (The word capital must be part of the slogan.) For a list of some qualifying events, see http://centralmolvssports.wix.com/ava. Cost: $10. Patch: 3-1/2”x4”.

Checks to Twin Cities Volkssports (TCV). Leoess Head, TCV Special Program Coordinator, PO Box 2162, St. Cloud, MN 56302-2162; LMHeal@StCloudState.edu or 320-252-7348.

AVA Special Program — Honoring Our Flag

Sponsored by the Yakima Valley Sun Striders, email m.haupt@charter.net Millie Haupt, Yakima, WA.

AVA Special Program — Volcanoes

Sponsored by the Yakima Valley Sun Striders, email m.haupt@charter.net Millie Haupt, Yakima, WA.

Hike Grindstone Lake in Ruidoso for R&R Day September 12

By Susan Fine

In conjunction with Ruidoso, New Mexico’s celebration for the military, the Sun Country Striders Volkssmarch club will host a Volkswalk at beautiful Grindstone Lake, Saturday, September 12 at 9 a.m. There will be 12k, 6k and 5k options. Walkers must finish by 3 p.m.

The start for the Volkswalks are at Wingfield Park, adjacent to mid-town Ruidoso. After getting your start cards, you will drive to the lake (less than one mile) to begin your journey. Bring plenty of water and sunscreen. The highest elevation is 7,374 feet. The 12k walk is rated 3C. The 6k and 5k are rated 2B. After the hikes, enjoy the R&R in Ruidoso Celebration at Wingfield Park. This event honors veterans, active duty and retired personnel and their families. Local restaurants will be offering a Taste of Ruidoso. There will be free live music, local vendors, kids’ games and more. Several hotels, restaurants, attractions and retail businesses will be offering military discounts between 15 to 50 percent. For more info go to ruidosomilitarydiscouts.com.

Sun Country Striders is the only Volkssmarch club in southern New Mexico. For info, contact Derrick Rothermich, derrickrothermich@hotmail.com or 915-217-7477.

AVA Special Program — Volcanoes

Runs January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. Walk and explore new realms with the grandeur and mystery of volcanoes. Volcanoes are listed in 18 states within the United States including Alaska and Hawaii and to the east as far as the States of Virginia, Mississippi, Missouri and South Dakota. Walks qualify if there is a volcanic cone, crater or caldera seen on the walk route. Any sanctioned AVA event including Year Round, Seasonal or Traditional event that meets the criteria can be used.

This Special Program would tie in with the AVA Convention in Salem, OR in 2015 with the walk scheduled at Mount St Helens. Qualifier for 10 sanctioned events. Cost: $10. Patch: 1-1/2”x4-1/2”. Make checks payable to East County Windwalkers. POC: Ric Catron, 9879 Enterprise Lane NW G-203, Silverdale, WA 98383, email sempervrens@windspring.com, phone 360.337.5361. Alternate contact: Louise Dix, Gresham, OR.
“Hazy” days of summer

They may be “hazy” but surely not lazy days of summer for the Liberty Bell Wanderers’ (LBW) Annual 31st Anniversary Picnic on Saturday, August 29. The event will be held at the beautiful 5,286-acre Nockamixon State Park in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, approximately 45 miles from Philadelphia. Participants are invited to enjoy our delicious menu and at the same time see the wonders of Nockamixon. The event qualifies for these AVA Special Programs: Lakes and Reservoirs and You’ll Never Walk Alone program. Parking is free. Pets welcome, but must be leashed and picked up after.

LBW offers 20 YREs, which include two new events. The Ben Franklin Bridge Walk in Philadelphia offers two options to finish; return to Philadelphia via the bridge or in the summer months, return to Philadelphia at Penn’s Landing via ferry, making this an especially enjoyable event. The event qualifies for these AVA Special Programs: Animal Safari, Border Crossings, Cities in Song, Food for Thought, Fraternal Organizations, Honoring our Flag, National Register of Historic Places, Walking the USA A-Z, Water Towers and You’ll Never Walk Alone.

The second new walk is Nolde Forest State Park Walk in Reading in Berks County. Nolde State Park offers an Environment Center open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Nolde State Park is little known, but is a beautiful park. The event qualifies for the KSVA State Parks and Forests Challenge as well as these AVA Special Programs: Boardwalks, Trekking With The Trees, Walking the USA A-Z, Water Towers and You’ll Never Walk Alone.

Liberty Bell Wanderers have planned a Welcome New Walkers Walk on Saturday, October 10 in Doylestown at 9:30 a.m. Doylestown is a YRE but LBW is making this date a “special” to introduce all, young, old, and families to the health benefits, friendship and educational benefits of Volkssporting. Everyone invited.

Also, add to your calendars the Four Event State Parks Weekend in Southeast Pennsylvania at Tyler, Ft. Washington, Norristown Farm Park and Evansburg State Park. They are great events for anyone participating in the Keystone State Volkssport Association (KSVA) State Parks and Forests Challenge, plus other special programs.

Join us by taking part in one of the 20 YRE and mark your calendars for:
- Saturday, August 29 — Nockamixon State Park, 31st Anniversary Volkswalk
- Saturday, October 10 — Welcome New Walkers, Doylestown
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday, October 23, 24, 25 — Four Pennsylvania State Park Walks

Looking forward to seeing you. For more info contact Dave Brown, 610-906-6252 or email ocmbdbreeze@aol.com or libertybellwanderers.net.

Walking a Trail that Talks in Oregon

By Carol Fairbanks

Sure, a walk through a forested park is fun, and even good for you, but combine a healthy walk in the woods with some art and cultural history and the walk also becomes an inspiring and educational experience. On Saturday, October 10 the Mossback Volkssport Club is offering such a unique walk where the trail is lined with informative signs, murals and big rocks called Talking Stones. These 11 Talking Stones, engraved with a Native American word from the Kalapuya people and its English translation, were installed in December of 2002 throughout Eugene’s Alton-Baker Park and the Whilamat Natural Area in Springfield. These cultural art objects on the trail bring alive the memory of the Kalapuya culture that at one time was widespread here in the Willamette River Valley.

The Mossbacks invite you, your family and friends to the Whilamat (“where the river ripples and runs fast”) to have a Ha-Yaba (“joyful”) walk in a Wha-lik (“place by the river”) and through a Hi-Dwa (“wooded area”). It’s truly a Gaw-Ni (“a trail through the woods”) in a Duuca-Ba (“powerful place”). So don’t miss this fun and informative walk that “talks!”

For more info about the Talking Stones walk and/or for directions, call Sally Ross, 541-726-7169 or email mossbackclub@comcast.net.
Nebraska Trailblazer reveals favorite walks

By Jim Goeltz

We presume that if you’ve been on the Volksmarch trail for any length of time you have some favorite trails. We do. When I retired from the Army in 1980 we moved to Iowa, across the river from Omaha, and joined the Nebraska Wanderfreunde Trailblazers. Presently in its 36th year of Volksmarching, the Trailblazers have been quite active in Nebraska and Iowa. The club sponsors seven Traditional events each year and, currently, seven Year Round events. Plus, when the Grand Island, Nebraska club disbanded, our club took over monitoring several Year Rounds in western Nebraska.

Having started Volksmarching in Germany in 1971, nothing can compare with walking in Germany. It’s that the ambiance of walking in the fields and hills of Bavaria, Hesse or other German states grows on you. The Germans are noted for their organization — everything is in order. Even sending in a request for advance registration for a Volksmarch is efficient. Trails are always well marked. There’s usually beer or soft drinks at checkpoints and start/finish areas. If one doesn’t preregister, a medal may not be available when you finish.

However, this article is about favorite walks in the United States. We have selected three Year Round walks in Iowa and Nebraska as our favorites. The Trailblazers sponsor a Year Round in the little town of Shelby, Iowa. Most of the walk is on an old railroad bed, now called the Stone Arch Trail. A stone arch bridge over a creek is near the turn around point. The bridge was constructed about 1880. It’s always a nice walk, whether in spring or fall. Each year the town of Shelby holds a soup cook-off with proceeds going for trail maintenance. Another favorite is by Fremont, Nebraska, which is also flat. The route goes around and between small lakes with plenty of cottonwood trees. We walk it in the spring and fall when no campers are around.

A last favorite is a Year Round in Nebraska City, a small city of around 8,10,000. The city is noted for Arbor Day in the spring and an apple fest in the fall. Arbor Day is a state holiday.
New club hosting walk in Genoa, IL

Saturday September 12, the Kishwaukee Valley Wanderers will host is very first walk in Genoa, Illinois. The registration is located at the Carroll County Park, Park Ave. (Hwy. 72) and Madison Street.

The trail, rated 2B, has a few hills with sturdy paths and is on part pavement through the town of Genoa. The 6k portion of the trail winds along the river, through the forest preserve to a reconstructed original 1835 log cabin. To complete the 10k, the trail also goes through Genoa’s scenic neighborhoods and historic downtown.

This walk is part of a day long festival at Carroll Park including a craft beverage (local breweries and wineries represented) afternoon event and evening of musical entertainment with well known local bands, food and family entertainment.

This event qualifies for these AVAsSpecial Programs: Honoring our flag. Trekking with the Trees, Walking the USA A-Z, and You’ll Never Walk Alone.

Kokomo YRE — salutes the City of Firsts

By Cliff Terry

Help kick off 2015 with a brand new Year Round event in Kokomo. Indiana. The city is located 50 miles north of Indianapolis. Kokomo is known as the City of Firsts. Its world-renowned automotive heritage and history of technological inventions includes America’s first car produced by Elwood Haynes in 1894. Kokomo’s historic downtown offers a wide variety of interesting attractions, family friendly parks, art and glass studios, unique restaurants and places of historical interest.

The trail wanders through the recently renovated downtown, beautiful Highland Park, the Elwood Haynes Museum and Foster Park. The Industrial Heritage Trail, a local rail-with-trail, links together historic industrial sites in Kokomo’s history where leaders of industry were once located. The Kokomo Rubber Company produced the first pneumatic rubber tire and the Haynes Automobile Company introduced America to the automobile. The former Chrysler and Kokomo Opalescent Glass plants are also located along the trail.

The three walks are all within a couple of hour’s drive of each other: Woodsfield, in Monro County, Crooksville in Perry County and Stockport in Morgan County. Each of these small towns has a unique charm with interesting historical buildings and pleasant neighborhoods.

Don’t let the hill country location put you off. Although these towns are nestled into the hilliest part of Ohio, the walk routes have been designed to take advantage of level streets and pathways. You’ll drive through plenty of breathtaking views of the hill country to get to the walks but the walks themselves are all rated 1A with only an occasional moderate hill to be climbed.

The locations of the walks are:
• Crooksville, Ruff’s Market, 726 China St., open every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
• Stockport, Stockport Mill Country Inn, 1995 Broadway, open every day from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
• Woodsfield, McDonald’s, 145 N. Main St., open every day 5 a.m. to midnight.

See the Starting Point or the AVA website for more details. Walk during daylight hours only. These walks will be available only until November 30 so take advantage of the opportunity to walk in this beautiful part of Ohio while you can.

“Q” is for Quincy, Illinois

Still need a “Q” to complete your AVA Special Program book “Walking the USA A-Z”? Well, the Springfield Railsplitter Wanderers have you covered. They will host a 5k/10k walk in Quincy, Illinois on Saturday, September 19. Join the group as we explore historic Quincy.

The walk starts at the Microtel Inn and Suites, 200 S. 3rd Street between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. The walk will allow you to visit the Gardner Museum with its beautiful stained glass windows donated by churches. This Richardsonian Romanesque building with its broadly connected interior spaces and natural butternut trim and casework will be worth the time taken to do a walk-through.

Walkers will see many historic homes including Park Place, which is Quincy’s first planned neighborhood. It consists of 25 houses built between 1889 and 1917 according to restricted covenants, which stipulated that homes be built either of stone or brick, be at least two stories and cost at least $3000. That was a lot of money during those years! Carriage houses were accessed only from the front door and 12 p.m. The walk will allow you to visit the Gardner Museum with its beautifully connected interior spaces and natural butternut trim and casework will be worth the time taken to do a walk-through.

The start point is the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library, 220 N. Union St. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed on major holiday. The walk box is at the second floor information desk. The walk qualifies for these AVA Special Programs: Amphitheatres, Animal Safari, Boardwalks, Cities in Song, Fraternal Organization, Honoring Our Flag, National Register of Historic Places, Trekking With the Trees and Water Towers.

Don Vartanian and Larry Schwindt.
Convention events in photos

Taken by the Volksmarch Paparazzi a.k.a. Donna Seline

Bend Walk
June 13

Clear Lake Walk
June 14

Convention event photos continued on page 21
Recognition Awards

Each convention special awards are given out to recognize Volksmarchers with outstanding volunteer efforts on behalf of the AVA and Volkssporting. Here are the top honorees for 2015.

Wayne Holloway was presented with the IVV Award by IVV Vice President Graham Fawcett. Others receiving the award were Ginny Drumm (not present) and Don Varianian (posthumously).

Hall of Fame inductees included Dennis Michele, Sam Korff, Wayne Holloway, Ellen Ott, Paul Lamb, Bob Wright and Ginny Drumm (not present).

Recipients of the AVA President’s Award were Joanne Forinash, David Bonewitz and Bonnie Johnson. Not present were Mike Lanpher, Alice Lawrence and Larry Middleton.

Distinguished Achievement Awards were presented to Leonard Wojtysiak, Bob Morrison, Holly Pelking, Martha Korff and Doug Reynolds. Not present were Judy Michele, William Radigan (posthumously) and Karen Seay.

Mister Mitsumasa Miyashita, President of IVV Asia and Japan Volkssport Association made a presentation of greetings and congratulations at Session One of the 19th AVA Biennial Convention.

Libea Forde gave a rousing presentation to convention audience at Friday’s General Session.

Charlotte Phillips received recognition for her generous matching donation to AVA during the Big Give campaign.

Tom Baltes presented the AVA with a donation from his Bike Across America fundraiser.

The Convention Silent Auction was packed with treasures donated by clubs and individuals as a fundraiser for AVA. This year’s auction brought in $9832 for the AVA.
Convention photos


Below are some of the AVA Convention Committee who organized and ran the convention. Many were not in attendance because they were working the convention walks.

Strategic planning is a top priority for AVA and attendees got to leave notes about concerns they have.

Convention event photos continued from page 19

Silver Falls State Park Walk
June 15

522 walkers

Convention event photos continued on page 22
Convention event photos continued from page 21

**Vancouver Walk**
June 16

489 walkers

**Eugene Walk**
June 17

516 walkers
Dogwood Trailblazers go to Kansas

Join the Dogwood Trailblazers as we travel to southeast Kansas and host two walks in Labette County on October 24. Our morning walk is in the small town of Oswego on the Neosho River. Oswego was certified as “Tree City USA” by the National Arbor Day Foundation for planting a tree each Arbor Day for 20 years. Fall colors will hopefully display their full beauty.

Our second walk is a 15-minute drive straight south on Highway 59 to Chetopa, another small town on the Neosho River. Chetopa’s fame comes from being both the “Catfish” and “Pecan” Capital of Kansas. Their pecans are nationally known for their unique flavor. Chetopa began as an Osage Indian village and is named for Chief Chetopah. In 1861, an early Civil War battle took place here between the 6th Kansas Cavalry and pro-slavery raiders.

Check ava.org or sites.google.com/site/dogwoodtrailblazers/ for AVA Special Programs, information and our brochure. We will see you in southeast Kansas October 24.

From Chickasaw history to Miranda’s Pink Pistol

If you love history, you won’t want to miss the Tishomingo walk sponsored by Wandergruppe Walking Club on Saturday, September 19 during Fall Celebration, the Oklahoma Clubs’ multi-event weekend. You will see three great museums including the site point in The Bank of the Chickasaw Nation Museum. The 5k and 10k will take you by the Chickasaw Nation Capitol Museum and the Chickasaw Council House Museum. Admission to both is free and both are open until 4 p.m. that day. The town was named after the Chickasaw chief who died of smallpox on the Trail near Little Rock, Arkansas, after the Chickasaws were removed from their homeland, located around Tishomingo, Mississippi.

The Capitol building was built in 1897 from local red granite and dedicated in 1898. The territorial government was dissolved when Oklahoma became a state in 1907. In 1908, the building was sold to Johnston County for the county court house. In 1992 the building was reclaimed by the Chickasaw Nation and is now a museum. It was added to the National Registry of Historic Buildings in 1971 because of its historic significance and unique architecture.

Explore Chickasaw history and culture at the Council House Museum. The first Chickasaw Council House, built on Indian Territory, is preserved inside the museum along with some of the largest collections of Chickasaw art, artifacts and archives.

Other sights include the Johnston County War Memorial, which includes a Blue Angels jet once flown by Navy Lt. Commander Clarence O. “Smoky” Tolbert, listed MIA in Vietnam in 1972.

Tishomingo was named after the Chickasaw chief who died of smallpox on the Trail near Little Rock, Arkansas.

No visit to Tishomingo would be complete without visiting The Pink Pistol owned by country music star Miranda Lambert. You might even meet Miranda or her husband, Blake Shelton, as they drop in from time to time. Besides the soda fountain, her shop offers one-of-a-kind gift items, jewelry, accessories, clothing and a collection of boots you won’t find anywhere else. Across the street her boutique bed and breakfast, The Ladysmith, is located in an historic building dating back to 1901. Last December Blake and Miranda performed an impromptu concert for the locals in its ballroom.

This event qualifies for these AVA Special Programs: Alternate Capitals, Doin’ the Louisiana Purchase, Honoring Our Flag, National Register of Historic Places and You’ll Never Walk Alone.

For more info, visit ava.org or contact Joe Fountain, 405-664-8571, friend6139@aol.com. See ya’ll in Tishomingo!!

Join Lawton Walkers in Blanchard

Want to get the feel of a small town with nostalgic downtown streets? Come walk in Blanchard, Oklahoma with the Lawton Walkers on September 5.

Blanchard was founded in 1907. Blanchard was named after William G. “Bill” Blanchard. It is situated in northeastern McClain County. It began as a railroad town serving the farming community in Chickasaw Indian Territory of the soon-to-be-developed State of Oklahoma. The town is located on US-62 and OK-76 highways. It is within 15 miles of four major universities. The Will Rogers World Airport is 30 minutes away. There are parks and recreational areas, golf courses, diners, a bakery, VFW, murals, Veteran’s Memorial and a cinema. The event qualifies for these AVA Special Programs: Food for Thought, Animal Safari, Water Towers, Over the Rainbow, Trekking with Trees, Native American Culture and Main Streets.

The town site was established in three lot sales on September 19, 1906, July 18, 1907 and March 25, 1908. Within a year, the town was described as having 40 business establishments, including a state and national bank, four blacksmith shops, three livery barns, two grain elevators and a weekly newspaper. The Blanchard post office charter was granted on December 19, 1906. When Arthur H. “Art” and Bill Blanchard moved their store from Womack to the new town site in 1906, they took the post office with them. A courthouse was built in Blanchard, and heard its first case on December 13, 1909.

Today there are many events to interest all ages… May Daze Festival (the third weekend of May), Concerts in the Park, Movies on Main, Annual Bluegrass Festival, Mufflers on Main Car Show, Family Fall Festival (last Saturday in October) and Pumpkinfest on October 31 on Main Street. December brings the Christmas Parade and Celebration the second Saturday. All these festivals make me want to come back several times during the year.

The citizens of Blanchard seem to have the best of both worlds. A growing community that maintains a small town feel, all within a short drive to the metropolitan areas. A couple of well-known singers from Blanchard are Jody Miller, country and pop singer, and Bonnie Owens, country singer.

The Lawton Walkers will be serving their combo meal of a bran, chips, drink and something sweet. Come join us in the park… on September 5.

Fall celebration in Oklahoma

The Oklahoma Volkssporting Clubs proudly invite Volkssporters to participate in their Fall Celebration Volkssporting Multi-event Weekend on September 18-20. Are you working on counties? These walks take place in Atoka, Johnston, Ponotoc and Coal Counties in Oklahoma. Are you working on the Centurion Program? We offer 10 events in one weekend to advance you in your Centurion book.


In addition, as part of this multi-event weekend, swim events will also be offered on Friday and Saturday nights in Ada.

The Tulsa Walking Club (TWC) will host the walks in Atoka and Coal Counties (Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon, respectively). Bogg Depot Park in Atoka County is a very historic place and was the first Capital of the Choctaw Nation in 1839 after the tribe was displaced to Oklahoma. Bogg Depot was the site of the Battle of Middle Boggy, as well as being a stop on the Butterfield Overland Stagecoach route. There is also a historic cemetery to explore.

Our walk in Coal County will be in Coalgate, the county seat. The start point will be at the 45th Infantry Division Memorial Park with a lovely lake to walk along and then to explore the town.

This promises to be a weekend of fun, fitness, and friendship. Don’t miss it! For more info go to the AVA website under Events. You may also contact the POC for Atoka and Coal County walks Teresa Arnold, 918-630-3206 or arnoldte@hot.com.

Save the date! Plans to join TWC in October as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary, October 17-18 with three walks and three swims. Border Crossings will be our theme.

POC contact info contact Ken Miles, 918-745-0212 or mileskg@sbcglobal.net. Hope to see you on the trails. Come celebrate fall with us.
An exciting August in Massachusetts

By Bea Half and Karen Kolaczyk

Last July 19 Walk'n Mass Volkssport Club held a walk starting at the Metropolitan Waterworks Museum in Brookline and we’ve been holding our breath ever since! It was a great venue and we hoped to go back to fulfill the Club Marathon Challenge program by hosting two events in 2012 through 2016 in each of the eight towns that comprise the Boston Marathon route. The life preserver has been thrown out! The museum enjoyed our walkers so much they were very receptive to having us back! The date has been set for August 8. This year’s 5k and 11k routes were designed by Mary Frink and Karen Kolaczyk.

Walk’n Mass will re-walk the 5k Chestnut Hill Reservoir loop. It has an inner loop along a dirt path and an outer loop on a paved sidewalk. The outer loop will take walkers by the Evergreen Cemetery and along a small portion of the Boston Marathon route through Cleveland Circle. The second loop is 6k and goes as a part of Brookline, continuing along Beacon Street to Summit Avenue in the Corey Hilltop area. The Summit Path is one in a series of Secret Stairways in Brookline constructed by Eben Jordan Jr. It was constructed to connect his residential development on Corey Hill to a streetcar stop on Beacon Street. The route also passes Jordan’s mansion on the way back to the museum.

The Waterworks Museum entry is free to the public and donations are graciously accepted!

On August 22 we will again be in Natick, a town that was incorporated in 1781 that has a population of 33,000 and hosts miles eight through 12 of the Boston Marathon. This time, our 10k and 6k routes begin at the Elks Lodge on Spen Street (natickelks.org).

In addition to walking on sidewalks along the marathon route, through residential areas with stately homes and the scenic downtown, walkers will also enjoy the natural surface trails of Middlesex Path and Tony Anniballi Park along Lake Cochituate’s Pegan Cove. A special treat will be the Farmers Market held each Saturday during the summer on Natick Common.

Starting at noon, attendees will partake in tasty offerings of salads, appetizers, sandwiches and desserts brought by members for the club’s annual picnic as well as a special cake to celebrate the club’s 30th anniversary. A walk followed by food and camaraderie! What could be better?

Both Brookline and Natick walks qualify for the club’s Marathon Challenge Program begun in 2012 and continuing through 2016.

For a brochure on the Brookline and Natick walks or other Walk’n Mass Club events, go to walkmass.org or contact Karen at 508-826-7250 or kolaczyk@aol.com for Brookline; and Bea at 508-429-3564 or beatleh@aol.com for Natick.

ESC is pro-active!

By Linda Morzillo

Is your club suffering from declining and/or aging membership? The Empire State Capital Volkssporters (ESCV) is no exception. Thanks to several club members with great ideas, we have come up with some ways to attract new and enthusiastic walkers. Besides the activities described below, ESCV is continuing to brainstorm other ways to make our presence known.

What types of people would be attracted to our club? For the most part, we found that young families are generally unavailable. Yes, we do occasionally have families with very young children in strollers join us for walks; they are usually enjoying an occasional walk with a relative who is one of our members. Families with older children are otherwise occupied with sports, music, scouts and similar activities and therefore are generally unavailable.

The newly retired made the largest target population with parts of the working population the second largest. Although we are fortunate that we live in this wonderful area with many cultural events, these events are in direct competition with Volkssporting and we need to show a unique experience. It is up to us to get the word out there that we are a very active non-competitive walking club. Word of mouth has always been one way of passing along information. For a number of years, Pat Reed has been placing notices of our walks in the area’s mainstream daily newspapers and some of the free weekly newspapers that are available all over the Capital District area. A newcomer will sometimes tell us that they saw the ad in the paper. This has been a good way to reach out to some people. But we needed to do more.

Several colleges in the Capital District offer programs for retired people. For example, Hudson Valley Community College in Troy sponsors the Center for Creative Retirement, which offers classes and field trips covering a wide range of topics. Lea Darling and Eileen Skinner twice led a class called An Introduction to Volkssporting in the Capital District. During the hour-long classroom part of the class Lea and Eileen explained, using slides of our smiling and happy walkers, what Volkssporting is and what our active ESCV club offers in this area. Then the participants went to the start point of our YRE Troy walk where other members of our club joined them. The group completed a 5k walk after which participants were invited to enjoy lunch with their walking companions.

Empire State College, headquartered in Saratoga Springs, offers The Academy for Lifelong Learning. Lea and Eileen led a class for the Monday Speakers’ Series titled Volkssporting in the Capital District. The participants were invited to join us at our Wednesday Guided Walk in Saratoga Springs specifically scheduled during the same week. Starting at this walk, as each new participant (and some veteran participants), signed in and paid, an adhesive name tag was quickly prepared with their first name. Our veteran members remarked that it was nice to address newcomers by name.

Kathy Brown volunteered to be the New Member Coordinator. Periodically, she receives an updated list of new members with phone numbers and email addresses from our Member Chair, Larry Godshalk. She reaches out to our new members to encourage them to continue to participate. For example, before our Holiday Party in early December, she called each person to make sure they knew of this event and extended a personal invitation. In early April, a room was reserved in a centrally located public library and all new members were invited to a class on the mechanics of Volkssporting. Kathy discussed many aspects of Volkssporting, including the jargon (Traditional Event, Group Walk, POC, YRE, T&W, Guided Walk, etc.); signing in (especially for YRE/Seasonal walks done individually); IVV Event and Distance books, from purchasing to stamping to sending the completed books to AVA; our website; our annually published booklet listing our YRE/Seasonal and Wednesday Guided Walks, as well as other topics.

We are all eager to see our walking friends and catch up with each other when we participate in our walks. Club members are also making it a part of their experience to take newcomers under their wings to make sure they feel welcome. This can include guidance on how to sign in, pay and talk to them about Volkssporting. As we walk along, we are making it a part of our club culture to get to know newcomers better and promoting Fun, Fitness and Friendship.

Northeast Region continued on page 25
Walk Around Florida Silver Jubilee – 25 years of fun

By Happy Wanderers, Mid-Florida Milers, Suncoast Sandpipers

A gala weekend of Volksporung fun, open to everyone, is nearly ready as we prepare to host Walk Around Florida (WAF) 25, October 23-25 in the Gainesville, Florida, area. The Lodge (lodgeatgainesville.com, 352-375-2400 or 800-843-8735), serves as host for our Silver Anniversary event full of historic walks and fun social events from Friday afternoon through Sunday morning. Ask for the Walk Around Florida rate.

Registration at The Lodge is Friday from 2-4 p.m. with a walk in Gainesville through the University of Florida campus area where you can pet the gator. Registration is required for the pictured navy blue t-shirt event award ($7), dinner ($20), and two lunches ($7 each) with a deadline “mailed by” date of October 10. Download a brochure from facebook.com/WAF25 or the three club’s web sites. See you in Gainesville!

Saturday afternoon drive eight minutes from Payne’s Prairie to Micopany, the first inland town after Spain ceded Florida to the USA. Founded in 1821 it was a site of the 2nd Seminole War battle and has seen many changes in industry and land uses. The 5k and 10k routes allow you ample time to return to The Lodge and prepare for the social starting at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at Napolatano’s. The buffet entrees include Italian specialties and sirloin tips with salad, bread and tea.

During the evening, we’ll share memories of past WAF adventures stretching back to 1990. We then proceed into the Jubilee Joust Awards where walkers completing any 25k combination of trails on the Friday, Saturday walks will be recognized. Sunday’s event in west Gainesville from Kanapaha Park allows us to walk in the shaded trails of Haile Plantation followed by lunch.

The walking event, which started and ended at the Audubon Center, included a 5k and 10k walk in Maitland. The staff held three tours for the club members. Each tour began with a class where we learned about the Center’s mission to rehabilitate birds of prey, also called raptors, with an ultimate goal that they be returned to the wild. These birds have suffered injury or illness that puts them at risk in their normal environment. Each class included an up close meeting with a hawk accompanied by one of the center volunteers.

After this session, we were led to the enclosures to see many of the birds that are permanently housed at the center. The permanent residents have injuries or genetic defects that prohibit their living successfully in the wild, and so will remain at the center or be sent to zoos or other facilities. For instance, one of the Bald Eagles had collided with an airplane. Some of the birds that had hunted fish were ensnared in a fishing line, while other raptors had been shot. When we visit-

Mid Florida Milers Visit Maitland’s Audubon Center for Birds of Prey

By Bill Paugh

On April 18, The Mid Florida Milers joined together with the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey to host a special walking event that included the opportunity to tour the facility and sit in on information sessions given by the Audubon Center’s staff. We had 29 participants. The Milers donated the walk fees, tour fees and a special club gift to the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, for a donation that totaled $395.75.

Each tour began with a class about the Center’s mission to rehabilitate birds of prey with an ultimate goal that they be returned to the wild.

AVA Special Program — Civil War Battlefields

Runs January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015.

Each walk must be a sanctioned AVA walk that passes through a Civil War battlefield. “Battlefield” is anyplace where there was combat action or where shots were fired at enemy forces. The military action did not have to result in casualties (killed, wounded, and/or captured). This would include skirmishes, raids (such as some of the many raids conducted by Col. John S Moody) or as in the case of the Battle of Bethel where shots were fired but there were no KIA or WIA. One event stamp per battlefield is allowed. Complete 15 events to receive award. For an event book, send a check for $10 to the Germanna Volkssport Association (GVA), Attn: Kay Collie, PO Box 7674, Fredericksburg, VA 22404.

AVA Special Program — A Walk in a City Park

Runs January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. Walk 20 sanctioned events that pass by or through a city park. The city park must have a name. No county, state or national parks will be accepted. Information needed in the book includes the date, the name of the park, city and state. No duplicate stamps and only one qualifier per stamp. Cost $10. When ordering a book, please include your email address for our information, if you have one. Sponsored by Lawton Walkers, Sharon Snyder, 1714 NW 49th Street, Lawton, OK 73505, email walkingfan@aol.com. Or Suzi Bentley, 1104 SE Alta Lane, Lawton, OK 73501, sbezley551@msn.com.
AVA Merchandise

Here's where you get all those cool AVA pins, stickers, record books, walking sticks and clothes ... at the AVA Merchandise store! Check out all the items and put your order in today!

**Books**

- **Bike Distance Book** — $6
  - brown

- **Event Books** — $5
  - green, purple, rose or gold (specify color)

- **Distance Books** — $5
  - blue, orange or yellow (specify color)

**Note:** If only one to four event or distance books are purchased, shipping is $1.50.

### Books

- **Books, 50 State/51 Capitals** — $5
- **Books, A to Z Walking America** — $8
- **Books, Special National Officer Books** — $10
- **Books, Centurion Achievement Challenge Program** — $15
  - $10 for additional books purchased by the same person in the same calendar year (members only)

**New Walker Packet** — $5

- (one each of first event and distance books, plus coupons)

**Vinyl Book Covers** — $3

- maroon, blue, red, purple, and teal (specify color), clear inside pockets

### Awards/Bars

- **State Bars** — $3
  - all 50 states plus D.C. and Puerto Rico (specify)

- **Country Bars** — $3
  - (specify) Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Rep., Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Scotland, Slovakia, South Tyrol, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, Wales

- **Canadian Provinces Bars** — $3
  - (specify) Alberta, BC, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Quebec

**AVA Star** — $3

**AWA Star**

**AWA Star**

**AWA Star**

**AWA Star**

**AWA Star**

### Stickers

- **Window cling** — $1
  - triangle on clear background; white with red trim

- **Embroidered Logo Stick-on Patch** — $5

- **Car Magnet Ribbon** — $3.50
  - w/ removable frig
  - A V A heart magnet

- **Walk On window cling** — $1.25

### Pins

- **AVV World Pin** — $3

- **I Love Volkssporting Pin** — $3

- **Shoe Pin** — $3
  - Walk to Live, Live to Walk

- **I’m High on Volkssporting Pin** — $2

- **Pin, Walk, Bike or Swim** — $2
  - (specify)

- **Ski Pin** — $1

- **Bumper Sticker** — $1

- **Bumper Sticker** — $1

- **Walk-On window cling** — $1

- **Walk-On window cling** — $1

- **Ribbon** — $3.50

- **Walk-On window cling** — $1

- **AWA heart magnet**

### Awards/Bars

- **Award Pin or Patch** — $3
  - (specify level, must qualify for)

- **Header Bars** — $3
  - AVA or IVV (specify)

Note: If only one to four event or distance books are purchased, shipping is $1.50.

AVA Merchandise continued on page 27
Shipping and handling charges are based on gross purchase before discounts or tax.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shipping and Handling Charges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to $5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5.01 — $20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20.01 — $40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40.01 — $60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60.01 — $80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shipping and handling charges are based on gross purchase before discounts or tax.

Foreign addresses add $5 to these shipping/handling rates.

Next Day Air minimum of $23 added to regular rates.

Second Day Air minimum of $15 added to regular rates.

Rates are subject to change based on size, weight and distance of rush orders.

Supplies are limited and orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis. There will be no back orders.

New AVA Banner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New AVA Banner special order factory direct</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6'x4' — $150 + $15 shipping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3'x6' — $130 + $15 shipping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please send the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Staf Walking aids</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Staf 12B® — $15</td>
<td>regular, fits 3/4” dia. stafs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Holster® — $12</td>
<td>regular, fits 1/2” dia. stafs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volkstaf 34B® — $90</td>
<td>large, 50” tall, 3/4” diameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Staf 12A® — $75</td>
<td>regular 43” tall, 1/2” diameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Rubber Indoor Tip — $2</td>
<td>for L, XL, fits 3/4” dia. stafs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Rubber Indoor Tip — $2.50</td>
<td>regular, fits 1/2” dia. stafs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Holster® — $15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Holster® — $12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Staf 12B® — $80</td>
<td>regular, fits 51” tall, 1/2” diameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Rubber Indoor Tip — $2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Rubber Indoor Tip — $2.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petometer WP-500 — $18</td>
<td>for pets. Pink or green.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring &amp; Strap Bottle Carrier — $4</td>
<td>Better quality, thicker, longer adjustable strap! AVA Logo Walk/Bike/Swim/Ski — specify blue or red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVA Jacket — $35 sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawstring Backpack — $10.50</td>
<td>15.5x17”, red, white and blue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Holster® — $15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Holster® — $12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travlr Staf 12B® — $80</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Rubber Indoor Tip — $2.50</td>
<td>regular, fits 1/2” dia. stafs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New AVA Banner</td>
<td>special order factory direct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW! Travlr Stafs now come with camera mounts instead of a compass. Photographers now have a combination ‘unipod’ and hiking staff!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The AVA can only accept payment from non-U.S. orders by means of a credit card or cheques drawn in American funds from an American bank. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

Don’t forget to add shipping and handling to all orders. Texas residents must add 8.25% sales tax to discounted total before shipping.

Please allow 4 weeks for fulfillment.
CLUBS continued on page B29
### Clubs continued from page B29

#### Gemutlich Wanderers
- 2821 Lombardi Ave SW, Canton, OH 44706
- Joann Moritz 330-495-5740
- Hookedonwalking@aol.com

#### Gemutlichkeit Volksmarch Gruppe
- 3512 W. Kemper Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45251
- Patricia Galvin 513-825-1355
- volksmarch@gemutliecht.org

#### Heart of Ohio Hikers
- 1083 Chestnut Ridge Columbus, OH 43229
- Cindy Hiltz 614-272-6252
- CFlf61676@aol.com

#### Maumee Valley Volkssporters
- 231 W. Dudley St Maumee, OH 43537
- Richard Woods 418-585-5279
- rwood333@aol.com

#### Ohio Volkssport Assn.
- 268 Shade Dr, Fairborn, OH 45324
- Dawn Gruber 937-879-0500
- OVA walking@oyahoo.com

#### Ohio Volkssport Freunde
- 268 Shade Dr, Fairborn, OH 45324
- Dawn Gruber 937-879-0500
- dgruber333@aol.com

#### Olentangy Owls
- 143 Darien Ave Columbus, OH 43228
- Sandi Latimer 614-878-4214
- sandlot17@juno.com

#### Portland Mossbacks
- 4422 Carnation Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45238
- Helga Slade 397-429-3462
- hside@woe.hr

#### Queen City Skywalkers
- 13317 Tradewinds Dr. Strongsville, OH 44136
- Dave M. Simon 541-731-7092
- queenecityskywalkers@hotmail.com

#### Tecumseh Trailblazers
- 2235 Rebecca Dr, Springfield, OH 45503
- Connie Bost 579-399-2094
- beckon811@yahoo.com

#### Wandering Wheels Volkssports Club
- 750 SW 18th St, Richmond, IN 47374
- Themla Goris 765-966-0391
- themlajean36@comcast.net

#### Xenia Walking Club
- 1123 White Oak Circle, Xenia, OH 45385
- Linda Blanton 937-372-1302
- blanton940@roadrunner.com

#### Ohio Clubs continued on page B31
SOUTH DAKOTA

Bad Penies, Th
PO Box 2393Merrifield, VA 22116-2393
Matthew Pernack 703-620-5892
matt@thebadpenies.org

Cavalier Volkssport Club
450 Whitehead Rd.Charlottesville, VA 22904
Susie Fidler 434-924-3791
cavaliervolkssport@virginia.edu

West Texas Trail Walkers
3640 Jurca Rd. Schullenberg, TX 79056
Barbara Appel 361-865-2446
jbpappel19@aol.com

Whatever of Texas Sporting Club
PO Box 2178, Ulvalde, TX 78802
Clay Bauch 214-202-9301
btxcats@gmail.com

UTAH

Gadabout
3897 North 1050 W, Ogden, UT 84404
Myra Tams 801-782-8570
myratams@gmail.com

West Texas Trail Walkers
3640 Jurca Rd. Schullenberg, TX 79056
Barbara Appel 361-865-2446
jbpappel19@aol.com

Whatever of Texas Sporting Club
PO Box 2178, Ulvalde, TX 78802
Clay Bauch 214-202-9301
btxcats@gmail.com

VERMONT

Twin State Volkssport Assn.
PO Box 157, South Ryegate, VT 05069
Carolyn Adams 802-757-2500
car757@gmail.com

WASHINGTON

All Weather Walkers
PO Box 241, Vancouver, WA 98666-0241
Joe Trione 360-944-8190
tritone@uwc.org

Border Crossers
7480 Palm Oasis Rd. CLanklin, CA 90705
Sam Korf 503-728-0400
korf.sam@wildblue.net

Capitol Volkssport Club
130 Crego Hill Rd. Chehalis, WA 98532
Liz Morrison 360-748-3886
morrums@uwc.org

Central Washington Sun Striders
PO Box 1052Yakima, WA 98909-1523
Rus Kruse 509-966-4547
russ.clause24@gmail.com

Daffoldy Valley Volkssport Assn.
1718 150th St. E. Puyallup, WA 98375
John Warhol warhol66@comcast.net

Emerald City Walkers
PO Box 16221, Seattle, WA 98116
Tony Holt 425-221-0105
anthony.holt@ieee.org

Evergreen State Volkssport Assn.
5033 Fauntleroy Ave SW Seattle, WA 98126
Mike Nagan 206-935-3225
m.nagan@comcast.net

Evergreen Wanderers
PO Box 11943Tacoma, WA 98411-1943
Charles Repik crepik@aol.com

Four-Plus Folkhardy Folks
PO Box 424, Renton, WA 98057
Victor Petzel 360-779-7170
petzl2004@yahoo.com

FS Family Wanderers
7735 Jones Ave. NW Seattle, WA 98117
Linda Ellingboe 206-789-4796
lindaell@aol.com

Interlaken Trailblazers Volkssport Club
8545 166th Ave NE #103 Redmond, WA 98052
Mike Zewe 425-861-8958
mzewe@me.com

International Wanderers
PO Box 871000, Vancouver, WA 98687
Dan Friesen 360-891-0670
fun@walkingadventures.com

Key Peninsula Volkssport
PO Box 164, Wauna, WA 98395-0164
Neil Van Der Vossen 253-857-3655
neilvandervoorn@yahoo.com

Kitsap Volkssporters Club
PO Box 2142, Silverdale, WA 98383
Ric Caton 360-516-6550
sempervirens@mindspring.com

Lilac City Volkssport Assn.
PO Box 4362, Spokane, WA 99220
George A. Withers 509-624-6518
gdonnagorge@aol.com

AVA Special Program — Doin’ The Louisiana Purchase

Runs January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2018. Do one walk in each of the 15 states that were in whole or part from the territory of the Louisiana Purchase which makes up about 25 percent of the territory of the U.S. Regions included in this program are the North Central, South Central, Rocky Mountain and Southwest. Walk 15 different sanctioned events — one per each of the 15 states. Cost $10, patch approximately 4”x6”. Checks to Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers. POC: Butch Spaulding, PO Box 8147, Omaha, NE 68108, email bspaul@uast.com, phone 712-322-2797.

AVA Special Program — National Parks Centennial

Runs January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. Sponsored by the Emerald City Walkers. Walk 15 qualifying events that include National Parks, as well as events that pass by a national monument or memorial; all listed on National Park Service website. Further, the challenge walker may claim an event once each calendar year. Cost: $10; patch: 3”x4” upon completion of challenge. Payments payable to Emerald City Walkers and mailed to POE Diane Hildebrand, PO Box 59592, Renton, WA 98058; walkin-crazy@hotmail.com. Alternate POC Mike Nagan, m.nagan@comcast.net. For more info, walkingwithlove.org/.
## CALIFORNIA
- **California Volkssport Association Inc.**
  - PO Box 1253, Tustin, CA 92781
  - President: cvsa4u.org
- **Maryland Volkssport Assn.**
  - 824 Buckingham Dr
  - Severna Park, MD 21146
  - President:Ꮯmikim@erols.com
- **Pennsylvania**
  - Keystone State Volkssport Assn.
  - 2124 Barley Dr, Quakertown, PA 18951
  - President: jmalmartap@verizon.net
- **Virginia Volkssport Assn.**
  - 3 D lemont Court, Hampton, VA 23666
  - President: m.nagan@comcast.net

## FLORIDA
- **Florida Volkssport Assn.**
  - 324 Elmwood Ave, Lehigh Acres, FL 3396
  - President: tvapresident@gvtc.com
- **Florida Volkssport Assn.**
  - 11991 SW 140th Ct
  - Miami, FL 33186
  - President: hhilberg@comcast.net

## MARYLAND
- **Maryland Volkssport Assn.**
  - 824 Buckingham Dr
  - Severna Park, MD 21146
  - President: Ṧmikim@erols.com

## NORTH CAROLINA
- **Tarheel State Walkers Volkssport Assn.**
  - 4705 Oakbury Court
  - Winston-Salem, NC 27107
  - President: lorenlittle@bellsouth.net

## OREGON
- **Oregon Trail State Volkssport Assn.**
  - 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd, #334
  - Portland, OR 97206
  - President: Maryann Brown
    - 541-961-4279
    - otsva@walkoregon.org

## TEXAS
- **Texas Volkssport Assn.**
  - 27277 Ramblewood
  - San Antonio, TX 78261-2013
  - President: tvapresident@gvtc.com

## WASHINGTON
- **Evergreen State Volkssport Assn.**
  - 3033 Fauntleroy Ave SW
  - Seattle, WA 98126
  - President: Mike Nagan
    - 206-935-3225
    - m.nagan@comcast.net

## AVA SANCTIONED EVENTS CALENDAR

### ARIZONA
- **10/10/15**
  - W: Cave Creek
  - President: CaveCreekWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282
- **10/11/15**
  - W: Tucson
  - President: TucsonWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282

### ARKANSAS
- **11/11/15**
  - W: Little Rock
  - President: LittleRockWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282

### CALIFORNIA
- **8/20/15**
  - W: Sacramento
  - President: Sacramentowalkingsticks.org
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Foster City
  - President: FosterCityWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282

### COLORADO
- **9/12/15**
  - W: Denver
  - President: DenverWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Cherry Creek
  - President: CherryCreekWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282

### COLORADO SPRINGS
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Colorado Springs
  - President: ColoradoSpringsWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282

### DELAWARE
- **10/24-25/15**
  - W: Newark
  - President: NewarkWalkingAdventures.com
  - Karen Seay: 602-704-3282

### FLORIDA
- **8/15/15**
  - W: Orlando
  - President: Mlakepa@ffcr.org
  - Mike Lanthier: 407-695-9181
- **8/29/15**
  - W: New Smyrna Beach
  - President: HappyWalkers@gmail.com
  - Happy Walkers: 321-263-1535
- **9/12/15**
  - W: Jacksonville
  - President: FirstCoastTrailForgersWalkingClub@gmail.com
  - First Coast Trail Forgers: 904-230-1178
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Davenport
  - President: Mlakepa@ffcr.org
  - Mike Lanthier: 407-695-9181
- **10/10/15**
  - W: Jacksonville
  - President: FirstCoastTrailForgersWalkingClub@gmail.com
  - First Coast Trail Forgers: 904-365-6953

### GEORGIA
- **9/12/15**
  - W: Atlanta
  - President: GeorgiaWalkers@gmail.com
  - Georgia Walkers: 678-776-8671
- **8/21/15**
  - W: onhehune Marchers
  - President: Mlakepa@ffcr.org
  - Mike Lanthier: 407-695-9181

### HAWAII
- **8/21/15**
  - W: Kanohe
  - President: Mlakepa@ffcr.org
  - Mike Lanthier: 407-695-9181
- **10/10/15**
  - W: Honolulu
  - President: OahuWalkingAdventures.com
  - Oahu Walking Adventures: 808-238-3583

### ILLINOIS
- **9/12/15**
  - W: New Baden
  - President: WillamMalina.org
  - William Malina: 618-588-4097
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Quincy
  - President: RaymondLandon217.org
  - Raymond Landon: 618-877-1826
- **9/26/15**
  - W: Evanston
  - President: MaryAnnCiesla.org
  - Mary Ann Ciesla: 630-325-0624
- **10/10/15**
  - W: Lake Caylyle
  - President: DarlenKraemerLerculosis.org
  - Darlen Kraemer: 618-277-4228

### IOWA
- **9/12/15**
  - W: West Des Moines
  - President: WalkIowas.org
  - Walk Iowa: 515-664-8381
- **9/26/15**
  - W: Cedar Rapids
  - President: WindyCityWalkers@gmail.com
  - Windy City Walkers: 515-432-9790
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Davenport
  - President: FirstCoastTrailForgersWalkingClub@gmail.com
  - First Coast Trail Forgers: 904-230-1178

### INDIANA
- **8/15/15**
  - W: South Bend
  - President: South Bend Walking Advertisers
  - South Bend Walking Advertisers: 574-203-4187

### MARYLAND
- **10/10/15**
  - W: Ocean City
  - President: OceanCityWalkingAdventures.com
  - Ocean City Walking Adventures: 410-938-3418
- **10/11/15**
  - W: Baltimore
  - President: BaltimoreWalkingAdventures.com
  - Baltimore Walking Adventures: 410-647-3213

### OHIO
- **8/15/15**
  - W: Dayton
  - President: DaytonWalkingAdventures.com
  - Dayton Walking Adventures: 937-642-7327
- **9/12/15**
  - W: Columbus
  - President: ColumbusWalkingAdventures.com
  - Columbus Walking Adventures: 614-562-8755

### PENNSYLVANIA
- **10/10/15**
  - W: Philadelphia
  - President: PhiladelphiaWalkingAdventures.com
  - Philadelphia Walking Adventures: 215-687-4900

### VIRGINIA
- **8/15/15**
  - W: Williamsburg
  - President: WilliamsburgWalkingAdventures.com
  - Williamsburg Walking Adventures: 757-220-5654
- **8/29/15**
  - W: Richmond
  - President: RichmondWalkingAdventures.com
  - Richmond Walking Adventures: 804-298-3583
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Virginia Beach
  - President: VirginiaBeachWalkingAdventures.com
  - Virginia Beach Walking Adventures: 757-220-5654

### WASHINGTON
- **8/21/15**
  - W: Seattle
  - President: SeattleWalkingAdventures.com
  - Seattle Walking Adventures: 206-517-3657
- **9/12/15**
  - W: Bellevue
  - President: BellevueWalkingAdventures.com
  - Bellevue Walking Adventures: 425-258-9758

### WEST VIRGINIA
- **10/10/15**
  - W: Charleston
  - President: CharlestonWalkingAdventures.com
  - Charleston Walking Adventures: 304-342-9758

### WISCONSIN
- **9/12/15**
  - W: Racine
  - President: RacineWalkingAdventures.com
  - Racine Walking Adventures: 262-634-2390
- **9/19/15**
  - W: Milwaukee
  - President: MilwaukeeWalkingAdventures.com
  - Milwaukee Walking Adventures: 414-578-2571

### WYOMING
- **8/21/15**
  - W: Jackson
  - President: JacksonWalkingAdventures.com
  - Jackson Walking Adventures: 307-208-3158

### EVENTS CONTINUED ON PAGE B33
Events continued from page B32

8/8/15 W Scottsbor Tom Martin 317-787-9776 Goodtime Trailblazers fritzmarin@comcast.net
8/22/15 W Nashville Tom Martin 317-787-9776 Indiana Volkssport Assn. fritzmarin@mvnw.net
9/5/15 W Auburn Cheryl Elser 260-749-6304 Auburn Duesey Walkers elserfan@frontier.com
9/12/15 W Grabill Liz Winsky 260-749-6304 Three Rivers Strollers lizwindel@gmail.com
9/13/15 W Plainfield Scott Flook 317-388-5438 Indy ‘G’ Walkers sflodof@swiftning.com
8/19/15 W Evansville Karla Gaynor 812-479-0319 River City Ramblers omagamary@yahoo.com
9/10/1 W Indiana Susan Pinnke 317-273-3653 Greater Des Moines Volkssport Assn. susanpinnke@gmail.com
10/24/1 W Versailles Tom Martin 317-787-9776 Indiana Volkssport Assn. fritzmarin@mvnw.net
10/25/1 W Old Tipp Town Bob Buzolich 574-339-9140 Hoosier Hikers sonobuzz@prodigy.net
11/12/1 W Ferdinand Linda Neu 812-425-3886 River City Ramblers stan-linda.ri@juno.com
12/12/1 W Indianapolis Clarence Wright 317-357-8464 Indy ‘G’ Walkers indywright@bcsglobal.net

IOWA

9/19/15 W Urbandale Phylis Olson 515-270-6920 Greater Des Moines Volkssport Assn. pashoosn@mchsi.com
10/1/15 W Maxwellville Susan Pinnke 317-273-3653 Greater Des Moines Volkssport Assn. susanpinnke@gmail.com
10/24/1 W West Leavenworth Kansas JayWalkers Yoterh@yahoo.com
12/4-5/1 3-S West Leavenworth Kansas JayWalkers Yoterh@yahoo.com

MARYLAND

8/1/15 W Columbia John Dye 410-290-6510 Columbia Volkssport Club johndey@comcast.net
8/22/15 W Greenbelt Salva Holloman 301-937-3549 Great Greenbelt Volksmarchers, Inc. salvah_b@yahoo.com
9/12/15 W Upper Marlboro Mike Quint 301-805-4278 Annapolis Ambassadors mikeniq41@gmail.com
9/13/15 W West Friendship John Dye 410-290-6510 Columbia Volkssport Club johndey@comcast.net
9/27/15 W Annapolis Diane Messer 410-224-0007 Dcmesher@verizon.net
10/3/15 W Frederick Yvonne Pennington 301-431-6686 Seneca Valley Sugarloopers yastill@gmail.com
10/7/15 W Laurel Phil Wilder 301-717-3164 Freestate Happy Wanderers kindelfl01@comcast.net
10/24/1 W Elkridge John Dye 410-290-6510 Columbia Volkssport Club johndey@comcast.net
10/31/1 GB Rockville Tom Jackson 717-677-6511 Seneca Valley Sugarloopers thomasjackson@embarcmail.com
10/31/1 W Rockville Alice Fliemery 240-755-0003 Seneca Valley Sugarloopers alec.fliemery@gmail.com
11/7/1 W Forest Hill James B. Farley 630-834-7075 Seneca Valley Sugarloopers james_farley@comcast.net
11/14/1 W Baltimore Walking Club Tony Laing 301-980-8932 Seneca Valley Sugarloopers laingat@gmail.com
12/31/1 2-W Columbia Linda Hassell 410-437-2164 Seneca Valley Sugarloopers jone@comcast.net
1/1/16 2-W Columbia Linda Hassell 410-437-2164 Seneca Valley Sugarloopers whabass1798@verizon.net

Massachusetts

8/8/15 W Brookline Karen Kolaczyk 508-826-7250 Walk ‘N Volkssport Club kolakazo@aol.com
8/22/15 GW Natick Karen Kolaczyk 508-826-7250 Walk ‘N Volkssport Club beateh1@aol.com
10/10/1 W Lenox Sue Grey 395-519-0359 Empire Capital Volkssport Club suegrey23@yahoo.com
10/11/1 W Shelburne Falls Jan Varnon 413-244-4128 Empire Capital Volkssport Club jcvarnon@yahoo.com
10/17/15 W Lexington Miriam Boucher 718-248-6965 Walk ‘N Volkssport Club mchb16@verizon.net

Michigan

9/7/15 W Mackinaw City Tom Crabill 260-409-1659 Auburn Duesey Walkers tjcrabill@comcast.net

MINNESOTA

8/8/15 B Maplewood Ken Johnson 651-714-9603 Twin Cities Volkssport johnsonck@centurylink.net
8/29/15 W Bemidji Chuck Wanek 701-306-7676 Red River Volkssport Assn. awanek24@ideanet.com
9/12/15 W St. Paul Rita Holland 763-232-9878 Twin Cities Volkssport troutlandholland@gmail.com
9/19/15 W Carlton Donna Seline 612-522-0592 NorthStar Travelers info@nstar.org
10/3/15 W Columbia Sandy Spring Tschalk Internet patschak@acm.org
10/10/1 W Blaine Bonnie Johnson 763-232-3584 Lake Country Wanderers bonjohn@comcast.net
10/10/1 W Pelican Rapids Joseph Hibner 718-731-6756 Pelican Rapids CC Walking Club hibber@att.net
10/11/15 W Bemidji Mike Rosche 814-769-8598 Bethel Pathfinders info@bethelvv.org
10/12/15 W Minneapolis Linda Holland 763-232-9878 Twin Cities Volkssport linda@usfamily.net

MISSISSIPPI

8/8/1 W Columbia Cindy Stucky 636-308-2432 Illinois Trekkers Volkssport Club cstucky8890@gmail.com

8/9/15 W Columbia Buttercups Clarette Hollin 815-371-4914 Midwest Walking Club clarette@comcast.com

KANSAS

10/24/1 W Oswego Doris Conyers 417-434-0971 Osage County Trailblazers dconyers43@gmail.com
10/24/1 W Chetopa Dogwood Trailblazers dconyers43@gmail.com

NEBRASKA

9/12/1 W Omaha Butch Spaulding 712-322-2979 Nebraska Wanderfreunde Trailblazers bs1preznfwt@aol.com
10/3/15 W Omaha Mel Bohn 402-895-7972 Nebraska Wanderfreunde Trailblazers mbohn@cox.net
10/2/15 W Lincoln Rose Quackenbush 402-464-6972 Lincoln Volkssport Club bispie706@aol.com
11/7/1 W Omaha Mel Bohn 402-895-7972 Nebraska Wanderfreunde Trailblazers mbohn@cox.net
12/5/15 NW Omaha Butch Spaulding 712-322-2979 Nebraska Wanderfreunde Trailblazers bs1preznfwt@aol.com

NEW JERSEY

9/12/1 W Hillsborough JoAnn Drury 908-208-9821 Princeton Area Walkers jdrury51@aol.com
10/3/15 W Bordentown Diane Giebe 609-259-2365 Princeton Area Walkers dianeg6@aol.com

NEW MEXICO

9/12/1 W Ruidoso Merril Rothermich 915-217-7477 Sun Country Striders merrilrothermich@hotmail.com

NEW YORK

8/5/15 GW Broadalbin Ann Smith 518-883-5074 Empire State Capital Volkssporters ngeorgeos@nycap.rur.com
8/12/1 W Mechanicville Marylou Geren 518-399-8400 Empire State Capital Volkssporters bgeren@nycap.rr.com
8/19/1 W South Glens Falls Carolyn Sabato 518-223-0882 Empire State Capital Volkssporters carolHS@w2att.com
8/26/15 GW Northville Nellie Georgelos 518-424-5339 Empire State Capital Volkssporters ngeorgelos@nycap.rur.com
8/30/15 W Saugerties Jennifer Reinhart 845-462-7593 Empire State Capital Volkssporters jriehart3@comcast.net

Events continued on page B34
10 Events

Ackerman Melinda Plymouth MN
Beck Timothy Morris IL
Colby Cyndi Savenort FL
Dietrich Amber Spring Hill KS
Evans Mildred Columbia MD
Floungold Scott Plainfield IN
Grierson Sharon Sacramento CA
Guyan Darcy Olympia WA
Hanhart Carl Tulsa OK
Hawley Jason Tusla OK
Hodge Mary Niskayuna NY
Jonas Rebecca Bowie MD
Levitt Geoffrey Lancaster CA
Levitt Leah Lancaster CA
Little Taylor Newport PA
Lytle James San Antonio TX
Martinez Maureen New Braunfels TX
McDuff Rebecca Houston TX
McLaughlin Keats Spokane WA
McLaughlin Lauri Spokane WA
McLeish David Cahokia IL
McWatter Jack Columbia MD
McWatters Sharon Columbia MD
Medlin Travis Colo Springs CO
Paige Janis Eau Claire Way WA
Roberson Edward San Antonio TX
Runyan Susan Tacoma WA
Schmitt Johanna Urbandale IA
Schueler Nancy Greenfield SC
Schueler Thomas Greenfield SC
Schwencke Kathy San Antonio TX
Sears Emily Milwaukee WI
Taylor Linda Spanaway WA
Turner Charles Portland OR
Wester Susan Madison WI
Zuerge Ryan Eau Claire WI

30 Events

Akins Stein Verdel NOR
Butler Andrew Hurst TX
Christensen-Dean Gay Rocky Hill OH
Covington Debra Holly Hill FL
Farber Donna Albany NY
Garrison Linda Riverside CA
Garwacke Matthew Marietta GA
Grayne James St. Marys OH
Hallonquist Margie West Des Moines IA
Jackson Daniel Moorhead MN
Jenkins William Parkville MO
Kerr Christine Bloomington IN
Kirkpatrick Mark Bellefonte PA
Kobayashi Crystal Sacramento CA
Koowen Thomas Kansas City MO
Kranzopf Steve Rincon GA
Kroon Jason Santa Cruz CA
LaFleur Terri Fairview Heights IL
Lambert Matt Salt Lake City UT
Mace Matthew O'Fallon IA
Malcolm Susan Waverly IA
Mandel Martin Chicago IL
Marzuk Tonya San Antonio TX
Massey Joy Goldsboro NC
Mclean Robert Lebanon TN
Malek Shannon Kaneville IL
Marrone Christopher Niles OH
McNeil Phillip Willow Springs IL
Meister Mindy Richardson TX
Miller Kevin Roanoke VA
Mills Barry Lubbock TX
Mitchell John Gallatin TN
Mollman Lisa San Antonio TX
Moon Sheryl Mt. Airy MD
Murphy Sarah Des Moines IA
Nakamura Paul Touchon CA
Nathan Robert Harbor City CA
O'Mara Michelle Inver Grove Heights MN
Ozdoba Tanya Charleston SC
Palmieri Patricia San Antonio TX
Pappas Mark Citizens Heights VA
Petersen Steven Maple Grove MN
Price Amanda Prince George VA
Pugh Allen Anchorage AK
Ravensbery Linda Sanford FL
Roberts Jordan South San Francisco CA
Rushmore Susan Bellingham WA
Shoemaker John Little Rock AR
Shea Eric Norwalk CT
Shipp William Athens GA
Silva Michelle Watertown WI
Smith Melissa Sayre PA
Steele Zachary Augusta GA
Tatachuk Svetlana Topeka KS
Tauscher Marcie San Antonio TX
Tobislo Christopher West Des Moines IA
Towne William Alhambra CA
Udall Matt Middletown OH
Vega Milton Miami FL
Ward Todd Fishkill NY
Wardlaw Richard West Des Moines IA
Welsh Michael Corpus Christi TX
White Scott Hays KS
Wilson Will Westfield MA
Woodworth Lenape PA
Wyman Michelle Folsom CA
Yates Susan Oklahoma City OK
Zajac Sarah Levittown PA

75 Events

Wills Benda Rapid City SD
Yost Chris Scotia NY

100 Events

Barber Muriel O'Fallon IL
Brown Betty Lakeland FL
Conley Shane Dayton OH
DeBuse Judy Colo Springs CO
Gaskins Debra Des Moines IA
Gilles Deneen San Antonio TX
Ishak Elena Elk Grove CA
Lachollai Teresa Sacramento CA
Loeb Carol Saratoga Sprs NY
Nash Miranda Oak Leaf TX
Paige Amanda Gahanna OH
Petihel Diana Wellsville OH
Potter Pamela Millersville MD
Reed Mary Alhambra CA
Schmitt Johanna Urbandale IA
Wilson James Va Beach VA
Wilson Janette Va Beach VA

125 Events

Axelrod Sharon Orlando FL
Barber Muriel O'Fallon IL
Bjarnason Anna Rocklin CA
Davis Kelvin Peyton CO
DeLadllo Beverly Kansas KS
DeLadllo Danna Kansas KS
Dippio Cathygrodon Fremont MO
Friedrich Zori Gold River CA
Gaskins Debra Des Moines IA
Goodfellow Gordon Auburn WA
Haven Bev Jefferson OR
Juris Barbara Worthington OH
Kimberlain Robert Newburgh IN
McTaff Hugh Fort Collins CO
Ostrander Gail Schenectady NY
Ranzenberger Cindy Sacramento CA
Schmitt Johanna Urbandale IA
Swift Tom Stockton CA

150 Events

Anderson Gary Dayton Bch Shores FL
Axelrod Sharon Orlando FL
Barber Muriel O'Fallon IL
DeLadllo Beverly Kansas KS
DeLadllo Danna Kansas KS
Dippio Cathygrodon Fremont MO
Derdman Connie Morgan Hill CA
Friedrich Zori Gold River CA
Gizzi Kathy Albany NY
Goodfellow Gordon Auburn WA
Goodfetter Bernita Camas WA
Hellerly Janice Tucson AZ
Ostrander Gail Schenectady NY
Porter Jennifer Lawrence KS
Schmitt Johanna Urbandale IA
Waguespack Jan New Braunfels TX

175 Events

Ashburn Harry Veneta OR
Brow Cooling Black Hawk SD
Buse Jeffrey New Braunfels TX
Campbell Donna Omaha NE
Carney Karen San Antonio TX
Flouri Gary Omaha NE
Goddofellow Gordon Auburn WA
Gross Jim La Crosse WI
Hair Patrick New Braunfels TX
Talaga Carol Glennie PA
Treible Sandy Bothell WA
Woodard Randell Sand Springs OK

200 Events

Carney Karen San Antonio TX
Ellberg Patrick New Braunfels TX
Goodfellow Gordon Auburn WA
Haagensen Cindy Madison WI
Purgine Linda Shoreline WA
Shapiro Lorraine Fremont CA
Stachour Frances Bloomington IN
Stack Emily Charlton MA
Sudolasky Mary Cumbrland RI
Talaga Carol Glennie PA
Viecas Penny Colo Springs CO

225 Events

Betar Jennifer New Mexico NM
Blazek Joseph Ellensburg WA
Blazek Joseph Ellensburg WA
Brown Gordon Maryland Hgts MO
Estine Mike Olympia WA
Goodfellow Gordon Auburn WA
Haagensen Cindy Madison WI
Hoel Jeanie Kettering OH
Ives John San Antonio TX
Johnson Myrna Morristown IN
Moen Ronald Barberton OH
Morrison Elizabeth Chehalis WA
Reed Donald Albany OR
Stachour Frances Bloomington IN

250 Events

Brown Gordon Maryland Hgts MO
Clements Denis Vienna VA
Fossett Michael Sacramento CA
Goodfellow Gordon Auburn WA
Nash, Jr. Bill Oak Leaf TX
Paronis Irena Darien IL
Peterson Connie Port Royal PA
Reed Donald Albany OR

275 Events

Blessing James Carmel IN
Brown Gordon Maryland Hgts MO
Hoey Tonicarieta PA
Krow Timothy Port Royal PA
Langdon Brenda Lansing KS
McIean Robert Springfield VA
Moritz JoAn Cantton OH
Nelson Ken Happy Valley OR
Peterson Connie Por Royal PA
Peterson Connie Por Royal PA
Weeks Janice Arden NC

300 Events

Alton Susan San Antonio TX
Ar AREA Craig Bluffton SC
Beam Greg Bob Trabuco Canyon CA
Izbicki Joanne Lexington MA
Kroyer Joel Port Royal PA
Paronis Irena Darien IL
Perry Steven Vancouver WA

325 Events

Beam Deborah Bluffton SC
Izbicki Joanne Lexington MA
Medlin Susan San Antonio TX
Miller Charles Summerfield NC
Stone Raymond Norman OK
Willemsen Dee Windsor Heights IA
Zacker Channing Va Beach VA

350 Events

Bolenwick Joie Louisville KY
Izbicki Joanne Lexington MA

375 Events

Bender Dorris Lawton MO
Dykes Robert San Diego CA
Hamby Nancy Jefferson OR
Popolizio Michael Clinton Park NY
Rittmiller Megan San Antonio TX
Seokele Sacramento CA
Vertucci Audrey San Antonio TX

400 Events

Bender Dorris Lawton MO
Compton Bonnie Lynn OK
Ellis Linda Orange City FL
Merenda Martina Rockville MD
Pinnecke Susan Des Moines IA
Vertucci Audrey San Antonio TX

425 Events

Baltes Louise Camas WA
Barrett Kristin Lawton OK
Beisser David Travelers Rest SC
Bruce Richard Sitka AK
Comfort Delores Tulsa OK
Greutert Cathy Seattle WA
Kildow Susan Tulsa OK
Koosman Lauren Tacoma WA
Pinnecke Susan Des Moines IA
Wright Suzanne Leesburg VA

450 Events

Baltes Louise Camas WA
Barrett Kristin Lawton OK
Brown Deanne Maryville Hgts MO
Evans Marathi Silver Spring MD
Kildow Susan Tulsa OK
Koosman Lauren Tacoma WA
Pitts Kathleen Danvers MA
Pinnecke Susan Des Moines IA
Sell Katie Bellevue WA
Sloan Donald Davis City WA
Ward Irene Sundance WY
Wright Suzanne Leesburg VA

475 Events

Avonnette Bonnie Tyler TX
Banton Andrew Colon OH
Brown Deanne Maryville Hgts MO
Brown Gordon Maryville Hgts MO
Clark Sally Danville VA
Copenhaver James York PA
Copenhaver Pamela York PA
Devine Verna Attleboro MA
Glanzer Jay Rapid City SD
Lewellen Nancy Spearfish SD
Morantse John Rapid City SD
Rautenstrauch Carol Hornsh PA

500 Events

Brehm Barbara Arcola IL
Brown Deanne Maryville Heights CA
CopenhaverJames York PA
Copenhaver Pamela York PA
Devine Verna Attleboro MA
Gaston Betty Rapid City SD
Green Michael Central Valley NY
Hait Monica Holliston MA
Huhtaker Loraine New Port Rixey FL
Jones Robert Scottsdale AZ
Morton John Rapid City SD
Rautenstrauch Carol Hornsh PA
Stambaugh Oksana Arlington VA

IVV Event Awards continued on page B37
IVV Event Awards

continued from page B36

1200 Events

Barkey Bobb Des Moines IA
Faulk Joe Anchorage AK
Sparks Rachel West Linn OR

1250 Events

Garamone Helen Alexandria VA
Gordon Judy Sparks NV
Hollar Carol Hackettstown NJ
Sells Gregory Austin TX
Sparks Rachel West Linn OR
Warhol John Puyallup WA

1300 Events

Pelking Holly San Jose CA
Wright Clarence Indianapolis IN

1350 Events

Barton Fred Tucson AZ
Beamer Linda Silver Spring MD
Larkins Irene Cornelius OR
Mazzone Laurence Weems VA
Olson Kathleen Ridgefield WA

1400 Events

Beamer Linda Silver Spring MD
Haupt Clarence Yakima WA
Haupt Millie Yakima WA
Olson Kathleen Ridgefield WA
Pernack Matthew Oakton VA

1450 Events

Bucher Lois Camp Hill PA
Schneider David Tucson AZ

1500 Events

Bucher Lois Camp Hill PA
Miner Cecilia Woodbridge VA
Rawson Perry Henrietta NY
Schneider David Tucson AZ

1600 Events

Heller Patricia Schertz TX
Moats Sharon Benton WA
Schneider David Tucson AZ
Senger Gayle Buckley WA
Swab Donald Tacoma WA
Wolfe Robert Silver Spring MD

1700 Events

Chazen Martin Manassas VA
Swab Donald Tacoma WA
Wilgus Anthony Elkton City MD
Willoughby Marilyn Ellicott City MD

1800 Events

Callahan Martin San Antonio TX
Cohen Neil Sherman Oaks CA
Myron Curtis Oak Harbor WA

2000 Events

Wright Robert Leesburg VA

5500 Events

Peters Dannie Lennox SD
Peters Ellen Lennox SD

IVV Event Awards

525 Events

Brown Deanne Maryland Heights MD
Campbell Shirley Oakleeboehle FL
Copenhaver James York PA
Copenhaver Pamela York PA
Daskam Danielle Ennismuul WA
Green Betty Central Valley NY
Green Michael Central Valley NY
Moranti John Rapid City SD
Nash Marilyn Oak Lawn TX
Ohl James Vancouver WA
Ohl Jean Vancouver WA
Patrick George Columbus OH
Shockey Rhonda Tulsa OK
Smith Donald Silver Spring MD

550 Events

Averill David Menands NY
Averill Marion Menands NY
Cableanton Port Townsend WA
Coones Sally Carmichael CA
Filmorem Alan Voorheesville NY
Johnson Elaine Portland ME
Lardizabal Jan Newville PA
Mckee Starr Beavercreek OR
Nooner John San Antonio TX
Ohl James Vancouver WA
Ohl Jean Vancouver WA
Shockey Rhonda Tulsa OK
Stachour Paul Bloomington MN

575 Events

Averill David Menands NY
Averill Marion Menands NY
Cableanton Port Townsend WA
Coones Sally Carmichael CA
Hart Leora Newport News VA
Longshore Alan Voorheesville NY
Mckee Starr Beavercreek OR
Nooner John San Antonio TX
Ohl James Vancouver WA
Ohl Jean Vancouver WA
Shockey Rhonda Tulsa OK
Sorell Mary Watertown NY

600 Events

Bowe Lesley Dallas TX
Burrrankshand Nancy Wooter OH
Huffaker Robert New Port Richey FL
Huffaker Robert New Port Richey FL
Needles Jo San Antonio TX
Ogar Sherry Mountlake Terrace WA
Skaggs Patricia Pensacola FL
Sorell Mary Watertown NY

650 Events

Bowe Lesley Dallas TX
Boyd Phyllis Scottia NY
Longshore Alan Voorheesville NY
Skaggs Patricia Pensacola FL

700 Events

Beales Dana Fairfax VA
Bren Nancy Sierra Vista AZ
Church Bonnie Gladstone OR
Longshore Alan Voorheesville NY
Miller Patty Kutztown PA
Moranti Wanda Rapid City SD
Shepherd Arlene Portland OR
Whalen Brian APO AE

AVP Special Program — Walking the Old Spanish Trail

Runs January 1, 2013 through 31 December 2015. Any event that runs along, across or in close proximity to any part of Old Spanish Trail Auto Highway which runs from St. Augustine, Florida to San Diego, California. Each entry must have a different sanction number. For a book make check out for $10 to the Run- dolph Roadrunners VolksSport Club and send to Ellen Ott, 11906 Pepperidge Cove, San Antonio, Texas 78213.
### IVV Distance Awards

#### 500 KM
- Wilson, James - Virginia Beach, VA
- Treibel, Sandy - Bothell, WA
- Pethtel, Diana - Wellsville, OH
- Licholai, Teresa - Sacramento, CA
- Jurjans, Barbara - Worthington, OH
- Jonas, Astrid - Bowie, MD
- Grider, Cheryl - Lawton, OK
- Gilles, Deneen - San Antonio, TX
- Taylor, Amy - Golden Valley, MN
- Schwenke, Mike - San Antonio, TX
- Selman, Cheryl - McGregor, TX
- Taylor, Amy - Golden Valley, MN
- Watson, Emma - Greenville, SC
- Will, Brenda - Rapid City, SD

#### 1000 KM
- Brown, Betty - Lakeland, FL
- Gaskins, Debra - Des Moines, IA
- Gilles, Brenda - Des Moines, IA
- Grider, Cheryl - Watertown, SD
- Jonas, Astrid - Bowie, MD
- Jurgans, Barb - Worthington, OH
- Licholai, Teresa - Sacatee, CA
- Nash, Miranda - Oak Leaf, TX
- Pettit, Diana - Wellsboro, PA
- Trebil, Sandy - Bothell, WA
- Wilson, James - Virginia Beach, VA
- Wilson, Janette - Virginia Beach, VA

#### 1500 KM
- Axelrod, Sharon - Orlando, FL
- Dippo, Cathryn - Croton, MD
- Edelman, Connie - Morgan Hill, CA
- Foxwell, Tammi - Elkridge, MD
- Friedrlich, Zori - Gold River, CA
- Gizza, Kathy - Albany, NY
- Goodfellow, Gordon - Auburn, WA
- Goodlett, Cameron - Vancouver, WA
- Ives, John - San Antonio, TX
- Metcalf, Hugh - Mount Vernon, CO
- O'Boyle, Gail - Schenectady, NY
- Schneider, David - Tucson, AZ
- Wagaspack, Jan - New Braunfels, TX

#### 2000 KM
- Cannon, Michael - Germantown, MD
- Denton, Suzette - Germantown, MD
- Edliger, Patrick - Vancouver, WA
- Goodfellow, Gordon - Auburn, WA
- Haagensen, Cindy - Madison, WI
- Harding, Jenny - Spokane, WA
- Ives, John - San Antonio, TX
- Little, Richard - Newport, PA
- Schneider, David - Arizona, AZ
- Sparks, Joan - Caseville, IL
- Sutton, Tess - Tacoma, WA

#### 2500 KM
- Brown, Gordon - Maryland Hts, MD
- Cannon, Michael - Germantown, MD

#### 5000 KM
- Exline, Mike - Olympia, WA
- Frehman, Theresa - Virginia Beach, VA
- Krow, Timothy - Port Royal, PA
- Paronis, Irena - Darien, IL
- Peterson, Connie - Port Royal, PA
- Poignier, Linda - Shoreline, WA

#### 10000 KM
- Andrews, Alison - Laytsonville, MD
- Bender, Dorris - Lawson, MO
- Ellis, Linda - Orange City, FL
- Gross, Len - New Haven, CT
- Hefley, Lorraine - New Port Richly, FL
- Koosmann, Laurel - Kent, WA
- Pinneke, Susan - W. Des Moines, IA

#### 15000 KM
- Baltes, Louise - Casino, WA
- Brown, Deanne - Maryland Heights, MO
- Clark, Sally - Danville, IL
- Copenhaver, James - York, PA
- Copenhaver, Pamela - York, PA
- Evans, Maribeth - Silver Spring, MD
- Green, Betty - Central Valley, NY
- Rautenstrauch, Carol - Shapron, WA

#### 20000 KM
- Barger, Wade - Chester, IN
- Bren, Nancy - Sierra Vista, AZ
- Coones, Sally - Carmicha, CA
- Filemyr, Claire - Silver Spring, MD
- Glazer, Jay - Rapid City, SD
- Kester, Ginger - Colos Springs, CO
- Longshore, Alan - Voorhees, NY

### AVA Special Program — State Street Sashay

- Runs from January 1 to December 31, 2018. This is the volksports version of seeing if you can find 10 events that go along a street named State Street. Yes, it’s a simple program but will remind you of the concept of American statehood. Events can go on one state or all different states or in any combination of states. Participants can even do the same event multiple times! We have already found over 100 events that start on State Street and there are many more events that include a State Street later in their routes. For a list of qualifying VRs and Seasonals see [http://centralminnesotavolks.wix.com/cmv](http://centralminnesotavolks.wix.com/cmv). Check toЦентральный Миннесотский Volksports (CMV). Loss Head, Special Program Coordinator: PO Box 2162, St. Cloud, MN 56302-2162, LMEhead@scloudState.edu or 320-252-7348.

### AVA Special Program — Vice Presidential Walks

- Runs January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. This program honors U.S. Vice Presidents. Qualifying events must pass a site with a significant connection to one of the Vice Presidents. Examples: Bennington, VT passing sign quoting Coolidge. Annapolis state house for Agnew. St. Paul, MN for Mondale. Adlai Stevenson Park in Aurora, IL. Dallastown, PA and Dallas, TX for George Dallas. No walking event can be used twice. Requires only 12 different Vice Presidents to complete book. Award is a color patch based on photo of Harry Truman walking in Washington, D.C. Sponsored by Twin State Volkssport; Pat Stark, 307 Wilder St., White River Ave. VT 05001. Check payable to VTSIA.
Convention event photos continued from page 22

Lincoln City Walk
June 18

505 walkers

Salem Walk
June 19

519 walkers
Convention event photos  continued from page 39

Portland photos provided by Dar Parrow.