



## FuBstapfe

A Publication of the Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers

[www.nebraskawander.org](http://www.nebraskawander.org)



Volume XIV Number 5

FOOTSTEPS

Sep/Oct 2010

### President's Corner

As I write this I know that it is about time for school to start as the temperature seems to rise a few (sometimes a lot) degrees. Maybe this is global warming or it might be due to the students returning to school and having thoughts of upcoming homework assignments. Seems that this heat is keeping walkers away from our year round events. I know this as I receive the start cards for three of our seven year round events. As of this writing there has only been a total of two walkers for July and August to date. I can guess that the Des Moines club is hoping that this hot weather does not come next June during the AVA Convention.

AVA's new Executive Director is Nicole Rogers, currently of San Antonio, TX. Overall, her background includes strategic management, building community infrastructure and partnerships, and developing resources for improving community health. Ms. Rogers is excited and enthusiastic about providing leadership to the American Volkssport Association, while working in collaboration with the NEC, in propelling AVA forward through diversifying and increasing membership, creating a stronger national presence by building national strategic partnerships, and ensuring a strong supportive national headquarters that will be dedicated to effectively meeting the needs of the AVA membership during this exciting time of growth for the organization.

Our year round events have been sanctioned with AVA for 2011. We will have eight year round events next year as we have included Shelby. However, next year walkers should not have to worry about getting their feet wet crossing the wetlands area as the trail has been raised about four feet in that area.

It is that time of year to start thinking about nominations for the club's walker of the year award. If you have someone that you would like to nominate please submit a write up to me, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of October, so that it/they can be included in the next newsletter. Voting for officers and walker of the year is done at the December meeting. The result of the walker of the year voting is done at the annual dinner in January.

If anyone is interested in running for any of the four-elected officer position please let me know so that information can also be included in the next newsletter.

IVV has approved getting event credit for a year round/seasonal event once a day. This action has not been accepted/approved by AVA yet. REPEAT this action has not been accepted/approved by AVA. Currently one can only get an event stamp twice a year for year round events. If AVA accepts/approve and informs IVV of this change and accepted by IVV one could get an AVA event stamp up to 365 times a year (366 for leap year) if one

meets all requirements for receiving subject stamp. The IVV also passed a resolution that distances for bike events cannot be entered into walking distance books.

As the end of year approaches the need for start points for our regular events for 2011 becomes more urgent as events must be sanctioned at least 90 days before scheduled event. I prefer to have the events sanctioned at least 120 days before the scheduled event – this allows time for fliers and other information to get distributed to potential participants. Therefore, if you have starting point for any of our 2011 events please advise one of the officers. I am not asking you to adopt the walk just find a starting point.

Happy trails

Butch

## **OFFICERS**

Butch Spaulding, President	(712) 322-2797	Rita Eldrige, Secretary	(402) 558-4061
Larry Boehm, Vice President	(402) 393-5697	Ruth Stotler, Treasurer	(402) 592-5264

**Questions? Suggestions? Call!!!**

## **MEETING NEWS**

The next club meetings will be Sep 13 and Oct 4, 2010 at Morning Star Lutheran Church at 331 S 85th St. Omaha. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM. We try to have a short program before the business meeting. Just a reminder that the club meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 PM (with some exceptions – no meetings in January, July or August and it is the 2nd Monday in September. Don't forget that at each meeting we have a drawing for a \$10 door prize. Contrary to popular belief, you don't have to be a club member to win this.

## **FUTURE WALKS IN THE AREA**

Sep 11 – Breakfast Walk - NWFT

**Sep 11 – Sioux Falls - PWVC**

**Sep 18 – Alda, NE - MNTS**

Sep 25 – Walk for Wildlife – GDMVA

Sep 25 - Split Rock Lighthouse State Park – NSTT

Sep 26 – Tettegouche State Park - NSTT

Oct 2 – Lake Manawa - NWFT

Oct 3 – Neal Smith Wildlife YRE – 1 PM ice cream after – GDMVA

**Oct 8 – 10 NC Regional Conf in Rapid City SD – 10 events**

Oct 30 – Wild River State Park - NSTT

Oct 30 – Lincoln - LVSC

Nov 6 – Pie Walk - NWFT

Nov 27 – Christmas in East Village – GDMVA

Dec – 11 – Lights Walk – NWFT

Dec 31 = Fort Snelling New Year's Eve Candlelight Walk - NSTT

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

**July** and **August** dues are now past due – (check your mailing label – email message will be sent out as a reminder). Renewal is \$10.00 for a single membership and \$15.00 for a family membership. Please use the Post Office Box 8147, Omaha, NE 68108 for renewals.

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## ACHIEVEMENTS

	Events	KM
Bob Stotler	100	1000
Ruth Stotler	100	1000
Karen Dix	350, 375	4500
Bill Spielman	1000	
Joe Houfek	1500	15000

## JIM'S NOTES

We are the Nebraska Wanderfreunde Trailblazers volksmarch club. As a club, we are committed to help plan and assist in setting up volksmarches for the 2011 AVA convention. If you didn't already know, the convention next year is hosted by the Des Moines Volkssport Association. They have asked us for help and we agreed. For the convention in 2011 a weeklong string of volksmarches will be held from Council Bluffs/Omaha through Iowa to Davenport on the other end. Two volksmarches here followed by a visit to the Coon Rapids area; then to Mason City and Clear Lake, followed by Living History Farms in Des Moines, Winterset, Ames, Des Moines, Cedar Rapids and then Davenport. This will be a week of adventure walking through Iowa, from Missouri River on the west to Mississippi River on the east.

Our function? Planning, setting up, marking, and staffing the volksmarches in this area. We have two that need staffing: one in Council Bluffs/Omaha and the other in the Hitchcock Nature Center in the Loess Hills. For your information, the walks already have been laid out and approved by the Des Moines club. We just need workers to mark the trail, staff the start, checkpoints, and finish. No big deal, we've done this before. We just need bodies – warm ones (should be no problem finding warm bodies after our August heat wave!) The convention is only 10 months away. Plan accordingly and please volunteer.

Our July outing was at the ballpark. Thirty-one of us went to Rosenblatt stadium to see the Royals play a doubleheader. We dined in the Hall of Fame room on burgers, dogs, chips, beans and lemonade. It was tasty fare. It was also good. Thirty-one was a great turnout. Too bad we don't pull in that many for our meetings, which are free, and we get refreshments and a program, too.

Our 19<sup>th</sup> annual breakfast walk will be in Bennington with the start point at the community center. Address will be furnished later. The October walk will be in Iowa – at Lake Manawa to be exact – probably at the shelter near the playground on the south shore of the lake. Shouldn't be any problem finding that, either. And the terrain around Lake Manawa is FLAT.

Sandy and Bill of Lincoln usually find all the coins. Your writer wasn't on a volksmarch but out for my morning jog near the shore of Lake Superior. I found 85 bucks in large bills. First there was a folded 50 in the gutter; next came a folded 20 followed by a 10 and finally a 5. Had them checked out at the bank – they were real. There was no one else around so the cash is mine.

According to our president, Butch Spaulding, next year we will return to walk again in Shelby, IA. One of my favorite walks. I note that you won't get your feet wet when you stroll over the wetlands there. That part has been raised four feet. Part of our annual soup walk contributions. Also, our soup contributions have benefited the renovated playground, which is behind the downtown of Shelby, across from the old railroad depot.

**Remember, when a volksmarch trail takes you into the street, WALK ON THE LEFT facing traffic - Jim**

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Judy Zikmund	Sep 3	Teresa Merrick	Sep 26
Kathleen Mullin	Sep 5	Wayne Fry	Sep 29
Joe Schwartz	Sep 6	Robin Higley	Sep 30
Mary Jean Holcomb	Sep 8	Allison Merrick	Oct 1
Kathy Goodman	Sep 10	Victor McAllister	Oct 15
Dianne Fenlon	Sep 11	Lee Frantz	Oct 17
Steve Miller	Sep 13	Rose Quackenbush	Oct 20
Anna Nelson	Sep 16	Butch Spaulding	Oct 26
Ruth Stotler	Sep 22	Roddy Humeniak	Oct 27
Jim Fenlon	Sep 26	Rita Eldrige	Oct 30

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Chester & Kathleen Mullin Sep 5

Wayne & Gretchen Fry Oct 7

Dave & Mary Brown Sep 21

### **International Peace Garden Walk**

The International Peace Garden on the North Dakota/Manitoba, Canada border was our destination to participate in a walk July 31, sponsored by the Red River Volkssport Association. Planning to do a few walks on our way, we traveled first to Minneapolis where we did the Mall of America Walk. The 10K walk consists of ten laps around the mall on three levels. You must do at least one lap per level because there is a checkpoint question on each level. You may then do the other seven laps on whichever level(s) you wish. All those laps gave us the opportunity to do a lot of window-shopping, and the air-conditioning indoors did provide welcome relief from the summer heat!

The next morning we did the St. Paul Capitol walk. It was a beautiful sunny morning with comfortable walking temperatures as we walked through historic neighborhoods, past the Cathedral and the State Capitol, and along the Mississippi River. The rest of the day was spent driving to Bismarck, North Dakota where we would walk their State Capitol walk the following morning. Again we were fortunate to have beautiful weather with temperatures in the high 60's while we were walking. Our walk took us past a golf course, through residential areas and parks to the State Capitol. It was then back in the car for the drive to Bottineau where we would spend the night before walking the next morning in the beautiful International Peace Garden.

Our walk in the International Peace Garden was a very unique experience. Located in the rambling Turtle Mountains, The Peace Garden occupies land in both the United States and Canada, offering us the opportunity to stand with one foot in the USA and one foot in Canada. Dedicated on July 14,1932, the Peace Garden is the result of a dream of Henry Moore, a prominent horticulturist. The concept of the International Peace Garden was intended to represent a celebration of the peaceful coexistence between the United States and Canada, illustrating to the world their commitment to World Peace. Among the features of the Peace Garden are the Peace Chapel that contains quotes from "People of Peace" etched in its walls, a 911 Memorial site which contains the actual twisted steel girders from the World Trade Center Twin Towers, floral gardens and floral clock, peace tower, and bell tower. We found the International Peace Garden a very inspiring and contemplative place to walk and thoroughly enjoyed walking thru the USA and Canada! At the checkpoint we met up with fellow volksmarchers Lee Frantz and Donna Campbell who had also traveled to the Peace Garden for the walk. Theirs was a different journey to the Peace Garden so they will have a different story to tell about the walks they did along the way.

After enjoying the Peace Garden it was time to start the trek back to NE. For anyone planning a trip to the Peace Garden, be aware that a Passport is necessary, as you will need to go through US Customs upon leaving the Garden.

Happy Volksmarching!

Bob & Ruth Stotler

To place info/articles/pictures in the next newsletter simply e-mail to [camp50usa@cox.net](mailto:camp50usa@cox.net) and [bs1preznfwt@aol.com](mailto:bs1preznfwt@aol.com) or snail mail to:

NWFT, P.O. Box 8147, Omaha, NE 68108

By February 15, 2010 to be included in the next newsletter

## **LAUGHS??**

Always be yourself. Because the people that matter, don't mind. And the one's that mind, don't matter

There are worse things than getting a call from a wrong number at 4 AM. Like this: It could be a right number.

Scratch a cat and you will have a permanent job

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.

No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.

Nothing sucks more than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong

**Beware of companies with these hiring slogans:** - probably means:

**“JOIN OUR FAST-PACED COMPANY”** - We have no time to train you.

**“CASUAL WORK ATMOSPHERE”** - We don't pay you enough to expect that you'll dress up.

**“MUST BE DEADLINE ORIENTED”** - You'll be six months behind on your first day.

**“SOME OVERTIME REQUIRED”** - Some each night and some each weekend.

**“DUTIES WILL VARY”** - Anyone in the office can boss you around.

**“MUST HAVE AN EYE FOR DETAIL”** - We have no quality control.