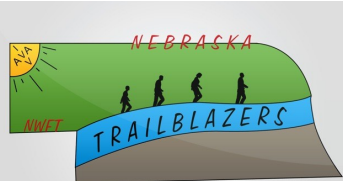


Fußstapfen

The Prez Sez...



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This morning (as I write this president's message), six intrepid souls went to the town of Fort Calhoun, braving 70+ degree temperatures and mostly cloudy skies to go on the September "Walk and Wine" worker's walk to test out the instructions ahead of time. (We'd hate to have anyone get lost along the way.) This is the first walk of our fall season and it is a great one!! There are two 5km loops, one through the town of Fort Calhoun

and one through historic Fort Atkinson. You can take either or both loops. If you only do one, the you should definitely do the Ft Atkinson Loop. If you've never been there, it will be an adventure. There are many old buildings to explore along the route and on weekends there are re-enactors who demonstrate what life was like in the early 19th century. I hope to see you all soon at our great September walk!

Our October walk – on the 11th - will take us to Bellevue, Nebraska, and our start point is the Sarpy County Museum, located at the site of the old SAC Museum.

November finds us in Blair for our annual Pie Walk and in December we will have a 10-11-12-13-14 group walk in Fremont on December 13 at 10:11 a.m. We will also have our downtown lights walk as our regular December Walk. It

promises to be an eventful fall season. We hope to have great weather for all our walks.

We had a smaller than expected turnout for the "Tempo of Twilight" concert at Lauritzen Gardens, but those in attendance enjoyed the music and especially the good company of the other walkers present.

One more thing: Now is the time to begin thinking about Walker of the Year nominations. If you get your nominations to us before the next newsletter goes out the beginning of November, we can get that information into the newsletter to give members time to think about the nominees prior to the voting at our December meeting. Nominations should go to Jim and Sheila Goeltz, last year's honorees. Their email is goeltzjs@cox.net

~Mel

NWTB Officers

President
Mel Bohn
402/213-7972

Vice President
Larry Boehm
402/393-5697

Secretary
Sheila Goeltz

Treasurer
Butch Spaulding
712/322-2797

Questions?
Suggestions?
Call!!!!





Jottings from Jim

Nobody asked me, but...

After 22 straight years of a breakfast walk there won't be any this year. We'll have a volksmarch but it will not include breakfast. We began our first breakfast event back in 1992 and ever since we've had one the first or second weekend in September. It was always very popular to have breakfast food waiting for us when we came off an early morning volksmarch. There was always juice, coffee, rolls, bagels, watermelon, maybe a hot egg dish. The first or second breakfast walk someone brought eggs. Another person thought his/hers was hard boiled and cracked it to peel the shell. It turned out to be fresh. After that we always specified if you bring eggs make sure they're hard-boiled.

There has been many words written in the TAW and other publications about memberships falling behind. We don't profess to have all the answers but consider this: Back in the 1970s and 80s we had a lot of troops stationed in Germany. Over a half million at one point. Many, many of those GIs got into volksmarching. It was the thing to do on a weekend in Germany and other European countries. Some of those GIs brought back the volksmarch idea to the states and started volksmarch clubs. Our own Don Steele, who founded our club as an off-shoot to the Omaha Walking Club, was once stationed in Bremerhave, Germany. He and his wife thought that program was an excellent venture and the Nebraska Wanderfreunde was born. Now that the troop strength in Germany has been drastically reduced we no longer have all those GIs participating in weekend volksmarches, thus, less exposure. Just a thought.

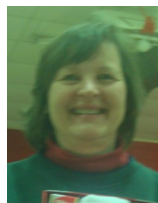
It is now Fall and we should begin thinking about who to recommend for our annual Walker of the Year trophy. We won't throw out any names but you may as well start thinking about who to nominate. Sheila and I presently hold the trophy.

You probably don't like statistics but as of December 31, 2013, we totaled 13,592 volksmarchers since the club was born. You can argue with that figure but it's close to correct. We remember when a weekend volksmarch we hosted brought in more than 400 walkers.

What do we have in memberships? Around 100? And how many show up at meetings to vote? Average attendance is 17. So, using those figures we have just 17% of our club members who vote during election of officers and walker of the year voting. I hereby propose that we advertise (via e-mail) and solicit votes to come in via the internet. That way we would have more of a cross-section of how club members think about our candidates.

I am honored and thrilled that Sandy and Butch took the time to go to north Wisconsin recently and volksmarch in my home town. It's a 600 mile jaunt in the auto to Ashland and another 600 to come back. They not only wanted to volksmarch but see all the striking murals—18 in all—in my home town. I very much appreciated that they did this!

~Jim



Sandy speaks

We just returned from a little weekend trip to Ashland, Wisconsin, boyhood home of our favorite author and walker, Jim

Goeltz. He had described the new walk there and did not exaggerate its beauty. We even walked past Goeltz Lane, named for Jim's father. The town is known for its numerous murals, depicting its varied history. We found the power plant very interesting as they are a "green" power plant. They use coal, wood chips and natural gas to generate power and there was no smoke! The seashore was lovely, though I did not dip my toes in. It decided we needed a little rain to finish out our walk. We stayed in the hotel that was the start point. It was a historic hotel with lots of character. And a wonderful breakfast. We also did the Washburn walk. This was another lovely walk along Lake Superior. We took our time coming and going, driving some winding back roads, stopping at some of those local restaurants with lots of character or characters. Stopped at our favorite bakery, Tobies, for some great molasses cookies. The Goeltzs also introduced to this treasure. It was a marvelous weekend—this is why we keep volksmarching. So much to see and do!

We had a very enthusiastic committee meeting after taking a break for the summer. Come to the next meeting to hear about all the exciting walk ideas they came up with!

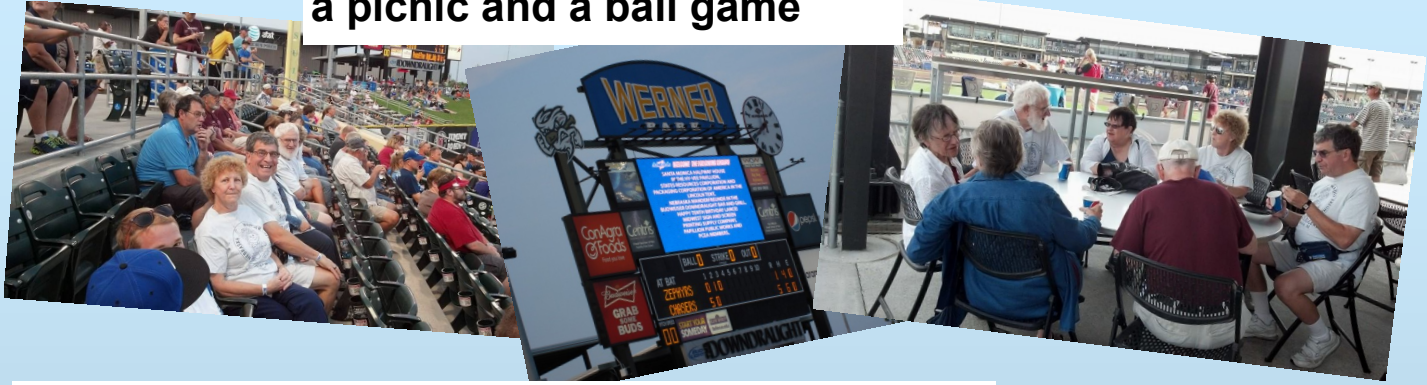
~Sandy



Have you checked out our club's Facebook page? Just click this icon to catch up on the Trailblazers' most recent events and photos. While you're there, be sure to "like" our page!

What a summer!!

**Our July event:
a picnic and a ball game**



The great music at our August Lauritzen Gardens event brought out the Happy Feet in Jeanne & Steve!



Sandy & Butch volksmarched in Jim Goeltz's hometown of Ashland WI



At the Ft. Atkinson workers walk...



...we learned the truth about some of our esteemed club members...

A Publication of the Nebraska Trailblazers

10-11-12-13-14


The Nebraska Trailblazers will be doing a group walk at 10:11 a.m. on December 13, 2014—10-11-12-13-14! The route will be the Fremont Historic event.. Both 5K & 10K routes will be available. The plan is to have everyone walking before 10:11 a.m. so walkers will be starting at 10:00 for both routes The 10K route starts at Hy-Vee (the registration point). The 5K starts about 1.5 miles away so those folks will need to depart Hy-Vee at least 10 minutes before starting to walk—there are a couple of traffic lights to go through—to ensure that all walkers are on the trail by 10:11 a.m.

A patch will be available and the cost is \$3, and pre-ordering is required—only this number of patches will be ordered. The order needs to be in by mid-September and we'd like payment by the end of September. Payment can be made out to NWFT and mailed to the club's address: NWFT, PO Box 8147, Omaha NE 68108. You do not need to pay for the walk now; that can be done on the day of the walk. If you are unable to walk on that day, the patch will be mailed to you.

Mark your calendars

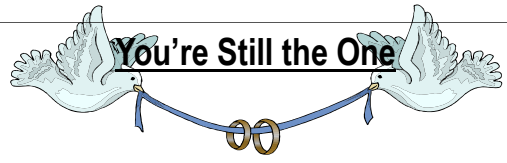


Sept	6	Walk & Wine, Ft Calhoun NE	NWFT
	13	Happy Rock Park in Gladstone, Kansas City MO	Clay-Platte Trackers
	20	Pleasant Hill IA Walk	GDMVA
	27	Weeping Water NE Walk	Lincoln VC
	28/29	Crazy Horse Monument, Custer SD	Black Hills VC
Oct	11	Sarpy County Museum Walk	NWFT
	25	Lincoln Cemetery Walk	Lincoln VC
	25	Maxwell Walk for Wildlife	GDMVA
	25	Haunted Kansas City	Clay-Platte Trackers
Nov	1	Pie Walk, Blair NE	NWFT
Dec	6	Lights Walk, Omaha NE	NWFT



Event Awards for Club Members

Phyllis Olson Norma Wessel	Events 950 & 1,000 950 & 1,000
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You're Still the One

Sept	21	Dave & Mary Brown
October	7	Wayne & Gretchen Fry

Birthday Wishes

September

3 Judy Zikmund	22 Ruth Stotler
6 Joe Schwartz	24 Jim Ochsner
8 Mary Jean Holcomb	26 Jim Fenlon
10 Kathy Goodman	26 Teresa Merrick
11 Diane Fenlon	29 Wayne Fry
13 Steve Miler	30 Robin Higley
16 Anna Nelson Boehm	



October

10 Ray Richardson
17 Lee Frantz
20 Rose Quackenbush
26 Butch Spaulding
30 Rita Eldrige

A Publication of the Nebraska Trailblazers

Meeting News

The next club meetings will be September 8, October 6, November 3 and December 1, 2014, at Morning Star Lutheran Church, 331 S 85th Street, Omaha NE. The meetings start at 7:00 p.m. We try to have a short program before the business meeting. Just a reminder that the club meetings are the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. 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.

Membership Dues

July & August dues are now past due (check your mailing label—email message will be sent out as a reminder). Renewal is \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a family membership. Please send renewals to:

NWFT
PO Box 8147
Omaha NE 68108

Newsletter Info

To place info/articles/photos in the next newsletter, simply email: nwftprezmel@cox.net

Or snail-mail by October 15 to:

NWFT
PO Box 8147
Omaha NE 68108



Nebraska Trailblazers
PO Box 8147
Omaha NE 68108