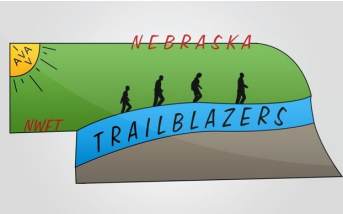


Fußstapfen



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Questions?
Suggestions?
Call!!!!



President's Corner

This space is normally filled by the club President, however Mel has asked me to fill in for him. If you don't already know, Mel has continuing health issues and will not stand for re-election for Club President for 2016. Elections will be at our December 2nd meeting. We look forward to supporting our new president.

Why do you participate in volksmarching?

There are nearly as many answers to this as there are walkers. Some frequently listed answers are

- Exercise
- health benefits
- fun
- exploring new places
- friends – new and old
- Memories...and the list goes on and on.

I'd like to share a favorite memory: Like all my walking memories it's an "our"—not a "mine"—as I share it with my bride, Anna. Shortly after we were married, we went west on our first long distance walking trip to do the Columbia River Gorge walks. A stand-out walk was a 25K walk deep into the mountains along a creek that empties into the Columbia River. From where I sit today 25K seems impossible, but 11+ years ago, 2 or 3 10Ks a day was quite common for us.

The walk was spectacular, a beautiful sunny day, walking under a water fall along the trail and holding onto a chain along a narrow ledge with a 100+ foot drop to the river at our feet. Then reaching the turn-around

point with a picturesque "cross-over" water fall, with rainbows appearing and disappearing as the spray lifted and fell from the pool below. It was a magical moment. The best part may have been soaking our feet the very cold clear water while eating lunch. I have to admit that my feet came out of that water very quickly! Then it was 12.5K back the to the start point. It is truly a wonderful memory, that without volksmarching we would never have had.

~Larry

Winter Weather

Just a reminder...if Omaha schools are closed or let out early due to bad weather on a club meeting day, the meeting is also canceled.

NWTB Officers

President
Mel Bohn

Vice President
Larry Boehm
402/393-5697

Secretary
Tricia Abel
402/889-1910

Treasurer
Butch Spaulding
712/322-2797



Jim's Notes

I won't comment on the doings of The Committee. They held a meeting at Lansky's in Council Bluffs and I'm sure Sandy Spaulding will cover that in her column. Congratulations to the following members of the Wanderfreunde who have completed many events:

Sandy Spaulding	1700
Phyllis Olson	1100
Jeanne Miller	450
Steve Miller	325
Julie Brown	50

Early this year during our after-club meeting Chinese New Year refreshments, Sheila opened her fortune cookie and read it: "Prepare for an exciting trip soon to come your way." At the time we had no idea what was in store. In June our son Paul in Montana contacted us and thought we might like to meet him at this year's Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany.

At the time we were around 980 volksmarches and thought that might be a good idea to do our number 1000 in Germany. So we decided to go and hustled until late in September we reached 999 events. Through the internet we found that the IVV in Germany now has year-round events. We found one in Munich and the other in Berchtesgaden, our favorite town.

On 30 September we flew to Munich, met Paul, visited the Oktoberfest, and on a bright, sunny and warm Friday in October we completed number 1000. That morning we took the subway from our downtown hotel to the start point, Walser's Café, in the district of Thalkirchen. The walk was along

the Isar River in a wooded area. Even Paul – who hadn't done a volksmarch in years – and his friend Brian from San Jose walked with us. After completing the walk Bernhard, the waiter in the café stamped our books. Sheila asked him if any Americans did this walk. He replied: "None." Then we enjoyed cherry cheese cake and coffee at the café.

Two days later Sheila and I took the train to Berchtesgaden on another beautiful day. As soon as we arrived there we checked into our hotel and then went to the tourist bureau across the street. This was the start point. We registered and walked on the old railroad bed to complete number 1001.

Certainly 1000 walks is not a big deal, however, it is at our age. And since we did our first volksmarch in Gelnhausen, Germany it was fitting to hit 1000 in the same country.

~Jim



Parking for the Lights Walk

This is to let you know that Omaha has changed its parking laws for the downtown area. The parking meters are now in effect on Saturdays until 9:00 p.m. The only free days are Sundays and holidays. The rate also changed for most to \$1.25/hr. If you are coming to our lights walk, please plan accordingly.



Sandy speaks

Fall walking season is upon us. We have had fantastic walking weather and two great walks so far. The Lake Zorinsky Breakfast walk brought out 66 human and 8 doggie walkers. They all enjoyed the beautiful views of the lake and the great food at the end. October took us to South Omaha on a historical tour. Many of our 55 walkers returned with bags full of goodies from the International Bakery. We had wonderful speakers at both of our meetings. Restoration Omaha and the Durham museum speakers gave us some background history of south Omaha and were so entertaining, it was suggested that we do one of the Durham tours for one of our summer events. The October meeting brought Sylvia from the El Museo Latino. She was also a great speaker. Who knew that the museum had so much to offer.

We still have two great walks scheduled for this year and lots of ideas for next year. Here is a "Save The Date". On Monday, August 21, 2017, there will be a full eclipse of the sun in a very narrow band that includes "Aurora" Nebraska. We are planning a

great weekend of events leading up to that event. Mark your calendars now, request a vacation day, and plan to attend.

On a personal note, I will have 99 walks completed by the end of October. Should get my 100 at the pie walk. I love retirement! See you all on the trail!

~Sandy

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Walker of the Year Nominations

We have received the following nominations for Walker of the Year.

- I nominate Jim and Martha McGahan as our 2015 Walkers of the Year. Jim and his wife Martha were very active in the former Mid-Nebraska Trail Seekers Club and have continued to support and service year-rounds created by MNTS and now administered by NWFT, so that walking opportunities remain in Mid-Nebraska. Jim has tirelessly kept up email contacts for our walking friends outside of the Omaha/Council Bluffs Metro area, produced full color mini-newsletters of local and regional walks and continues to design patches for our events and programs, such as the "Doin' the Louisiana Purchase" program. Jim and Martha participate in nearly all of our club's Traditional Events and walk all of our Year Round Events, even though they have to drive hundreds of miles to do so. For these reasons, Jim and Martha McGahan should be our 2015 Walkers of the Year.
- My nominee is Karen Dix-Johnson. She is a faithful presence at our monthly meetings and contributes constructive comments. She never hesitates to walk with someone and has worked at checkpoints and the start/finish area.
- Jim and Sheila Goetz. It is my understanding they will be completing their 1000th walk soon, Jim's work on the newsletter, their work during the walks, participation in clubs walks, X number of years of IVV participation, etc.
- For many years, Ann Drebot has provided us with outstanding programming for our meetings. From musical entertainment to information on recycling, from historical reenactments to proper footwear, from nutrition to just plain entertainment, we have been lucky to have so many delightful and informative meetings. In addition to this, Ann has always been willing to work at our walks, helping in any way that she can. For these reasons, I nominate Ann for walker of the year.
- I nominate Mel – He has done a great job as president. He has checked on places for starting the walks and is always on hand at the start point to help get folks registered.
- I would like to nominate Julie Brown as walker of the year. She has taken our newsletter into the new age by creating an eye popping email version filled with great information. Her new tri-fold brochures are easier to mail, have creative titles and great pictures. She often creates two versions, one for seasoned volksmarchers and a second for those new walkers that have never heard of volksmarching. She can be counted on to come to Committee meetings with great ideas for walks and walk promotions.

Start Points Needed

Still looking for start points:

March 5th - This is our annual soup walk so we need an indoor place with a kitchen and seating with tables. In the past, we have used mainly churches. The time needed is usually 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The walk would start at 9:00 a.m. but we ask for 8:00 a.m. so that we can set up.

May 7th - We can use an outside start point for this walk. In the past we have used parks shelters - like the one for our breakfast walk. The usual time for this walk is 7:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The walk would start at 8.

If you know of a place that we may be able to use please let one of the club officers know. The walks need to be sanctioned sometime in November.

Remember, if a trail takes you into the street, walk on the left and FACE TRAFFIC.

Breakfast Walk—September 12, 2015



Mark your calendars: Upcoming Events

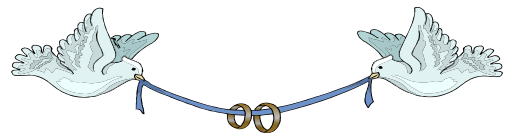


Nov	7	Omaha Pie Walk	NWFT
Dec	4&5	Swims, Leavenworth KS	
	5	Omaha Lights Walk	NWFT

Event Awards for Club Members

	<u>Events</u>	<u>Distance</u>
Julie Brown	30, 50, 75	500, 1,000
Steve Miller	325	
Jeanne Miller	425, 450	
Phyllis Olson	1,100	
Sandy Spaulding	1,700	18,000
Jeanne Van Houweling	525, 550	5,500
Norma Wessel	1,100	

You're Still the One



Nov	1	Joe & Susan Schwartz
Dec	21	John & Gail Boggs
	28	Jim & Martha McGahan
	29	Marnita Jondle

Happy Birthday to You!!!!

November

- 2 Mel Bohn
- 10 Jerry Dix
- 13 Donna Campbell
- 14 Mary Anne Conway
- 15 Bernie Wagner

- 16 Larry Seger
- 17 Jamews Casjin
- 18 Jill Champley
- 20 Thomas Schulte
- 27 Claudia Dowling

December

- 3 Deb GaskDins
- 8 Lowell Harms
- 9 Dave Zikmund
- 13 Larry Boehm
- 13 Jim Goeltz
- 14 Dave Brown

- 14 Carol Johnson
- 18 Sharon Nielsen
- 18 Lynn Richardson
- 19 Bill Spielman
- 26 Margaret Peterson
- 27 Vicki Bohn



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Meeting News

The next club meetings will be November 2 and December 7, 2015, at Morning Star Lutheran Church, located at 331 S 85th Street in Omaha. 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

August/September 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:

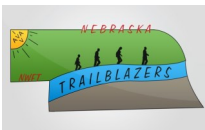
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PO Box 8147
Omaha NE 68108

Newsletter Info

To place info/articles/photos in the next newsletter, simply email: bs1preznfwt@aol.com

Or snail-mail by December 15 to:

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Nebraska Trailblazers
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