

ILLINOIS TREKKERS FOOTNOTES

NO. 2008-10

November 2008

President: Dee Wojtysiak
Vice President: Steve Koluch
Secretary: Debbie Kruep
Treasurer: Jack McKeon
IT Database Manager, Gary Staley

Directors-at-Large
Shirley Martin
Mark Kruep
Mary Monett

Dee's Trail Notes



October 8, 2008 I spoke to the Retired Federal Employees group about Illinois Trekkers walking events and the purpose of the club. There were 30 people in attendance at the meeting. Some people in the group had participated in a volkswalk and others knew nothing about our club. If anyone knows of a club that would be interested in learning about volkswalks, let me know. Our goal is to get our walking events out to the public. Thanks to Roy Gray for suggesting us to the club. If you belong to a club that may be interested in walking and would like to have a presentation at the meeting, let me know. The number of people that attend our walks are declining and we as a club have to get the word out about walking. Every ones help is needed. Even if you do not walk as much as in the past, talk to your friends, neighbors, church members or other organizations. Now is the time to think about Illinois Trekkers' future to make it strong walking club.

2009 is fast approaching and a few of the 2008 walks have been discontinued. If you have an idea for a walk, let me know. Or if you would like to be an assistant or the Point of Contact I will be happy to help, just let me know.

Parks

(Debbie Kruep)

Mark and I have been working on our State Park special program book. We have been lucky enough to visit parks in Indiana, Iowa, Florida, Nebraska and our home turf here in Illinois. The walks have been wonderful and at times wet and wild. Some of these were guided by Phil from the Ridgewalkers Club (great guide). We have seen waterfalls, deer, hammocks of trees, spring blossoms and autumn leaves. I hope this special program encourages people to get out into the woods. Unfortunately three of the six Illinois parks we have volksported in are due to be closed on Nov. 30th of this year. What a shame! Our governor has decided these parks along with five others and thirteen historic sights need to be closed to slash \$14 million from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. I am all for a balanced

budget, but once closed will we ever see the inside of these parks again? Will they be sold off for more housing, or sold to private companies? Nobody knows for sure. One thing I do know for sure, each of these parks was vibrant with boaters, campers, fishermen, hunters, and picnickers while we were there. I believe the parks are an important part of volksporting. If Illinois loses its State Parks, we as volksporters also loose. Lt. Governor Pat Flynn has launched the "Save Our State Parks " online petition to prevent the parks from being permanently closed. Please visit www.SaveOurStateParks.org and help save the parks by signing the petition. Come walk with us in a park. I guarantee you'll have a great time!

National Executive Council Meeting

The next meeting of the NEC will be on Friday November 7 and Saturday November 8. Both days are open to guests. The meeting will be held at La Quinta, 800 South Madison, Oklahoma, City, OK. Agenda items for this meeting are available upon request.

Know Your Officers

Gary Staley, Data manager

I walked my first volksmarch in the summer of 1988 at Scott Air Force Base. My very first walk was a 12km walk around the base. I worked in Civil Service in St. Louis and the activity manager had returned from a tour in Germany and started placing notices in our daily bulletin of upcoming walks in the area. It only took that one walk to get me hooked. I attended the 1995 AVA convention in Portland, Oregon with my brother and we completed 30 walks during our 11 days in Oregon. Two of the most notable walks were the Mount St. Helens walk (Trail rating of 5+) and the Silver Falls State Park (7 water falls). In 1997, Carol and I attended the convention in Winston Salem, North Carolina. Carol and I had just started walking together earlier in the year. Carol really jumped right in that year and she completed 81 walks during 1997. Carol and I were married on September 11, 1999. Due to our upcoming wedding we

were unable to attend the 1999 AVA convention. Since that time we have attended the 2005 convention in New Jersey and the Crazy Horse annual walk in June 2006.

In 2001, I served five one year terms of being the IL Trekkers Treasurer and served until January 2006. I assumed the Treasurer position again in August 2007 for the remainder of the year when the Treasurer moved to Texas for a new job. When I resigned in 2006, I had plans to begin working on a doll house for my oldest Granddaughter Madison. It took awhile to get things started but I have been very busy the past three months working on her house attempting to get it completed by Christmas. Since I now have 6 granddaughters and have committed to make a dollhouse for each girl you know what I will be doing for the next few years.

In January 2008 I assumed a newly created position within the club titled 'Data Base Administrator'. This new position came about since the duties of what the Treasurer was expected to do had become too much for a single person. What this position entails is maintaining the club membership files, sending out membership renewals, entering walk Event Sanction Requests, renewing YRE's annually, printing labels for Footnotes and brochure mailings and many other functions.

2009 Starting Point

Orders are now being accepted for the 2009 Starting Point book. For the Starting Point to be shipped directly from the publisher and receive before Christmas, the club has to order a minimum of 10 books. This year the cost of each book is \$17.00. 10 or more people have to interest in purchasing a 2009 Starting Point. A sign up sheet will be available at the November meeting. Go down."

2008 Awards Program

The 2008 Trekkers Bucks are about to be given out. After the November meeting the final number will be calculated. The Bucks will be available on November 25 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of The Snows Christmas walk.

Gingerbread Walk Update

As of this writing we have already received pre-registration for 10 cookie bags and about 10 additional walkers. The event is just under eight weeks away. The brochures are being placed in the downtown merchants in the next several days. We are up to 33 participating merchants! The Belleville Main Street Committee will be advertising the walk in the newspaper so get your registration in early. All our club members and regular walkers have the opportunity to purchase a bag before the general public. So don't wait until the last minute. If you are not interested in collecting cookies and just want to walk and enjoy the Christmas atmosphere you may still register the day of the walk at the start table. Hope to see you there!

-Debbie Kruep

"Footnotes" is a monthly (except January) publication of the Illinois Trekkers Volkssport Club

FOOTNOTES SUBMISSIONS

Send articles and/or comments to "Footnotes" via email to wilburclark@att.net

WEBSITES

HQ AVA – <http://ava.org/>

Illinois Trekkers –

<http://www.illinois-trekkers.org/events.html>

Illinois Trekkers Volkssport Club Meeting Minutes Oct 2, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 by Dee Wojtysiak

VISITORS: none

NEW MEMBERS: none

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Debbie Kruep- Minutes are attached to the Footnotes.

Corrections: none **Motion:** Billy Herring; **Second:** Len Wojtysiak

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack McKeon- Balance as of Sept 30, 2008 \$3555.62 **Motion:** Shirley McKeon **Seco**
Staley

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Club to continue the POC/Promo box. The submitted article to The American Wanderer about the Snows and Gingerbread walk was published in the Oct. issue. The National Executive Council Meeting will be held Oklahoma on Nov 7.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards and Achievements: Phyllis Herring & Wil Clark: The window is still open for names for

awards.

X Committee: Steve Kuloch- Steve was absent but asked the club to appoint a new chairman. He does not have enough time to devote to this committee.

Services and Properties: Wil Clark - absent

Publicity: Debbie Kruep - Four 2009 events were submitted to the tourism bureau for the 2009 Tourism Magazine.

Special Activities: Shirley Martin - Christmas party Dec 5, Panorama, 5:30 cash bar Dinner 6:30. Bring Cookies. The cost is \$16.40 per person.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Refreshments: Shirley Renner - Nov. is Phyllis Herring, Darleen Kreamer and Robin Latdrick.

Footnotes: Wil and Carol Clark- absent

Club Points Manager: Dee Wojtysiak - Points are up to date except Popeye.

Website News: The website will be updated by the end of the week

Data Base Admin: Gary Staley- Everything is up to date on mailing list. We continue to increase e-mail list.

REPORT ON YEAR ROUND EVENTS (YREs):

Our Lady of the Snows: Jack & Shirley McKeon - 95 walkers for year.

Richland Creek: Tom and Betty Boyd - 56 walkers for year.

Glen Carbon Walk: Dee Wojtysiak - 57 walkers for year.

Glen Carbon Bike: Gary Staley - 45 bikers

Belleville YMCA Walk/Bike: Packy & Sue Botula - 72 walkers - 22 bikers

REPORT ON UPCOMING WALKS:

(1) Mascoutah Chili Walk Oct 18th -Award will be a patch not a glass.

(2) Richland Creek Group Walk Nov 1- 7:45 am registration and walk 8:00am

(3) YMCA Group Walk Nov 8- Registration 8-9 am 5k, 10k, and 15k

(4) Our Lady of Snows Shrine Walk- Tues Nov 25, Everything is ready. Still to find out about Russian Tea.

(5) Gingerbread Cookie Walk Dec 13th- Brochure is ready and we are sanctioned. Twenty-seven merchants are on board. Please pre-register.

(6) New Years Eve Walk Dec 31- Brochure to go out today. Event will start at Len and Dee's house.

OLD BUSINESS:

(1) Popeye-49 walkers and a donation from Red Dot kept us in the black.

(2) Eckert's- 82 walkers (15) new. The turnout was great in spite of the weather.

NEW BUSINESS:

(1) Nominations for the 2009 officers. President: Dee Wotysiak, Vice-president: Mary Monet, Secretary: Debbie Kruep, Treasurer: Jack McKeon. November will be nominations from the floor and election.

(2) Gary Staley made a motion to purchase the new AVA banner for Fun, Fitness and Friendship for \$100. Packy Botula seconded, motion passed by majority vote.

ATTENDANCE DRAWING: Shirley McKeon

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, Nov 6, 2008 at 7pm

ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mary Monet; Second: Shirley McKeon

Meeting adjourned 7:58 p.m.

Submitted by Debbie Kruep
Secretary Illinois Trekkers

November-December Events\

- Thursday, November 6th – Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, November 25th - Our Lady of Snows Night Walk, Belleville, IL
- Friday, December 5 – Annual Christmas Party Meeting, Belleville, IL,
- Saturday, December 13 - Gingerbread Walk, Belleville IL
- Wednesday, December 31 – New Year's Eve Walk, O'Fallon, IL

2009 YREs

Belleville "Richland Creek" Greenway
618-233-6348
Belleville-YMCA (Walk)
618-236-9521
Belleville-YMCA (Bike)
618-236-9521
Glen Carbon "Heritage Trail" (Walk)
618-632-4164
Glen Carbon "Heritage Trail" (Bike)
618-344-0225
National Shrine of Our Lady of the
618-210-0679

Trekker Meeting: November 6, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at PSOP


SUN COPIES
618-222-9988 & 618-257-8295

4019 N. Illinois in Swansea
(By map add - just 2 blocks south of Frank Scott Pkwy)
618-222-9988 & 618-257-8295
Hrs: M-F 8am-8pm, Sat 9am-6pm

- Business & Corporate Accounts are Offered
- Digital B&W and Color Copying
- Legal Document Services
- Scan Pictures and Documents to CD
- Fax, Lamination, Binding
- Color and B&W Large Format Copying
- VHS to DVD and VHS to VHS

Special
Discounts
For Bulk
Orders

Color
Enlargement

\$15

Design Jet

Expires 1/20/07

Color
75¢
Copies

Black & White

5¢
Copies

Full Color Signs, Banners,
Window Signs,
Yard Signs

VHS
TO
DVD
\$15

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED