

Chargin' Charlie

April 2021

President's Message

Spring is an exciting time of year. The Earth is starting to wake up after slumbering through a long winter. Flowers are starting to bloom in bright colors and the grass is turning a vibrant green.

To top it off we've converted to Daylight Savings Time and have longer evenings before nightfall.

The first day you merely wear a short-sleeved T-shirt is exhilarating.

It's a great time of year for enjoying a walk outdoors.

Helen

April meeting in person!

The April NVV meeting will be in person at the Daniels Run Park opposite the Elementary School at 2 pm at the shelter. Bring chairs and masks. It will be good to see folks.

March 8, 2021 minutes

Call to Order - Helen Garamone called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm via Zoom.

Attendees: Steve Brown, Ann Campbell, Helen Garamone, Lois Hite, Harry Jones, Ralph & Sandy Koontz, Mary Lowe, Bob & Mary McLean, Dianne Purdy, Ron Jones and Roy & Margaret Wagner.

Minutes - Feb 8, 2021 meeting minutes were accepted and approved with no changes.

Treasurer's Report - Current account balance is \$5,934.54. Income is from year rounds. Balance is same as last month.

Corresponding Secretary - N/A

Membership - Current member count is 27

Newsletter/Website submission - Reminder that due date for submissions is March 24th

Notable Walks - Ron Jones reported he completed 10 walks. Alexandria Old Town walk was done 2x. Take away from Alexandria Old Town walk was be aware of high-rise construction and the last block was closed for open air restaurants.

Mary Lowe commented on Sky Meadows State Park. Check out <https://www.alltrails.com/parks/us/virginia/sky-meadows-state-park> for best trails in park.

The Koontz's completed the Alexandria Waterfront walk. They project this to become an extremely popular walk due its beautiful scenery, history, and in general there is a lot to see. Walk will become official on April 25, 2021. Starting point will be at Jones Point. Sign up online or at Bread and Water, the start point for the Dyke Marsh walk.

Old Business

Ron announced that he will be moving out of the area to Smith Mountain Lake in May/June timeframe. He would like to continue the Wednesdays walks but will be limited to quarterly due to the distance to travel. He also plans to sponsor an AVA walk in his new area. Looking for assistance to sponsor Wednesday walks in his absence. (Editor's note: Ron and Heather will be staying after all as she was extended in her current job. Yay! Still, the call for assistance stands, folks.)

AVA Virtual Challenge - Helen Garamone and Mary Lowe spoke about the AVA virtual walk. Theme is "Kindness through the world." Check out <https://ava.org/virtual-online-programs/> for more information.

Vint Hill decision - Mary Lowe met with the brewery owners and due to current limit, hours start at 11-12noon, the club decided to postpone the walk until 2022. Limited hours affect the use of the facilities outside and access to restrooms.

New Business

Future walks

Steve Brown posted the following walk: Volksmarch and homemade soup dinner on April 18 at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia "The Barn." Tickets are available online at <https://historicharpersferry.org/event/volksmarch-soup-dinner> .

Other walks to consider are Manassas, Virginia Apr 3rd; Newport News, Virginia Apr 3rd; and Waynesboro, Virginia May 29th.

Dyke Marsh adding OLSB option - On-line start box is being added for Dyke Marsh walk.

VVA weekend - Volksmarch meeting is being held the week of May 8th.

April meeting - to ZOOM or not to ZOOM. Members discussed to hold off until the week before to see how the weather is for a meeting at the Park across from the elementary school. It was

also suggested to have a hybrid in-person/zoom meeting as zoom is available on cell phone apps. Suggested dates are Sunday, Apr 11th for in-person or Monday, Apr 12th for ZOOM.

April's Walk With Ron

The location for the April monthly walk is Blenheim/Daniels Run Park 10/5K YRE. Date is the third Wednesday April 21. Walkers should meet a little before 10 a.m. in the Safeway parking lot. I will send an email the week before as a reminder.

In May we can do the new seasonal along the Alexandria Waterfront Walk.

Upcoming events

April 3 - Manassas, Virginia, National Walking Week event. Start point is at the Manassas Visitors Center (train station), 9431 West Street Manassas. Start table open from 8 to noon and finish by 3 pm.

April 10 - Chesterfield, Virginia, Tree Hugger/Easter Walk at Pocahontas State Park. Start table open between 9 am and 1 pm.

April 17 - Beaverdam Park Gloucester, Virginia. Start point is Beaverdam Shelter, 9537 Fary's Mill Rd. Start table open from 9 am to noon.

May 1 - Olde Towne Gaithersburg, Maryland. Start table - at Java Junction at the train station - open for registration 8 am-11 am; finish by 2 pm.

May 7 - Around the World Embassy Walk, Washington, D.C. The Embassies walk, start times 9:30 am to 1 pm, finish by 4:30 pm. Embassies are open 10 am to 4 pm. Start Point is Panera Bread, 1350 Connecticut Ave, NW, Washington, DC. (At Dupont Circle)

May 19 - Greenbelt, Maryland. No information yet, but check the AVA site for information.

Quote

"There is no WiFi in the forest but I promise you will find a better connection."

Unknown