

Chargin' Charlie

July 2017

June 12, 2017 - Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Past President Pat Hyland at 7:30 p.m. Members present were: Karen and Barry Plott and Bob McLean. Two guests, Sally Cramer and Angel Sizemore, also attended.

Minutes – Minutes from our May meeting were approved.

Interesting walks – The Plotts reported on an interesting walk in Culpepper, Va.

Treasurer's Report – Our treasury is \$607.45 over our fixed reserve. It was discussed and a decision was made to use it to prepay fees to Uncle Bob's Storage, now renamed Life Storage, and to donate any remaining funds to the Principal's Discretionary fund at Daniel's Run School.

Corresponding Secretary – Karen received the usual year round walk cards and revenue.

Membership – There are currently 33 paid households.

Year-round Events – Our current totals for these walks are: Alexandria (Old Town) - 62; Alexandria (Dyke March) - 45; Burke Centre (Lake Barton) - 20; Burke (Six Ponds) - 27; Fairfax - 38; Reston - 96; Springfield (South Run) - 29; Vienna - 42; and Buckhannon, West Virginia - 17.

Newsletter – Items for the newsletter should be sent to Jim at jimgaramone@yahoo.com.

Website – Use the following email for correspondence and pictures for Roy Wagn: nvv@scenicroutes.us.

Old Business

Our spring walk at Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton on May 13 drew 29 walkers: 28 paid and 1 free. Susan Jeter won the club T-shirt.

The elected AVA officers for the next two years were announced: President - David Bonewitz; Vice President - Nancy Wittenberg; Secretary - Sam Korff and Treasurer - Bob Morrison.

New Business

Barry Plott proposed creating a walk in Cacapon Resort State Park , W. Va. It was discussed and supported.

Bob McLean stated that Kristin Mayer, our link to the Fort Belvoir Oktoberfest in October, will be retiring 9/30/17. She will be working with her replacement to insure that the event continues.

A general discussion of volkssporting occurred. Both guests, Sally Cramer and Angel Sizemore, bought New Member Packets and joined the club. Welcome aboard, ladies.

Renewal of our YREs was discussed. All are currently making money and will be renewed for coming year.

Our next meeting will be September 11, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Hyland, Substitute Recording Secretary

Notes from the 20th AVA Biennial Convention

by Helen Garamone, president

Approximately 500 people attended the recent convention in Billings, MT. The amazing thing was that five people basically put it together. They are to be commended for even attempting such a major event!

Among the many walkers were some faces from our club. I saw Bonnie Recore, Dianne Purdy, and Dana Beales. Other familiar faces from local clubs included Bob and Suzanne Wright, Dee Grenier, Yvonne Pennington and her mother Astrid, and Monica Gowan.

New officers were elected for the next two years. David Bonewicz was voted president, Nancy Wittenburg vice president, Bob Morrison treasurer, and Sam Korff secretary.

One bylaw passed. The National Executive Council will now be known as the Board of Directors and will emphasize national concerns such as fundraising. None of the proposed mascots were selected.

Two Atlantic Region members received major awards. Annette Tollett, president of the Virginia Volkssport Association, was inducted into the Hall of Fame for her

many years of service. Dolores Grenier, president of the FreedomFest Walk Club, received the President's Award for her management of the annual FreedomFest weekend each October.

Lastly, delegates voted to hold the 2019 convention in Albany, New York. Walks are proposed for Portsmouth, NH; Pioneer Valley, MA; Danvers, MA; Waterford, NY; Cooperstown, NY; Saratoga, NY; Albany, NY; and Hudson Valley, NY. The presentation was outstanding!

I attended three workshops. The first one concerned the Electronic Sanction Request process which will be changing in the near future. AVA is working on an improved database which will help simplify paperwork. Plans were to have it go into effect July 1 but subsequent emails have postponed implementation until it has been thoroughly tested.

The second workshop discussed the Ice Age trail in Wisconsin, Sixteen AVA trails are being developed for either late 2017 or 2018.

The third workshop was put on by Scott Isom of Walking Adventures, Inc. I expected the session to highlight upcoming trips but it was something else altogether. Scott discussed his life and how he was a pastor before becoming an international guide. His talk was truly inspiring. The big takeaway was to never stop asking questions and learning.

Convention walks I completed included the Yellowstone River walk, the Brewery tour of Billings, and Swords Rimrock Park overlooking Billings. My favorite walk was a quaint, little town of Red Lodge. Plans were for walkers to drive the Beartooth Highway to Cody, WY, for the last trail on June 11. Beartooth is reputed to be the most scenic road in the United States. Would you believe that the road was closed due to snow the night before? Luckily there was a second route that did not ascend into the mountains that was open.

Thank you for allowing me to represent the NVV at the convention. It was a great experience and I learned a lot!

Upcoming Walks

Virginia

No traditionals listed but good shady year-rounds include Springfield (South Run), Sterling (Claude Moore Park), and Woodbridge (Leesylvania State Park).

Maryland

July 19 Greenbelt Night Walk Start 4 - 5:30 p.m.

POC: Yvonne Pennington, 301-431-6668

Aug 5 Columbia (Harper's Choice) Start 7:30 - 9 a.m.
POC: John Dye, 410-290-6510

Aug 12 Odenton Start 7:30-10 a.m.
POC: Deb Peak, 410-695-1031

Aug 16 Greenbelt Night Walk, Start 4 - 5:30
POC: Yvonne Pennington, 301-431-6668

Aug 19 Savage Start 8:30 - noon
POC: Bill Hassell, 410-437-2164

Sept. 2 Greenbelt 30th Anniversary Celebration Start 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
POC: Yvonne Pennington, 301-431-6668

Sept 9 Columbia (Owen Brown) Start 7:30 - 9 a.m.
POC: John Dye, 410-290-6510

Sept 10 Laurel 9/11 Commemorative Event NEW TRAIL Start 9 a.m. - noon
POC: Phil Wilder, 301-717-3604

Sept. 20 Greenbelt Night Walk Start 4 - 5:30 p.m.
POC: Yvonne Pennington, 301-431-6668

Interested in Travel?

Walking Adventures International will be traveling east to present a travel seminar on the wonders of walking, along with a slideshow presentation of its 2018 and 2019 tours. Two shows will be offered in Savage, Md., on August 19. Times are 10-11 a.m. and noon-1 p.m. WAI will offer travel prize drawings and refreshments at each show. One walker will receive a FREE \$500 registration for a 2018 tour! Location: Savage United Methodist Church, 9050 Baltimore St.

You're encouraged to take a walk before the show with the Freestate Happy Wanderers. (See Aug 19 event above.)

Save the dates

NVV starts monthly meetings in September. Generally meetings are held the second Monday of each month. The exception is if Fairfax County Schools are closed. So please circle Sept 11 on your calendar! Our 2017-2018 schedule will be formally finalized with Fairfax County Schools next month. Meetings start at

7:30 and last about one hour. The location is the art room at Daniels Run Elementary School, 3705 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax City.

Our fall event is the 8th Annual Oktoberfest at the Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church in Burke. The volksmarch, choice of 5 or 10 km, will be held Saturday, Sept. 16. Begins 8 a.m. -1 p.m. The trail goes around Burke Lake on paved paths, sidewalks, and natural surfaces. The AVA rating is 1B. The church will be selling German bratwurst and other refreshments. Eat lunch to the tunes provided by the Kings Park German Band.

NVV also supports the Fort Belvoir Oktoberfest. This year it is being held Sept. 30 - Oct. 1.

Your help needed this fall

Both of the above events will require volunteers. Please consider donating two hours of your time! Thank you in advance!