

Excerpts from The American Wanderer (AVA bimonthly newspaper), Oct-Nov 2014:

A Volksmarch at every State Capital in 51 Days  
By Alisa Johnson

We did it! Tristan, Nicholas, Dina and I visited every state capital and Washington, D.C. in just 51 days. We completed a 5-10k Volksmarch at each capital, sometimes accompanied by Volkssporters and sometimes by ourselves.

We had planned to do a 10k YRE at each capital but it quickly became evident that between the heat and humidity, the historical signs to read and our long days in the van, a 5k route was a better option. Most of the time the YRE had a 5k route available, sometimes the club members walking with us showed us the key sites on a modified route and sometimes we adjusted the route based on a review [of] the map. That's one of the benefits of Volkssporting over more competitive walks – you are a winner when you complete whatever you're able to do. We also had some people join us for just part of the walk because they knew they wouldn't be able to complete the whole route. We're so glad to have had so many Volkssporters join us for many of the walks.

The highlight of the trip was most definitely the people we met. We especially enjoyed sharing our journey with club members, college friends, and people we met in our hotels or on the road...Some people even opened their homes to us. I could go on and on. You can see pictures of the people we met and our walks on our open, public Facebook page [facebook.com/51in51...](https://www.facebook.com/51in51...)

This summer we've had an adventure few have the opportunity to experience. We're thankful for all of the people who followed our Facebook page and commented on our posts. Knowing you were following along and being able to share it with you, made the trip extra special. We can't wait to see you again at the AVA Convention in Salem, Oregon in 2015!