



The WILLAMETTE WANDERERS Walking Newsletter

Published Quarterly
February 2012 Issue

Willamette Wanderers Walking Club - established in 1986.

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Next Issue May 2012

SUNDAY STROLLS

February	12 th
March	11 th
April	15 th

MEETING DATES

February	15 th
*March	21 st
*April	18 th

7:00 PM
Building D
Salem Hospital

* pre-meeting walk
4:30 PM, Building A

*Meetings are open
to the public.*

New President Takes Office

As a past president of the Albany Fitwalkers and current president of the Oregon Trails State Volkssporting Association (OTSVA), Rozy Weatherby brings an abundance of leadership experience to her new role with the Willamette Wanderers.

Outgoing, longtime, past president Susan Hoskins ended her term in December, but long before then, Rozy came alongside Susan to offer help sustaining the club and its walks in the Salem/Keizer area.

Recently retired, Rozy looks forward to more opportunities to walk and to promote fun, fitness and friendships, and the many other benefits of walking.

Rozy is eager to bring back the Keizer Christmas lights walk and discover new walks in and around Salem and Keizer. If you haven't already, you really should consider joining Rozy and the Willamette Wanderers in their efforts to bring great new walks to our area. The first of these is coming on May 19. See details below.

Turkey Trot a Huge Success

We are so thankful to the 160 walkers and the many workers who contributed to the success of the Turkey Trot. And we could not have asked for a more beautiful sunny November day.

It was so encouraging to hear the many expressions of appreciation and support. It was especially nice to know that so many are already looking forward to

future walks sponsored by the Willamette Wanderers.

Because of the many requests we received, we were already considering bringing back the Keizer Light Christmas Walk before the day was through. If the participation is as great as was received for the Turkey Trot, it too will be a huge success.

Wanderer Recognized

Club member, Marvin Baker received recognition in the December/January issue of *The American Wanderer* for having reached the 1600 event level. That is quite an accomplishment. Well done Marvin! You are an inspiration to us all. Keep stamping!

At our last meeting, Marvin suggested a great new walk location, which we will check out later this spring. More in May issue.

Local Favorite Returns

The Iris Walk was a very popular walk during the ten years it was held from 1990 to 2010. Unfortunately, it was rained out and had to be cancelled in 2010. Disheartened by the previous cancellation, the club did not hold the walk in 2011. But, back by popular demand, the Iris Festival Walk will return to Keizer May 19, 2012. A secondary route will be developed in case of rain. See page two for more information.

Walk Schedule

February 12, 2:00 PM – 5K/10K, rated 1A

We will meet in Sublimity at the Fire Station, at 115 NW Parker Street, for an enjoyable walk throughout the lovely little community where Wilber and Orville Wright's father was head of the local Sublimity College. The [Quiet Town with Duck Pond Walk](#) provides panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

March 11, 2:00 PM – 5K/10K, rated 1A

We will join the Fitwalkers on the new route of their [Historic Albany Walk](#) through three historic districts and along the river. We will meet them at the Two Rivers Market, 250 Broadalbin SW, to register. Along the way you will enjoy seeing many styles of beautifully restored historic homes as well as the revitalized riverfront. Arrive early to register, so the walk can begin at 2:00.

April 15, 2:00 PM – 6K/10 (+ 2K extension), rated 1A

Back in Salem, we will enjoy our own downtown [Capital Waterways Walk](#). This walk takes us through several parks and along the river and the old mill stream to enjoy the returning spring foliage and abundant water fowl. We will view the Willamette River from the pedestrian bridge, crossing into Polk County. Arrive early to register for the walk in the lobby of Building "A" of Salem Hospital.

May 19, start 8:00 - 1:00, finish by 4:00 – 5K/10, rated 1A

[Iris Festival Walk](#) through the blooming fields of Schreiner's Iris Garden, along a country lane passing the Volcanoes' stadium, and on to Keizer Station and the annual Iris Festival and its many planned activities. As with our Sunday strolls, this walk will take place rain or shine. (Note no Sunday stroll in May.) Additional details will be provided in the next issue.

If you are viewing this newsletter in a non-electronic format, the above links can be accessed by typing <http://www.walkoregon.org/eventlst.htm> into their web browser: Next enter the name of the city where the walk is held and select "All Event Types" before clicking the Search Event button.

Walking Wisdom

We were pleased to see that both of our downtown Salem walks made the list of Top 10 Attended Year-Round Walks in Oregon (below). It is an excellent reminder of just how important it is that we continue to host walks in our beautiful capital city, not only for our own enjoyment, but for those who come from around the United States and beyond.

It is with that in mind that we ask for

your help. We have a free club T-shirt for anyone recommending a new walk location that we are able to get approved as a sanctioned AVA walk. AVA walks must be approximately 10K (6.2 Miles) in length. The ability to also provide a shorter 5K (3.1M) option is helpful.

We are eager to introduce new and exciting areas to the walkers who have faithfully supported us.

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Once again Silver Creek Falls made the list of [top ten walks in the United States](#). It is no surprise. We really do live in a beautiful place, ideal for walking and enjoying the great outdoors. Many other great walks are listed on the next page, and others can be found at www.AVA.org.



You'll receive a free T-shirt if, after submitting your idea to the above email address, we are able to offer the walk you suggest.

2011 OREGON TOP 10 ATTENDED HOSTED WALK EVENTS (TOTAL WALKERS)

* Indicates multiple day events. If not included, 11 and 12 would complete the top 10

- 1* Rogue Valley Riches, 5/13 - 15 (5 walks) in Shady Cove – OTSVA/Rogue Valley (464)
- 2 Pre-Super Bowl on 2/5 in NE Portland – Columbia River Volks Club (285)
- 3 New Year's Eve Walk on 12/31 in NW Portland – Columbia River Volks Club (268)
- 4 Great Easter Egg Hunt on 4/16 in Sherwood – Sherwood Merrywalkers (266)
- 5 Peony, Hostas & More on 6/4 in Brooks – Albany Fitwalkers (263)
- 6 Heart Breaker Walk on 2/12 in NW Portland – Columbia River Volks Club (247)
- 7 Milwaukie Spring Walk on 4/30 – Rose City Roamers (237)
- 8* NW Portland Parkways on 7/23, 7/24 – Rose City Roamers (226)
- 9 New Year's Day on 1/1 in NW Portland – Columbia River Volks Club (210)
- 10 Christmas Ships on 12/17 in SW Portland – Columbia River Volks Club (208)
- 11 Hazelia Field/Luscher Farm 9/3 – Rose City Roamers (180)
- 12 Sherwood Lights/Blanket Walk 12/3 – Sherwood Merrywalkers (174)

2011 OREGON TOP 10 ATTENDED YEAR ROUND WALK EVENTS (TOTAL WALKERS)

- 1 Crosstown YR0256 in Portland – Rose City Roamers (167)
- 2 Cook Park YR0534 in Tigard – Sherwood Merrywalkers (160)
- 3 Salem Parks YR1413 in Salem – Willamette Wanderers (159)**
- 4 Downtown YR0410 in Portland – Rose City Roamers (143)
- 5 Historic Flour Mill YR2030 in Shedd – Albany Fitwalkers (143)
- 6 Skylands – George Rogers Park YR1611 in Lake Oswego – CRVC (141)
- 7 Capitol City YR1028 in Salem – Willamette Wanderers (127)**
- 8 Gladstone Neighborhoods YR0695 in Gladstone – Four D's (120)
- 9 Esplanade – Ladd's Addition YR1714 in Portland – Four D's (116)
- 10 Alameda/Fremont YR1708 in Portland – Rose City Roamers (115)

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