

You Are Invited to Join the Willamette Wanderers of Salem & Keizer

DO YOU LIKE TO WALK? Do you prefer to walk with others and explore other areas? If so, you may want to walk with the Willamette Wanderers. Anyone can join our walks including children and four-legged friends. You can do our walks by yourself with our walk directions and map. But it can be more fun walking in one of our group walks on the second Sunday of each month and/or each Thursday. Our walks are non-competitive, and everyone walks at a comfortable pace. You do not need to be a member of the club to do our walks.

WHO ARE THE WILLAMETTE WANDERERS? Formed in 1986, the club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with volunteer Officers and Board members. Its focus is on promoting walking opportunities in the Willamette Valley and on the Oregon Coast. The Club celebrated its 35th anniversary in 2021. The club is a member of the national American Volkssport Association (AVA).

WHAT IS VOLKSSPORTING OR VOLKSWALKING? Volkswalking began in Germany and apparently came to the United States by returning US military. The American Volkssport Association was formed in 1976, and besides walking, it advocates other sports such as swimming, bicycling and snowshoeing. The Wanderers focus on walking.

WHAT DO THE WILLAMETTE WANDERERS DO? As a member of AVA, we follow its guidelines for walking. Because of its German origin, the distances for AVA walks are measured in kilometers rather than in miles. AVA Clubs prepare five kilometer (3.1 miles) and 10 kilometer (6.2 miles) walks. The Wanderers have created walks in Salem, in the Mid-Willamette Valley and on the Oregon Coast. Our brochure detailing our year-round walks is available at our website www.willwander.weebly.com under the tab Walk With Us.

WHAT IS THE COST? There is no cost to do one of our walks if you are not walking for AVA credit. Donations are welcomed to defray the club's costs for sponsoring these walks. Information about AVA can be provided by the Club.

HOW DO I JOIN? Annual dues are \$10 individual and \$15 family. Club t-shirts are also available. Membership includes regular notices of upcoming walks and other news. The club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 1 PM at the Salem Library, 585 Liberty St SE. The one-hour meetings are open to the public, but the meetings focus on club business. Members are encouraged to attend meetings to help guide decisions about future walks, special events, and other club matters.

If you would like to become a member, please complete the application and send it with payment to

Willamette Wanderers
PO Box 13982
Salem, OR 97309-1982

For more information contact: Lin at 971-599-0778.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WALKING WITH YOU!