

ST. ALBERT TREKKERS VOLKSSMARCH CLUB
Annual General Meeting
St. Albert Minor Baseball Association Club House (SAMBA)
St Albert, AB
March 21, 2009

Present: David Hall, Duane Spurrier, Dave Luscombe, Peter Van Bostelen, Kathleen Parr, Sara McEwan, Lorna Allen, Janet Brandly, Gordon Brandly, Clara Rosenow, Sylvia Fisher

Absent: Helen Rousseau, Dagmar Leitz, Rose Ramsum

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by David Hall.

2. Quorum

A quorum was present.

3. Approval of AGM meeting minutes 15 March 2008

The proposed minutes were approved by Duane Spurrier and Seconded by Iris Campbell. Carried.

4. Agenda

There were no additions and/or changes to the agenda.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

6. Reports

President – David Hall

See attached report. A special thank you was given to Clara Rosenow and Sylvia Fisher for their help on the Executive Committee.

Vice President – Duane Spurrier

No report.

2nd Vice-President – Janet Brandly

No report. Janet expressed her concern as to how we can make walks more accessible for people with disabilities.

Past President – Dave Luscombe

The Club moved up to a new level and will continue to grow. Thank you to the new executive. We need to come up with an incentive to gain new members.

Secretary – Sharon Pomeroy

No Report.

Treasurer – Peter Van Bostelen

See attached report. The proposed report was accepted by Peter Van Bostelen and Seconded by Duane Spurrier. Carried. Peter Van Bostelen made a motion that we reappoint Hank Harks for the next fiscal year. Seconded by Dave Luscombe. Carried.

Trailblazer – Sara McEwan

See attached report. We are still looking for one or two markers for upcoming events so that markers never walk alone.

Membership – Kathleen Parr

Including new memberships we have:

104 memberships

139 members

22 new members since the last AGM

14 communities

Thanks went to Marlene Kubbernus, Iris Campbell, Janet Brandly and Phyllis Wright for their help on the phone committee the past year.

Historian – Clara Rosenow

The picture album has now been updated with quality digital photographs.

Newsletter – Sylvia Fisher

Sylvia expressed that she has enjoyed putting together the newsletter during the past two terms. She extends a thank you to those who contributed letters and photographs.

Publicity – Lorna Allen

New St. Albert Trekker business cards were printed. Upcoming events have been published in local and surrounding community newspapers.

Social Convenors – Dagmar Leitz, Rose Ramsum

David Hall suggested we have more luncheons and dinners during events. The Athabasca lunch went well. Dagmar agreed to continue to organize the food for these events.

Care and Concern – Helen Rousseau

Helen was not present, but sent her comments that she hopes to have a slower year ordering flowers.

Webmaster – Gordon Brandly

The Website Committee (including David Hall and Dave Luscombe) did a lot of work on the Trekker website. Dave Luscombe maintains the upcoming events. David Hall enters other content. Gordon Brandly will continue in a support role.

Group YRE Coordinators – Sharon Pomeroy, Lou Arsenault

Anywhere from 3 to 18 members attended extra group YRE's on Saturdays. The number of walkers increased when the weather was above zero degrees Celsius.

7. New Business

- a) **Nominations** – Dave Luscombe presented the nominating committee's proposed list of officers. Newsletter – Joan Redman was nominated by acclamation for a two year term. Joan will require assistance for a shared role which is vacant at present.

Historians – Dave & Vicky Robinson were nominated by acclamation for a two year term.

Publicity – Lorna Allen agreed to remain for a two year term.

Social Convenors – Dagmar Leitz agreed to a one year term. Rose Ransum will continue to assist her.

There were no nominations from the floor. Dave Luscombe, as Past President, becomes the Chairman of the nominating committee. A thank you goes to Millie Seitz and Myrna O'Neil for their past hard work to convince others to be part of the Executive. Billie and Myrna have requested a leave from this responsibility. Dave Luscombe will require two other volunteers. Jean Elder accepted one of the volunteer positions. One volunteer position remains vacant.

- b) **Victoria Phoenix Walks**

Approximately 10 members of the Trekkers Club will be attending this event.

c) VAA Upcoming Convention

David Hall described the role of VAA and the upcoming Convention in Camrose. Nominations are required for positions on the VAA Executive including President, Secretary and Historian. We need to know by April 10th any interested members. Myrna discussed available opportunities and descriptions are available in the current newsletter. Only one response has been received regionally for President. Also, any items that need to be presented at the Annual General Meeting need to be in by April 10th.

Myrna O'Neil acknowledged Gordon Brandly for his VAA Website input and Lorna Allen for publicity of events.

d) Canadian Volkssport (CVF) Annual General Meeting

There are no major motions to be made at this year's AGM. A few house cleaning motions but that is it. To date, no club has come forward offering to host the next CVF AGM/Convention for 2010 so it is quite likely there will not be one.

e) CVF 2009 Awards

Recognition awards have been recommended for the following members:

5 Year Award – Ann Olsthoorn, Dave Luscombe, Gordon Brandly, Peter Van Bostelen

20 Year Award – Richard Parr

f) CVF Funding

CVF have rolled out a new program called the Friends of Volkssporting where people who contribute are recognized at a bronze, silver and gold level. No charitable receipts are issued for these donations.

g) Feedback on Changes

Millie really likes the new added info that has been added to the walk envelopes. This will be a major improvement.

h) Major 2009 Events

National Walking Day in Sherwood Park on May 16

Double Toonie Day on June 13

Triathlon, BBQ, and Marathon on July 25, 26

Mountain Majesty on September 6, 7

Oktoberfest on October 3

8. Open Floor

Stella Melnychuk made a motion that we make a motion at the CVF Annual General Meeting that the VAA donate a certain amount of money to CVF. David Hall suggested that \$1,000.00 is reasonable. He will have the vote made on behalf of the St. Albert Trekkers. Seconded by Millie Seitz. Carried.

9. Adjournment

Duane Spurrier moved we adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Seconded by Sonia Van Bostelen. Carried.

President's Report

March 21, 2009

- Thanks to everyone for making 2008/2009 a great walking year
- The end of 2008 and start of 2009 have proved to be challenging with the cold weather
- Three new YRE's are up and running for 2009
- Trekkers have a number of new events – some were VAA, some Devon's and some brand new
- The larger club meant some reorganization
- Work on the new Trekkers web site is underway: <http://www.trekkerswalks.ca/> and now has most of the YRE route instructions posted there
- The winter group YRE's have been successful, particularly the Saturday walks
- Special thanks to the Executive members whose terms have ended

Trailblazer Report March 2009

Trailblazers provide directions & ensure safe, well marked trails for all scheduled walks.

2008 began with a smooth transition from Trailblazer Hall to McEwan.

Training & learning curves were assisted by experienced Trailblazers.

A roster of Trekkers willing to pre-walk and/or mark was created to increase the involvement & capacity of members in Trailblazing activities

Over the year assistance was provided by 25 Trekker volunteers.

A marking clinic was held in April. Over the year, 6 new markers have been trained.

Following the Board approval for expansion of walks, events & YREs,

Trailblazer roles were re-vamped to deal with increased workload.

Two new roles, Trailblazer Pre-walks & Trailblazer Marking, were created.
Sonia/Peter van Bostelen & Sara McEwan currently fill these roles.

All Trekkers guided walks were marked. Chalk became a preferred marking tool where appropriate, as it is degradable & requires no added volunteer to collect flags.

On some walks, sawdust wood chips were also experimented with to supplement flags.

Route instructions were created for new 2008 (Athabasca, Cardiff, City Centre) & 2009 YRE routes. Existing club routes were reformatted & *bugs* were worked out

I trust walkers are enjoying readable, consistent, clear & concise instructions.

A YRE project was created to upgrade & update YRE instructions for posting to the web. This project is well underway & will require more work in the coming year.

A bonus has been generous support from by a hard working Trekkers Board.

Overall, I have greatly enjoyed being Trailblazer for the Trekkers & look forward to an engaging 2009 year.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara McEwan, Trekkers Trailblazer

AGM MEMBERSHIP REPORT

March 2009

Number of Memberships in:	St. Albert	31
	Edmonton	39
	Other Communities	34

Total Number of Memberships: 104

Total Number of People: 139

New Memberships since last AGM: 22

No. of Communities: 14

Communities:

- Beaumont
- Camrose
- Devon
- Edmonton
- Fort Saskatchewan
- Jasper
- Leduc
- Millet
- Morinville
- Red Deer
- Sherwood Park
- St. Albert
- Stony Plain
- Wetaskiwin

2008: 105 memberships (14 new) 137 members
(39 from St. Albert, 39 from Edmonton, 27 from 17 other communities)

2007: 119 memberships (31 new) 155 members
(34 from St. Albert, 54 from Edmonton, 32 from 16 other communities)

2006: 104 memberships (20 new) 138 people
(28 from St. Albert, 41 from Edmonton, 35 from 17 other communities)

2005: 98 memberships (12 new) 133 people

2004: 89 memberships (16 new) 121 people

2003: 89 memberships, 133 people

2002: 100 memberships, 139 people

2001: 106 memberships, 153 people

PHONE COMMITTEE:

Thanks to Marlene Kubbernus, Iris Campbell, Janet Brandy and Phyllis Wright for all their help with the phoning in the past year.

Web Master Report March 2009

As most of you know, there have been many changes to the Trekkers' web site this year. Because of lack of time on my part, David Hall and Dave Luscombe volunteered to take on the task of improving our web site. Thanks to all of their hard work, we now have a new and much improved web site at trekkerswalks.ca. The web site committee (David Hall, Dave Luscombe, Kathy Parr, and me) met a couple of times late last year to plan the features of the new site, but David and Dave did the hard work: finding a new web hosting service, registering our new trekkerswalks.ca domain name, and creating the contents of the new site. Many thanks and a tip of the hat to them!

Gordon Brandly

Publicity Report

Each calendar-listed walk was advertised in the local media via e-mail notifications that were sent out approximately 3 weeks before the scheduled events.

Business Cards

- Researched prices and designs for business cards
- Conferred with St. Albert Trekkers members
- Decided on design and quantity
- Ordered 500 cards at Staples for a total price of \$110.24
- Members can obtain these cards to hand out to people they meet on their walks.

Submitted by Lorna Allen