

# WORLD REPORT

## First Europiade!

Short details and photos, p. 5



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### From the Editor

First, I would like to thank the contributors to this final issue of the IVV World Report for 2012. Their texts present interesting and alternative ways of developing a Volkssport program. More such articles are always welcome.

This past year has been one of great effort, great change, and great success in the world of Volkssport. Two Continental Associations have presented large-scale events to promote their programs, and a third Continental Association (IVV-Americas) has been formed. The Congress of Delegates was held in China. All IVV publications have all been updated: a new publicity brochure designed, a new IVV News bulletin created, a new World Report published, and a new website launched.

Thanks to all who have contributed so much this year. More new and promising initiatives will be pursued in the coming year.

Happy trails!

[Graham Fawcett](#)  
IVV Vice-President

## THE IVV - POPULAR SPORTS EVENTS FOR ALL

The IVV is a worldwide federation of national sports associations. Our aim is to promote international friendship, understanding and peace through non-competitive sports. We encourage communication among all nations, regions and continents to improve knowledge and



understanding of their cultures and history. Our activities serve people's health through regular physical activity in natural settings. In order to promote contact and understanding, participants from all age groups and social strata are welcome at our events.

**Guidelines - A new, monthly Just One Minute!**



**Just One Minute!**

One-minute Volkssport news

[Editor](#)

[IVV Office](#)

[IVV Web Site](#)



In 2013, we would appreciate receiving your news on a regular basis for inclusion in a new monthly edition of Just One Minute!. Each month, if you have news from your Association that you would like to share with others around the world, please let us know no later than the 21st of the month. We will send a reminder to all Associations on the 15th. Both National and Direct Members are included in this initiative.

Why are we proposing to do this? The IVV is an international organization, and we need to communicate with each other on a more regular basis. Through communication, we will more effectively support and learn from each other.

**Suggested topics:**

1. National news - announcements, important dates and events at the national level.
2. Links to your publications, if available online.
3. Festival event announcements - if you have events lasting 2 or more days, we can try announcing them here. Such events would be announced up to three months in advance only. If submitted, we can also put them on the IVV web site as an information item.
4. Requests for resources and strategies. Help others plan and organize themselves more successfully.
5. Other items deemed appropriate for international distribution.

**Limitations:**

1. Each item may be edited, and none will be longer than three lines each.
2. Each item should be submitted in English or German, or both if possible.
3. When required, corrections to information are possible; the copy of Just One Minute! on the IVV web site will be considered correct until informed otherwise.

**Submission:**

1. Please send your information **directly** to IVV Vice-President Graham Fawcett at the following email address:  
[grahamfawcett@mac.com](mailto:grahamfawcett@mac.com)

We look forward to hearing from you! Look for the next copy of Just one Minute! in your mailbox in the last week of January.

**First deadline for submissions: Monday,  
January 21**





### The IVV and Change

In the past two years, the IVV has undergone fundamental change, to the point that it is clearly no longer the same organization it once was. Change is the order of the day, and the momentum and opportunity for change should be carried forward at all levels.

The goals have been to become truly more international, to be more open and transparent, to improve communication with its members, to reduce costs by restructuring, to facilitate change, and to do a better job of promoting Volkssport at all levels. The IVV has made a strong effort to decentralize, a process sometimes also called 'devolution'. It has been done by design, not by accident.

How and where have these changes occurred? In the past two years, significant and long-term changes have been implemented.

(1) The IVV Constitution: the IVV Statutes, along with the Rules and Regulations, have been completely rewritten to enable the changes, now implemented. These have allowed for the restructuring and the setting of new goals.

(2) The [IVV Presidium](#): whereas the former Presidium consisted of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer in an effort to create the possibility for equal representation internationally, that did not occur. The Presidium now only counts a single Vice-President along with the other positions that have remain unchanged.

(3) Restructuring: the restructuring of the Presidium has allowed for a restructuring of the IVV itself through the creation of Continental Associations that have direct and guaranteed representation in a 'United

Presidium', consisting of the 4 members of the Executive Presidium and one representative from each Continental Association. This 'United Presidium' will meet once or more a year to discuss matters of international importance. In these ways, the IVV has become much less Euro-centric and the Continental Associations have a greater degree of autonomy to conduct their affairs according to their particular situations. Three Continental Associations have been created: [IVV-Europe](#), [IVV-Asia](#), and [IVV-Americas](#). Direct financial support for the Continental Associations has been offered to meet any initial costs.

(4) More local and visible promotion of Volkssport: With the creation of the Continental Associations, the Presidium will be able to focus more on promotion at the international level, whereas the Continental Associations will promote their presence and activities more locally.

(5) Communications: the IVV web site has been completely redesigned, and still available at the former address ([www.ivv-web.org](http://www.ivv-web.org)). It will continue to be developed with additional features such as a Discussion Forum in February, 2013. This moderated Forum will reflect the new IVV structure with its Continental Associations, and be open to all visitors, not just Volkssporters using a password for access.

(6) The [IVV World Report](#) has been redesigned, with much greater input possible from members at all levels. To be published three or more times annually, it will be part news and part news magazine in order to inform and attract new members.

### The IVV and Change

(7) The IVV news bulletin has also been redesigned. It is now called [Just One Minute!](#) and is meant to be short and to the point. It can be easily transmitted, and is also available on the new IVV web site. In the new year, it is intended to publish it monthly, with significant input from members around the world.

(8) Reader surveys are now being used to communicate directly with Volkssport members at all levels. The surveys have already taken several forms, asking for feedback on issues, choices and features of various IVV communications. These surveys are secure and anonymous, and

the responses received will have a direct impact on decision-making at the highest level.

(9) A new IVV information brochure is available to explain our program and its goals to new international partners.

The intent of all these initiatives is to make the IVV more open, transparent, supportive and responsive. The way forward for the IVV has been set, with new energy and greater possibilities at all levels. With three new Continental Associations, Olympiads and Congresses of Delegates outside continental Europe in Japan, Turkey, and China, the IVV has clearly become more international.

### Volkssport and Smartphone Technology



Smartphone technology and social media have been highlighted in previous issues of the World Report. These apps are first stored on the smartphone, then used when one is walking. In conjunction with a computer, they may be used to plan a possible route, or promote one after completing it. The route itself, elevation changes, and even photos can all be combined to give an accurate

description to be shared with other interested walkers. Any of these apps may be used by walkers, not just runners as indicated by some descriptions. You may find them on the Apple iOS App Store or Google Play.

1. EBW! Walk
2. Endomondo
3. LogYourRun
4. MapMyWalk
5. NIKE + Running
6. RunKeeper
7. Runtastic
8. SportsTracker
9. TracKing
10. Walk Tracker
11. WalkWatch

One Canadian, Gord Bell, who is also the CVF Vice-President, has tracked a hundred or more walks in the Ottawa area. These urban and rural walks were all walks in the Ottawa area sanctioned by the CVF. He has saved them using the MapMyWalk app and used the prefix 'CVF' so they are searchable and easily found. You may look for his walks by clicking on the Maps button at the top of the [MapMyWalk web page](#), then on Find a Map. In the Search field, enter 'CVF'. [Click here](#) to see an example.



First Europiade - September 7 - 9, 2012



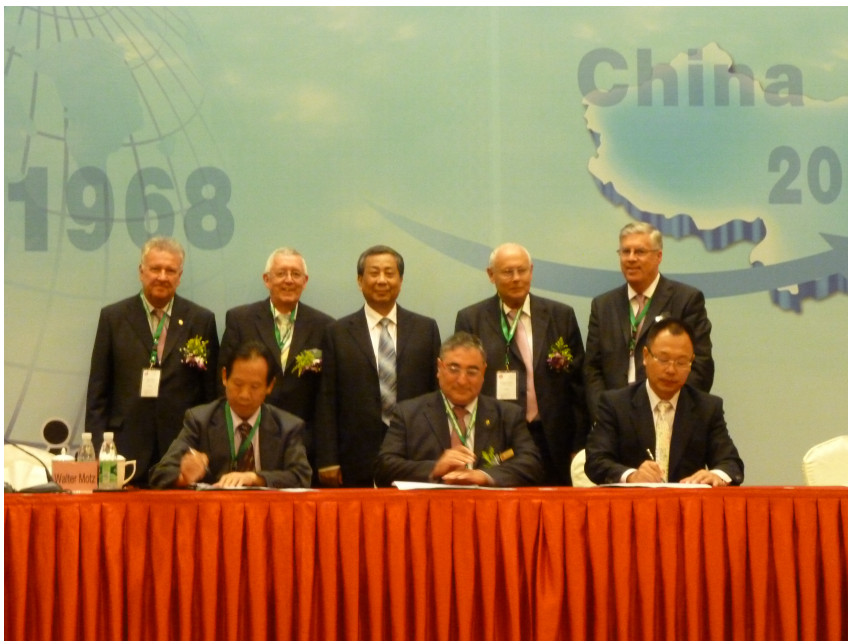
From 24 countries and 5 continents, 6,000 walkers came to the cross-border region of Echternach (L) and Irrel (D) to follow in the steps of 'The Gauls, Romans, and Benedictines' and enjoy the outdoor experience in the South Eifel and Müllertal regions. All were impressed by the beauty of the landscape and the variety of walking trails in the region. The second [Europiade](#) has already been planned for June 20-22, 2014 in [Marostica, Italy](#) and [Natsurns, South Tyrol](#).





### IVV Congress of Delegates

The IVV Congress of Delegates for 2012 took place in [Zhaoqing, China](#) from Oct 19-21, 2012. The Congress was held in conjunction with the First International Trekking Tourism Festival and 2012 International Green Way Trekking Convention. Although the attendance by members was disappointingly low, thousands of local residents participated in the walks and many students attended the seminars. Important Volkssport business was undertaken and agreements signed. For more complete information on the IVV business activities, please consult the [Congress Minutes](#).



The Minutes from several Presidium Meetings this year, and other documents, will be put on the IVV web site this week. In mid-January, an [annual summary of all these documents](#) will also be published and added to the web site.

There is a clear and strong effort by leaders, organizers and members at all levels to develop, promote and modernize our program of international popular sports. We must continue to build on these successes by looking for new opportunities and reaching out to new members in different ways. Let us keep our eyes and our minds open for new possibilities in 2013.



**A Tour Guide's Experience Promoting Volkssport  
by Dan Friesen of Walking Adventures International, Vancouver, WA USA**

*Dan Friesen is the President of Walking Adventures International, a very successful company that promotes walking and the Volkssport program through their program of international tours. His groups have done walks on all the continents, including Antarctica!*

Twenty years ago, my dad rescued me from a career in accounting by inviting me to help lead walking tours. In 1989, we began offering Volkssport tours in central Europe, and have since expanded to over 60 countries on all 7 continents.

From the start, we recognized that Volkssport in the USA was a relatively small, close-knit community. While this gave it a warm, family feeling, it also dictated that we supplement our Volkssport walkers with travelers as yet outside Volkssport – people who enjoyed active travel but had not yet heard of Volkssport.

In recent years, this need to promote Volkssport to the general public has become a central point of discussion in the Volkssport community worldwide. As we travel, we see the same declining participation and disbanding of clubs throughout Europe and North America. The elusive objective throughout Volkssport is to attract more of the millions and millions of potential walkers to the benefits of our sport!

As owner of WAI, it is clear that our marketing challenges as a walking tour company run directly parallel to the promotional challenges of Volkssport. Meeting these challenges is a bigger topic than can be addressed in one article. But from more than 20 years of actively seeking answers, I offer these insights:

**It's all about walk quality!**

A bedrock premise of any type of promotion is that you are offering a good product or service. As we consider the direction of our marketing resources, I therefore propose that we focus first on walk quality.

Alternatives competing for the discretionary time of those we wish to attract are legion. As a travel planner, I continually ask “Why should people pay good money for our tours?” As walk planners, we must constantly ask “Why should people pay and forfeit several hours of their lives to walk this trail?”

Motivators to walk abound: exercise, camaraderie, education, gastronomy, nature/scenery; and just plain fun! All are great reasons to walk, but in order to bring people back to the sport for more, the walk itself needs to hold intrinsic value. The motivators just listed can be obtained more efficiently and effectively than by spending time on a boring or poorly planned walk route.



**Is 10 a magic number?**

One obstacle to walk quality is the current requirement that a walk contain a route of at least 10 kilometers. I've walked countless routes, and heard of many more, that offer interesting sights along part of the walk, then meander back and forth through boring city streets, or loop back through monotonous forest trail, simply to inflate the distance to the required 10 km.

When non-volkssport travelers join one of our tours that has these forced-distance 10 km walks, their response is frustration. People not initiated into

### A Tour Guide's Experience Promoting Volkssport

the mindset of Volkssport consider an uninteresting walk simply a waste of time and money. The public we are trying to reach with the Volkssport message are non-volkswalkers. My experience promoting walking tours is conclusive: achieving 10 km is not a relevant objective for a non-volkswalker.

If this arbitrary distance requirement were removed, and walk planners were free to let the terrain, setting, and points of interest determine the distance, walk quality would improve and volkswalkers would feel more confident about recommending walks to their non-volkswalker friends.



#### Must we finish at the start?

How about allowing the finish point of the walk to be somewhere other than the start point? Looping back to the start point requires both the outbound route and the return route to be of high value, an often unattainable goal.

Consider instead a one-way route that finishes where the natural trail ends. Many walk routes are high-value for the first segment but are forced to take a boring return route simply to get back to the start. Admittedly, this causes some logistical challenges, but as long as there are two vehicles available, one can be shuttled to the finish before commencing the walk. NOTE: This proposal only applies to Permanent Trails (called YREs in North America).

#### How important is the stamp?

Preoccupation with the stamp could be the number one contributor to poor walk quality. If volkswalkers' number one motivation for walking is a stamp in their book, it stands to reason they'll be forgiving of a poor quality route.

When our travels involve unsanctioned walking simply in the course of the day's activities, volkswalkers often jokingly remark, "I don't walk unless I get a stamp." Likewise, when we ask travelers to rate walk quality, many defer by saying, "There's no such thing as a bad walk."

This point of view is based upon the premise that our primary motivation for walking is to get a stamp in our book. If we are trying to reach the non-volkswalking public, this mentality must change. Of all the reasons we walk, getting a stamp is the one least appealing to a non-volkswalker. They tell me so all the time! Non-volkswalkers join us for the value of the walk, the walk motivators listed above. Any interest in the stamp is incidental!

As long as getting a stamp is the primary motivation for walking, walk quality will suffer. If, as an organization, we begin de-emphasizing the stamp, and direct our energy and focus towards walk quality and the many intrinsic benefits of walking, I'm convinced we will automatically widen the circle of potential new walkers.

Admittedly, challenging the value of the stamp is Volkssport heresy, but it could be the most important of my three quality-oriented proposals. To realign Volkssport priorities, perhaps our motto should become: It's all about the walk!

In conclusion, I realize these ideas may sound strange to those who've spent years accumulating km's and events in their books. If we want to present a sport that appeals to the general public, however, 20 years of experience in Volkssport travel have convinced me that walk quality must be our top priority. *It's all about the walk!*

[Walking Adventures International Website](#)



### DVV 'Annual Walking Challenge - 2013' Michael Mallmann, DVV

On 1 January 2013, the Deutsche Volkssportverband e.V. launches a new special cup: 'Jahreswanderer 2013' (i.e. 'Annual Walking Challenge - 2013')

Walking promotes health. Nature and its seasonal changes bring joy and well-being. Walking also is sport. The special 'DVV-Jahreswanderer 2013' cup ('Annual Walking Challenge - 2013') is meant to motivate walkers to walk regularly. At the same time, the cup offers the opportunity to have one's participation and distance certified with the DVV.

As a requirement for participation, one buys one or more participation cards. Each is 0,30 €. Only this participation card, 'Jahreswanderer 2013', is proof for the special cup.

The aim is to collect as many participations and as much distance in one year, from 1 January until 31 December 2013, as possible. After this calendar

year, the cards can be sent to the DVV-Head Office, Fabrikstr. 8, D-84503 Altötting. There is no need to have the participation card fully stamped. There are no increments. If requested, odd numbers, e.g. 46 participations and 573 km, will be certified. The participation card is valid for both participation and distance. It is valid for all kinds of IVV sanctioned events, even events elsewhere in the world will be accepted.

If requested, the participant can also buy alternative awards (certificate, glass cup, gilded medal).

Proposals and questions:  
[geschaeftsstelle@dvv-wandern.de](mailto:geschaeftsstelle@dvv-wandern.de)

### World & Europa Cup Winners May - November 2012

The following people have met the criteria for the World Cup and Europa Cup walking programs.

#### Europa Cup 1

Frei Johann, Nistertal (Germany)  
Frei Siegrid, Nistertal (Germany)  
Hagberg Cecylia, Horten (Norway)  
Hagberg Kjell, Horten (Norway)  
Hagberg Lars, Horten (Norway)  
Hein Bernd, Bretten (Germany)  
Kempf Ginette, Eschbach (France)  
Kohlendorfer Friedrich, Bad Hall (Austria)  
Lak Rudolf, Bopfingen (Germany)  
Lindberg Shirley, Renton (USA)  
Lottenburger-Schlauersbach Hannelore (Germany)  
Vanderlinden Frédérique, Melen (Belgium)  
Piroux Serge, Melen (Belgium)  
Persson Inga-Lisa, Munka-Ljungby (Sweden)  
Solberg Åse, Harstad (Norway)  
Vanderlinden Frédérique, Melen (Belgium)  
Wold Terje, Tønsberg (Norway)

#### Europa Cup 2

Finsveen Guri, Lillehammer (Norway)  
Gambert Robert L., Stuttgart (Germany)  
Hagberg Kjell, Horten (Norway)  
Hedlund Irene, Jönköping (Sweden)

Johnsen Tom, Jessheim (Norway)  
Klundby Ivar, Biri (Norway)  
Lyngstad Liv, Trondheim (Norway)  
Nielsen Kari Ness, Sandvika (Norway)  
Persson Inga-Lisa, Munka-Ljungby (Sweden)  
Petsch Marion, Saarbrücken (Germany)  
Schremmer Ursula, Neuss (Germany)  
Selner Klaus, Wiesbaden (Germany)  
Smith Beverly, Rodenbach (Germany)  
Smith Stephen Silas, Rodenbach (Germany)  
Sorensen Grethe, Oslo (Norway)  
Talisman Magic Merlin, Saarbrücken (Germany)  
Wätzig Dieter, Reute (Germany)  
Weisgerber Karin, Saarbrücken (Germany)

#### World-Cup I

Kohlendorfer Friedrich, Bad Hall (Austria)  
Kunz Günter, Köln (Germany)  
Lindberg Shirley, Renton (USA)  
Schremmer Ursula, Neuss (Germany)  
Selner Hildegard, Wiesbaden (Germany)

#### World-Cup II

Kesting Lothar, Stuhr (Germany)  
Lovik Richard, Täby (Sweden)  
Schepull Rita Monika, Emmendingen (Germany)

## Volkssport, Tourism, and Economic Development

by Kurt Schumacher, Great Lakes Seaway Trail Volkssport Association



*Editor's note:*

*The [Great Lakes Seaway Trail Volkssport Association](#) is located in northern New York State in the USA. Its headquarters is in Sackets Harbor, on the St. Lawrence River which marks the border between Canada and the USA*

*in eastern North America. The mission of Seaway Trail Inc. is to increase tourism revenues and to enhance the economic well-being and quality of life for travellers, communities, and members throughout the Great Lakes Seaway Trail region by managing and marketing it as the leading scenic byway. It is a member of the American Volkssport Association and promotes Volkssport as part of a multi-faceted approach to economic development.*

When citing the benefits of Volkssports, the IVV and AVA specifically point out the three F's – fun, fitness, and friendship. For local communities that host Volkssport events, however, the most significant benefit may in fact be another “F” – financial. Tourism organizations are starting to notice the potential financial impact of Volkssport events and are getting in the game, creating a win-win for both Volkssporters and local communities.

The [Great Lakes Seaway Trail Volkssport Association](#) is one such group that is working to create Volkssport events – both traditional and seasonal – that align with a broader mission of promoting tourism and economic development. The group was started as an off-shoot of Seaway Trail, Inc., a non-profit organization that promotes travel on the Great Lakes Seaway Trail National Scenic Byway.

The Great Lakes Seaway Trail is a 518-mile signed driving route that follows the shores of Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River in New York and Pennsylvania. The byway connects unique destinations such as Presque Isle, Niagara Falls, and the Thousand Islands; the cities of Erie, Buffalo, Rochester, and

Oswego; and charming waterfront towns and villages.

The mission of Seaway Trail Inc. is to increase tourism revenues and to enhance the economic well-being and quality of life for travelers, communities, and members throughout the Great Lakes Seaway Trail region. The idea of Volkssports fit in perfectly with this mission, and thus the Great Lakes Seaway Trail Volkssport Association was born. While the concept of vacationing along a National Scenic Byway inherently means hopping in the car for a road trip, the Volkssport idea would encourage travellers to stop, get off the road, and not miss the region's hidden treasures.

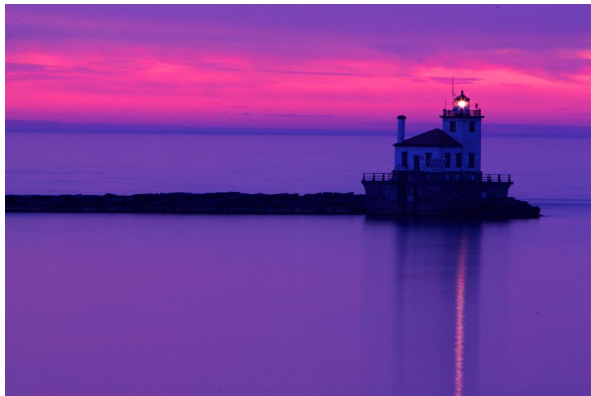


The Great Lakes Seaway Trail Volkssport Association created their initial series of walks around a theme – the War of 1812. The present-day Great Lakes Seaway Trail route essentially follows the northern front lines of the War of 1812, and with the war's Bicentennial Commemoration just around the corner, the theme seemed to be a natural fit. The club created several new walks and also partnered with other existing clubs in the Niagara region and in Pennsylvania to establish a “War of 1812 Walk Series” consisting of nine walks along the byway. Each walk offered a collectible pin that could be earned upon completion – a nice incentive for both traditional Volkssporters and others who may be new to the idea of Volkssports.



### Volkssport, Tourism, and Economic Development

As a way to measure the impact of their walks, the Great Lakes Seaway Trail Volkssport Association includes a survey on the back of the start card for each walk. This enables the club to track where participants are coming from, satisfaction with the walk, and also estimate the economic impact. After the first full season of the War of 1812 walks, the surveys showed that participants had come from all across the United States and Canada, and even from as far away as Japan. Approximately a third of the participants completed the walk as part of a group bus tour and another third made specific travel plans (either a day trip or overnight vacation) to complete the walk – proving the walks truly are a catalyst for tourism.



Further, the walks had both immediate and long-term benefits for the Great Lakes Seaway Trail region. In addition to the direct economic impact (tourists spending their money locally), the walks served to introduce the region to others who often were unfamiliar prior to participating in the walks. Satisfaction with the walks was very high (95% very/extremely satisfied) and 83% of participants said they were more likely to travel on the Great Lakes Seaway Trail in the future as a result of the walks. Informal feedback reinforced the long-term benefits, as participants mentioned their intention to return to the region, and one even planned to stay at the hotel that hosted the walkbox for one of the walks when he returns. These results help the

club to solicit businesses and communities to sponsor new walks.

The Great Lakes Seaway Trail was started based on the idea of creating a “string of jewels showcasing the communities close to the shoreline.” As more and more Volkssport events are created, travellers are being presented with exciting new ways to experience these “jewels” and learn about the unique history, culture, and scenic beauty the region has to offer.



The benefits of Volkssports for participants are undeniable. Thousands of people have discovered this fun, healthy activity that promotes friendship and fellowship. The benefits go beyond that, however, and from a tourism perspective, Volkssports have a robust positive impact as residents, travellers, local businesses, and communities all reap the benefits.



## ORIGIN OF IVV WEB SITE VISITS

From October 12, 2012 until Dec. 12, there have been 4,159 visitors to the new IVV web site, coming from over 60 countries around the world. On average, that makes for a bit more than 2,000 visits per month. As features are added, and other strategies such as social media are used, it is hoped that the monthly average will soon increase to 3,000 or more per month. The table to the right shows, in the case of the top 24 countries of origin, where 96% of all visits have come from. The interest shown is most gratifying. Thank you all.

In February, a [Discussion Forum](#) will be opened for all visitors, not just Volkssporters. You may express your opinion on several proposed topics of discussion by doing the current [Reader Survey](#) now. See below for some of the possible choices.

If you have other ideas or suggestions, you will have up to three such possibilities to add to your vote for the topics proposed. **The survey closes January 31, 2013.**

Country / Land		Country / Land	
Germany/ Deutschland	32%	Taiwan	1%
USA	13%	Denmark / Dänemark	1%
Canada / Kanada	6%	Finland / Finnland	1%
Switzerland / Schweiz Liechtenstein	6%	Japan	1%
Belgium / Belgien	5%	Czech Republic / Tschechien	1%
France / Frankreich	4%	Spain / Spanien	1%
Italy / Italien	4%	Estonia / Estland	1%
Luxembourg / Luxemburg	4%	Sweden / Schweden	1%
Austria / Österreich	3%	Brazil / Brasilien	1%
Norway / Norwegen	3%	Russia / Russland	1%
China	3%	Poland / Polen	1%
United Kingdom / Großbritannien	3%	Hungary / Ungarn	1%
Netherlands / Niederlande	1%	Australia / Australien	1%

## DEC 2012 READER SURVEY - SAMPLE CHOICES

Readers will be asked the degree to which they would participate in the following topics. Readers will have the opportunity to make their own suggestions, in addition to the following topics:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Greetings                             | 9. Volkssport events and participant feedback    |
| 2. Members' News and Announcements       | 10. Volkssport partnerships and sponsorships     |
| 3. Travel & car-pooling                  | 11. Connecting Volkssport with tourism & culture |
| 4. Walking festivals (min. 2 days)       | 12. Connecting Volkssport with charities         |
| 5. Volkssport + social media, technology | 13. Our greatest challenges in (country, city)   |
| 6. Strategies for publicity & promotion  | 14. Our recent successes in (country, city)      |
| 7. Volkssport and the green economy      | 15. Suggestions & ideas 'outside the box'        |
| 8. Frequently asked questions            | 16. Feedback on IVV Communications               |

Link to the current [Reader Survey](#) (to close Jan 31, 2013)



## FROM THE EDITOR

Again, a sincere ‘Thank you!’ to all those who have submitted articles and made suggestions for this issue of the IVV World Report. My special thanks to IVV Executive Assistant Tanja Müller for all her translations for the German version.

The success of future issues of the IVV World Report will depend increasingly on input from readers - all submissions are welcome. Texts, photos, questions and suggestions may be sent directly to the [Editor](#). **The next deadline to submit articles and photos will be March 15, 2013.**

COMING IN THE NEXT  
WORLD REPORT

1. Survey results: December 2012 feedback. **The survey for this issue closes January 31, 2013. See yellow panel to start survey.**
2. Update: IVV Discussion Forum
3. Update: Just One Minute!
4. Reports: TAFISA; IML
5. Reports: IVV-Europe and IVV-Asia
6. Reports: National and Direct members.
7. The longest sanctioned Volkssport walk ever?
8. Calendar of Events

## Calendar

1. [IVV Olympiad 2013](#) will take place in [Val Gardena, Sud Tyrol](#) [South Tyrol, Italy] - June 25 - 29, 2013.
2. The date for the second ‘[Europiade](#)’ has been set for June 20 - 22, 2014 in [Marostica, Italy](#) / [Naturns, South Tyrol](#).
3. The next IVV Congress of Delegates will be in [Hamburg, Germany](#) September 18 - 21, 2014.
4. [Chengdu, China](#) was chosen at the recent Congress of Delegates for the location of the 2015 Olympiad. The date has been set for September 26-29, 2015.

## Reader Survey

Please take a few minutes to do our online reader survey. Your feedback will help improve future issues. The survey is completely anonymous.

[START SURVEY HERE](#)

## “A picture says a thousand words.”

The IVV needs your pictures .... Almost everyone has a digital camera now, plus access to a computer. We need pictures to tell the Volkssport story, pictures taken at Volkssport events, on Volkssport routes, of Volkssport activities of all kinds. These pictures will be used, giving credit to the photographer (if desired) and indicating the location or event at which they were taken. We need pictures for various publications: IVV World Report, the IVV web site, IVV presentation brochures, etc.

Please send your pictures, along with the following details, to [IVV Vice-President Graham Fawcett](#)

1. Your name (published only if you wish)
2. Date taken
3. Location (City & country)
4. Walk or event name
5. Details about the walk or activity.
6. Technical requirements: .jpg, .jpeg or .png format; minimum size - 250 kb / maximum size 1 MB

