



Volume 2015 – August 2015 No. 8
Next Meeting – September 15, 2015
Esplanade Gardens, Converse, TX
A member of the American Volkssport
Association (AVA) & the International
Federation of Popular Sports (IVV)
The Public is always welcome

**Randolph Roadrunners
Volkssport Club**
A Walking Club Established 1980
PO Box 2744
Universal City, TX 78148-1744
Elected Officers

President

Ellen Ott 210-723-8574

Vice President

John Ives 210-

Treasurer

Pat Gunter 210-479-0805

Secretary

Pat Roberts 210-846-1801

Committee Chairs

Membership

Caryl Swann 210-842-4128

Publicity

Susan Alton 503-789-9166

Sales

Joanne Forinash 210-493-8543

Webmaster & Event Flyers

Randy Baker 210-369-9538

Newsletter

Audrey Vertucci – AudreyVe@aol.com
210-496-2197

Year-round Events, Boerne

Year-round Event, Gonzales

Year-round Event, Palmetto State Park

Pat Gunter 210-479-0805

Year-round Event, DeZavala Daily Bread

& Broadway Daily Bread

Year-round Event, Junction

Year-round Event, Leon Creek

Ellen Ott 210-723-8574

*Year-round Event, Crownridge & Friedrich
Park*

Susan Medlin 210-325-3523

Year-round Events, Schertz

Herb Laing 210-414-0954

Club Website

www.randolphroadrunners.info

AVA Website

www.ava.org

TVA Website

www.walktexas.org

SW Regional Director

Susan Medlin 210-325-3523

sw_rd@ava.org

Renewal Time

The following membership renewals are currently due:
Carolyn Osborn, Patricia Bailey, Glenn & Donna Hughes, Danny & Cyndee Bruen, Kim Grossett, Darlene Oner, Maggie Carswell, Pamela Voith, Jill Zimmerman, and Lucy Duncan To renew your RR membership, fill out the application attached or print off of our website:

www.RandolphRoadrunners.info and send it with \$4 for 1 year or \$10 for 3 years, to Caryl Swann c/o RR, PO Box 2744, Universal City, TX 78148.

Remember: Lifetime Memberships are available for \$30 per person.

Welcome, New Members:

Neil Bute San Antonio
Nelson Karaklis San Antonio
Joan Lyman (welcome back!) San Antonio

RR MEETING LOCATION

Esplanade Gardens
10790 Toepperwein Road
Converse, TX 78109
www.esplanadeseniorcampus.com
The Roadrunners meet the third Tuesday of each month.
The next meeting is September 15, 2015.

From the Desk of the Pres-

Taco Cabana Sunrise walk

“Thank you” to all who volunteered to work at the 11 July SunRise walk. And for those who volunteered to work, but there wasn't a space - what a good problem to have! I'm certain there'll be room for you on the 8 August roster!

Again, “thank you” to Pat Gunter, Darlene Oner, Herb Laing, Pat Roberts, Audrey, Suzanne, Mike Schwencke, Susan Medlin, Raul and Suzan Soto, Diana Battan, Joanne Forinash, John Ives, Caryl Swann, and Mike Hermes.

Ellen

Seguin - YRE #Y1122 which is sponsored by the LoneStar Walkers re-opened in Seguin on Saturday/25 July 2015. It will be a daily walk open from sunrise to sunset.

Registration ONLY will be at the Super 8 – Seguin, 1525 N. Hwy 46, Seguin 78155 (I-10, Exit-607). You must drive to the walk Starting Point and there is a different Starting Point for each distance. Concise driving directions and information materials are available in the Walk Box. Event details are outlined on the AVA web site.

Special National Officer Book

better known as the SNOB book. Now that there are new members on the National Executive Council you may want to try this special program. This program was developed by the National Executive Council (NEC) in support of Special Funds Development. Collect the special stamp from each Regional Director, National Officer, and the Executive Director for a total of 15 stamps. Only stamps with the special center slug denoting the NEC member at an event will qualify.

The booklet may be ordered from the AVA for \$10. Upon completion return the book to the AVA headquarters and you will receive a very distinctive SNOB pin. Any questions please call 210-659-2112.

The next RR walk is the Taco Cabana August 8th Sunrise Event at Bitters and 281 in San Antonio. The start is 6:30 – 8:30 a.m. and finish by 11:30 a.m. The following RRs have volunteered:
Registration - 6:30 - 8:30
Pat Gunter & Darlene Oner
Start - 6:30 - 8:30
Herb Laing & Wiley Smith
Finish - 6:45 - 8:45 1. Susan Medlin
2. ?
Finish - 8:45 - 10:45

Audrey Vertucci & Suzanne Markgraf
10:45 – finish

Check Pt. 1 6:30 - 8:30

1. John Ives

2. ?

8:30 - 10:30 Margie & Randy Baker

10:30 - finish 1. Larry Cook

Check Pt.2 6:30 - 8:30 1. Kathy & Mike
Schwencke

8:30 - 10:30 Tony & Nancy Paulson

10:30 - finish 1. Diane Duesterhoef

Sales - Pat Roberts & Diana Battan

Thanks to all for stepping up for the cause. There's only a couple spots left. Contact Ellen at ellenott@sbcglobal.net or 210-723-8574 if you can volunteer. The workers' walk is August 6 at 6:30 a.m. at the Taco Cabana on Bitters Road.

August 15 - National Relaxation Day
Mellowing out can be good for your health. Take a walk - Colorado River Walkers (Austin) are featuring a YRE at 7 am. Then go for a swim, take a nap, and eat something fun like an ice cream cone. Kick back and rest easy.

I want to thank everyone who came to the Roadrunner meeting Tuesday evening. It's your dedication to volkssporting that makes it a pleasure to serve the club. A "thank you" to all who brought food including the delicious desserts. A BIG hug and "thank you" to Darren Medlin who did my two least favorite jobs...making the ice tea and slicing the meat!

To all the members who received award recognition; the club couldn't run without you and I wouldn't be your president because I couldn't and wouldn't do it by myself. "Thank you" all.

And to Henry, our AVA executive director, who is trying his hardest to make AVA prosper and grow.

Hope to see many of you on Saturday at the 8 August SunRise event.
Happy and healthy walking to all,

Ellen

RR DINNER MEETING MINUTES – July 21, 2015

A club dinner meeting was held at 6 p.m. at the Hampton Inn in Schertz, TX. Thirty members and guests were in attendance. After being welcomed by Ellen Ott, everyone enjoyed a

catered/pot luck dinner.

Guest Speaker Brandon Ross, of the City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department, spoke on the continuing development of the Howard W. Peak Greenway Trails System in the City of San Antonio. Brochures were provided showing the existing trails and the ones in development.



*Photo & info supplied by Susan Ives**

*Brandon Ross also mentioned that the trails now have locator codes on the mile markers. If you need to call 911 for a trail emergency, providing this code to the dispatcher will make it easier for authorities to find you.

After desserts were enjoyed, Susan and Darren Medlin presented a collage of Convention highlights. Dennis Michele was re-elected for a second term as AVA president and the 2017 Convention will be held in Billings, Montana.

AVA Executive Director, Henry Rosales, gave a talk on Strategic Planning for the AVA. A Strategic Planning Representative from each Region will be appointed by the RDs to commit to a one year term. The Committee's studies and input will help develop a long range 10 year plan for the AVA, with detailed planning for the next 3-5 years of how we will get there.

Member Achievements and Awards:

A posthumous Distinguished Achievement Award to Bill Radigan was presented to Jane Radigan.

Ellen Ott shared her plaque and Hall of Fame Award presented to her at the AVA Convention.

Joanne Forinash received the 2015 AVA President's Award at the AVA Convention.

Meritorious Service Awards went to Randy Baker and Pat Gunter.

Certificate of Service Awards went to

Pat Roberts (bronze, 5+ years), Audrey Vertucci, (silver, 10+ years), Martin Callahan, Tony Paulson and Nancy Paulson (gold, 15+ years)

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Barney Smith; Broadway Daily Bread, Alamo Heights and DeZavala; Beethoven Mannerchor Halle and Garten; Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Quihi, TX; Corner Bakery in the Alamo Quarry; Comfort Inn and Suites, Boerne, TX; Del Webb Hill Country Retreat; Drury Inn and Suites, I-10 & 1604; Gonzales County Historical Commission; Taco Cabana Restaurant Chain; Texas Parks and Wildlife, Palmetto State Park; The San Antonio Loafers; Universal City Library; and to individuals: Carlen Forinash, Bill Hamilton, Suzanne Markgraf and Patricia Roberts.

The Randolph Roadrunners won first place for our submission to Event(s), Community Engagement and Publicity.

Workers Roster for the 8 August Sunrise Walk was passed around.

A Strategic Planning Commission Meeting in conjunction with the NEC meeting will be held in San Antonio from 12 – 15 August at the Wyndham Hotel on 9th Street. The Roadrunners, along with the Headquarters, will host.

Submitted by: *Pat Roberts, Roadrunner Secretary*



Tales from the Trails Crazy Horse Memorial, South Dakota – By: Randy Baker

I have been wanting to do the Crazy Horse walk since I first heard about it around 10 years ago. I finally got to do

it this year now that Margie has retired, since June was always her busy month at work. We planned a whole trip around this event, driving up from Texas through Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska before arriving at our hotel in Custer, SD.

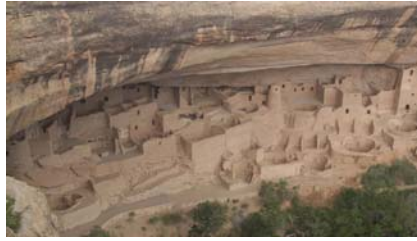
We arrived Friday night and went to see the Mount Rushmore lighting ceremony. It was a foggy/rainy evening, but the fog thinned occasionally, and we were able to see the presidents. The park ranger gave a talk about Mount Rushmore, showed a short film, and invited all active and former military personnel to the stage for the lowering of the flag. I was lucky enough to get to assist in lowering the flag and folding it. It was a great experience.

We had originally planned to walk Saturday morning, but the threat of rain and thunderstorms made us decide to visit the Badlands instead. We stopped at Wall Drug before driving through the Badlands. I remember as a kid seeing signs for Wall Drug everywhere –“Wall Drug, 1500 Mile” and the like. It’s a tourist trap for sure, but still kind of fun. The Badlands are breathtaking, and we stopped to walk on a couple of short trails.

Sunday morning was partly cloudy, but there was no rain. We arrived at Crazy Horse early, checked out the visitor’s center, museum, and of course, gift shop, and started the walk at 8 AM. The walk took us through the woods for about 6km to the base of the mountain. It was muddy in areas, quite rugged, and climbs up, so sturdy boots, water, and a walking stick are recommended. Then there is about 1K up the hill to the memorial.

After a few minutes standing on what will eventually be his outstretched arm, we headed back down the mountain. The return trip is about 2K, and takes a more direct route along the construction roads. We finished the whole walk in about 2 ½ hours.

After we left Crazy Horse, we headed down to Colorado, by way of Wyoming. Unfortunately, we did not have time to visit Devil’s Tower, but instead headed straight down the highway to Colorado Springs. Wyoming poured heavy rains on us for almost the whole portion in that state!



We stayed in Colorado Springs for two nights, so we had a day and a half to spend. Monday night, we saw the Manitou Cliff Dwellings, and walked a little bit in Garden of the Gods. In the morning, we did a Volksmarch at Garden of the Gods, and went to the top of Pikes Peak on the Pikes Peak Cog Railway. The next day we headed down to Cortez, where the Mesa Verde National Park is located. Here there are many cliff dwellings to see, which are much more impressive than Manitou Springs. We next went to Durango and rode the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. That was a great ride on a vintage train pulled by an old coal-powered steam locomotive through beautiful mountains and valleys.

The Crazy Horse memorial walk is held twice a year, the first weekend of June and the last weekend of September. I hope everyone gets a chance to see this memorial up close like we did!



Indie and Martin at Walker Ranch 3/14/15

The following article was originally published in the February-March 2014 issue of *The American Wanderer* newspaper:

My faithful Canine Walking Partner, Indie

By Martin Callahan

My German Shepherd Pit-bull mix, Missy, had been my Volksmarch

walking partner for years, and she passed away in 2003. I then started taking my mother’s miniature poodle, Frosty, on volksmarches, but he turned out to be a sticker burr magnet and I would often end up carrying him to avoid the stickers.

The Selma Pathfinders had a walk in Helena, Texas on November 29, 2003, and the start point was at the collection of old buildings that includes the old 1873 courthouse which is the Karnes County Museum. After completing the walk, Phyllis Eagan, who had organized the walk, told me that the person in charge of the museum was looking for a home for the young, black dog that was abandoned in the town and was living at the museum compound.

Helena was practically a ghost town and had no animal control facility, and at the time I didn’t know that the dog was going to be euthanized if someone didn’t adopt him. I decided to take him with me and he promptly threw-up in the back of my van. When I got him home I gave him a bath and he clawed me in a panic to get out of the water. When I took him to the vet he told me he was about 6 months old and appeared to be a Lab and Chow mix. I then began taking him on walks but he would get so excited that he would leap on me while I was trying to drive. I thought perhaps obedience training might help so I took him to obedience school at the Rob Cary Pet Resort. Somehow he managed to pass, though he definitely wasn’t the class valedictorian. One of the instructors suggested I purchase a carrier for him which I put in the rear of the van. I had trouble getting him into it, but over time he would jump into it by himself. He stayed calm in the carrier, making driving much safer. He would start crying with excitement when I would slow down as he thought I had finally arrived at the walk start point, though sometimes a red light would give him a false alarm.

Over time he became well-known to the local Volksmarching community and even to volksmarchers from out of town, through the articles I wrote for *The American Wanderer* where his picture appeared often. On many occasions total strangers would recognize him but not know who I was.

Indie is always friendly to other walkers on the trail and loves children, though he doesn't care much for cats. You can always tell how tired he is on a walk by his tail. When he first starts out his tail sticks up and curves like a chow, but as he gets tired it droops down.

I take Indie with me on just about every walk event I do, and even on canoe events that have taken place at Bear Creek near Hunt, Texas. On his first canoe event he was scared and clung to me at the end of the route, putting all the weight in the back and causing the prow to stick up in the air. The next two years he lost his fear and even looked around enjoying the scenery as I rowed the canoe.

During the hot months of summer I put a Chilly Pup Cool Vest on Indie to help keep him cool as his thick, black fur is probably not the best coat to wear in Texas heat. In rainy weather I have an orange rain coat for him to wear. No matter what the weather is, he perseveres and walks well. I have many friends that I walk with, but Indie is the only one that I can always depend on no matter what day, time or weather.

After a decade of walking, Indie is currently in rehab as he apparently has some leg problems that appeared after the Wurstfest Walk on November 2. His vet says he needs to recover before he can go on anymore long volksmarches, so I have just been taking him for walks around home.

Since then I have been taking Indie's friend, Dolly, with me on volksmarches. She is a black Chow that I rescued in our neighborhood recently and she looks similar enough to Indie that people mistake her for him sometimes. Hopefully Indie will be back on the trail soon, so if you see us walking on the trail in Texas be sure to say hello and if you have the time, come pet Indie as he loves the attention.



P.S. Indie's last Volksmarch was the Walker Ranch Park Walk in San Antonio on 14 March 2015 and he passed away on 7 July 2015 after a long struggle with numerous medical problems.



Texas Volkssport Association Meeting in Irving, TX

"Hotter Than Hell" Walk Events

Friday/31 July:

Featured YRE #Y1148, Fort Worth – Downtown. 10km/5km.

Starting Point 2015, See page 548.

Starting Point: Sheraton-Fort Worth Hotel, 1701 Commerce, 76102.

Registration: 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

Group walk begins at 6:00 PM.

Saturday/1 August:

Traditional Walk SW15/101882, Irving, Texas. 10km/5km.

See [www.ava.org/Events/Search/Events/Texas/Traditional Events Only](http://www.ava.org/Events/Search/Events/Texas/Traditional%20Events%20Only).

Starting Point: South Irving Library Parking Lot, 601 Schulze DR, Irving, TX 75060.

Registration: 7:00 AM – 11:00 AM.

Saturday/1 August:

Featured YRE #Y1435, Plano – Arbor Hills Nature Preserve. 10km/5km.

Starting Point 2015, See page 565.

Starting Point: Covered Pavilion. Park is adjacent to Fire Station #9, 6625 W. Parker, Plano, TX 75093.

Registration: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

Sunday/2 August:

Featured YRE #Y1923, Dallas – Cedar Ridge Preserve. 10km/5km.

Starting Point 2015, See page 545.

Starting Point: 7171 Mountain Creek PKWY 75249

Registration: 7:00 AM – 7:30 AM.

Social Activity:

Potluck Picnic at Arbor Hills Nature Preserve.

Everyone is invited for Food, Fun, Friendship, and an Evening Walk.

The picnic begins after the business meeting ends, about 5:00 PM.

TVA Business Meeting:

South Irving Library Meeting Room
601 Schulze DR, Irving, TX 75060.
Credentialing Begins at 12:30 PM/Meeting Begins at 1:00 PM

TVA Officers:

Heinz Johnson, President

Helen Hull, First Vice President

John Bohnert, Second Vice President

Susan Fine, Secretary; Patricia Gunter, Treasurer



2015 Summer Sunrise YREs & Traditional Walks for Volkssport Clubs of SW TX

Provided by Joanne Forinash, SWRD

August:

Sat. 8/1 – TVA – Irving morning walk

Sat. 8/1 – TVA – Plano night walk

Sun. 8/2 – TVA – Dallas guided walk

Sat. 8/8 – Taco Cabana-Bitters & 281, traditional walk

Sat. 8/15 – Austin – YRE's Choice:

Capital

Fairview Park

Lady Bird Lake

Bouldin Creek

Sat. 8/22 – Kerrville YRE's Choice:

Downtown walk

Residential walk

Schreiner University walk

Sat. 8/29 – Shiner YRE #Y0559

WTS - E. Austin Walnut Creek – Bike 3



Coming Texas Traditional Events:

8/1/2015 - 8/1/2015 - Walk

Event Number: 101882 10km/5km

Start: South Irving Library

Event City: Irving - South Irving Library

Host Club: Star Trekkers of Irving

Event Website: www.startrekkers.org

More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)

Write for more information to:

805 Glenn Drive

Euless, Tx 76039

Contact: Gary Silkworth, (817) 571 - 9786

E-Mail: gsilkworth@msn.com

Club Website: www.startrekkers.org

8/8/2015 - 8/8/2015 - Walk

Event Number: 101654 10 km / 5 km

Start: Taco Cabana Bitters Rd and US 281

Event City: San Antonio - August Summer Sunrise

Host Club: Randolph Roadrunners

Event Website: randolphroadrunners.info

More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)

Write for more information to:

11906 Pepperidge Cove

San Antonio, Tx 78213

Contact: Ellen Ott, (210) 723 - 8574

E-Mail: ellenott@sbcglobal.net

Club Website:

www.randolphroadrunners.info

8/29/2015 - 8/29/2015 - Guided Bike

Event Number: 101779 13km/25km

Start: Govalle Park

Event City: Austin - SoTex Traveling Bike #3

Host Club: Whatever of Texas Sporting Club

Event Website: http://faculty.sulross.edu/cbaulch/index_files/Page615.htm

More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)

Write for more information to:

21 Lowe, Quemado, TX 78877

Contact: Clay Baulch, (210) 204 - 9301

E-Mail: btcotx@gmail.com

King William/Beethoven Walk – May 15, 2015



Start point at Beethoven Mannerchor Halle



Herb Laing, Pat Gunter and Wiley Smith working the registration table.



The band at the Maifest at the Beethoven Mannerchor und Garten.



Suzanne Markgraf (left) and Audrey Vertucci stop for a picture on St. Mary's St. after leaving the first check point.



Volkssporters on the left follow the trail past Roosevelt Park on the way to the first check point.



303 King William which is known as the Stevens/James House and was built in 1881 of native limestone

**All event photos, courtesy of Martin Callahan.*

RANDOLPH ROADRUNNERS

PO Box 2744

Universal City TX 78148-1744

RANDOLPH ROADRUNNERS APPLICATION

PO Box 2744, Universal City TX 78148-1744

Please check applicable box (es):

Renewal

New Member

Family member(s) included (see instructions below) DATE _____

Name _____

NEW MEMBER FEE: \$4.00 for 1 year

\$10.00 for three years

Address _____

This fee applies to the primary member. Additional family members require a \$2.00 fee per individual.

Apt No. _____

RENEWAL FEE: \$4.00 for one year

\$10.00 for three years

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

This renewal fee includes each family member who paid \$2.00 with the original application.

Telephone number _____

If the \$2.00 fee was not paid with the original application, add family members now by including \$2.00 for each person.

E-mail address _____

Lifetime membership for (1) one person is available for a \$30 fee.

Family members _____

AVA Volkssport Associate Yes No

Amount submitted \$ _____

Eager to serve as club officer _____ or committee chair _____