



Volume 2007 No. 12
Next Meeting January 8, 2008
7:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral
Restaurant, Universal City
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 210-525-8574
Vice President
Totsy Miller 210-648-0637
Treasurer
Pat Gunter 210-479-0805
Secretary
Suzanne Markgraf 210-651-9378

Committee Chairs

Membership
Nancy Paulson 210-658-8324
Programs
Ellen Ott 210-525-8574
Publicity
Alan & Gloria Mick 210-659-5402
Sales
Joanne Forinash 210-493-8543
Webmaster
Randy Baker 210-369-9538
Newsletter
Audrey Vertucci – AudreyVe@aol.com
210-496-2197
Year-round Events, Boerne
Larry Cook 210-525-8900
Year-round Events, Universal City
Carlen Forinash 210-493-8543
Year-round Events, San Antonio
Tony Paulson 210-658-8324

rrvc44@yahoo.com
Club Website
[www.geocities.com/
randolphroadrunners/](http://www.geocities.com/randolphroadrunners/)

Event Information
1-800-830-WALK
TVA Website
<http://walktexas.org/>
European AVA Liaison
Hans-Dieter Fuhr
Wiesbaden, Germany
Tel. & Fax 0611 / 66894
Hans-D.Fuhr@t-online.de

Renewal Time

The following membership renewals are currently due:
Elaine Talarski, Frankie Sorrell, Lionel Dry, Gus Glaser, Diana & David Padden, Mary Quandt, Lynda & Bill Allanach, Coleen McLaughlin, Wanda Blaine, Bonnie Caruso, Judy Castleberry, Janie Short,

Please send in your renewal fees now. We value your membership. To renew your membership, fill out a renewal application attached or print one from the following website address: www.geocities.com/RandolphRoadrunners/membership.html and send it with your fees to Nancy Paulson c/o the club address.

Notes from the Pres.

The worker's walk for the Boerne Christmas event is scheduled for Friday, November 30th at 8:30 a.m. The Boerne walk starts at 8 a.m. at the St. John's Lutheran Church. The coffee pot will be on.

Don't forget December 4th at Quicksands Café and Bakery (across from the Embassy Theater). The worker's walk starts at 5 p.m. and the RR Christmas party starts at 7 p.m. Bring a \$15 or less gift for the Chinese auction.

December 8th is the Bluff View/Camino real neighborhood evening walk. Start time is 3 – 5 p.m. at Quicksands Café and Bakery.

We need workers for the Trinity University walk. Call Larry Cook at 566-5603 to volunteer.

Congratulations to Randy Baker on his recent retirement from the Air Force.

All our thoughts and prayers are with RR member, Helen Gitchell, who recently suffered a stroke.

Want to help out East Terrell Hills Elementary School? Save used mobile

phones, Betty Crocker coupons, children's books and can tabs. Give to Ellen Ott.



"Let's Say Thanks" Program

To take advantage of this special opportunity, go to: www.letsaythanks.com and follow the directions to send postcard greetings to our service people overseas.

The mission of Let's Say Thanks is to provide a way for individuals across the country to recognize U.S. troops stationed overseas. By submitting a message through this site you have the opportunity to send a free personalized postcard greeting to deployed servicemen and women. The postcards, depicting patriotic scenes and hometown images, were selected from a pool of entries from children across the country.

All you have to do is click on your favorite design and either select the message that best expresses your sentiment or draft a personal note. The postcards are then printed on the Xerox iGen3[®] Digital Production Press and mailed in care packages by the military support organization, [Give2TheTroops[®]](http://Give2TheTroops.com).



Xerox is committed to helping people across the nation express their gratitude to our troops overseas. The launch of this program is aimed at reminding our troops how much Americans appreciate their service.



Coming Texas Events:

12/1/2007 - 12/1/2007 - Walk
Event Number: 77640 5K & 10K
Start: St. John's Lutheran Church
Event City: Boerne
Host Club: Randolph Roadrunners
Event Website:
www.geocities.com/randolphroadrunners/
More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)
Write for more information to:
1726 Fawn Crest
San Antonio, TX 78248
Contact: Joanne Forinash, (210) 493 - 8543
E-Mail: sjforinash@yahoo.com
Club Website:
www.geocities.com/randolphroadrunners/

12/8/2007 - 12/8/2007 - Walk
Event Number: 77446 5K & 10K
Start: Quicksands Cafe and Bakery
502 Embassy Oaks, Suite 109, San Antonio, TX 78216 (Across from Embassy Theater – Hwy 281 & Bitters Rd.)
Event City: San Antonio
Host Club: Randolph Roadrunners
Event Website:
www.geocities.com/randolphroadrunners/
More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)
Write for more information to:
11906 Pepperidge Cove
San Antonio, TX 78213
Contact: Ellen Ott, (210) 525 - 8574
E-Mail: ellenott@sbcglobal.net

Club Website:

www.geocities.com/randolphroadrunners/

12/8/2007 - 12/8/2007 - Walk
Event Number: 78057 10K
Start: Houston Arboretum and Nature Center
Event City: Houston
Host Club: Houston Happy Hikers
Event Website:
houstonhappyhikers.org
More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)
Write for more information to:
P.O. Box 101
Orchard, TX 77464
Contact: Catherine Kellner, (979) 478 - 6203
E-Mail: hphpresident@houstonhappyhikers.org

Club Website:

www.houstonhappyhikers.org/

12/31/2007 - 12/31/2007 - Walk
Event Number: 79552 10K
Start: St. Joseph Halle
Event City: Fredericksburg
Host Club: Texas Volkssport Assn.
Event Website:
More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)
Write for more information to:
1801 Lavaca Street Apt 6G
Austin, TX 78701-1306
Contact: Charles Wortz, (512) 479 - 0741
E-Mail: cwortz@texas.net
Club Website: walktexas.org

1/1/2008 - 1/1/2008 - Walk
Event Number: 79553 10K
Start: St. Joseph Halle
Event City: Fredericksburg
Host Club: Texas Volkssport Assn.
Event Website:
More Details: [Click here for directions, ratings, etc.](#)
Write for more information to:
1801 Lavaca Street Apt 6G
Austin, TX 78701-1306
Contact: Charles Wortz, (512) 479-0741
E-Mail: cwortz@texas.net
Club Website: walktexas.org

Goodsearch

Remember to go to www.Goodsearch.com and select AVA . Each search earns AVA a penny. So far this year, your searches have put over \$80.00 in the AVA bank. They also have a new service,

www.goodshop.com. A percentage of any purchase you make from stores such as Target, GAP, Best Buy and Petsmart will come to AVA. Check it out!



Carpooling to Events-

If anyone is interested in carpooling to any of the walks or meetings, please contact David Toth, 521-8684, or E-mail dntoth@scbglobal.net. It's never too early to start planning for the Dallas AVA convention in 2009!

December 2007 – AVA Checkpoint Info.

TAW Deadline

The deadline for the February, 2008 issue of *The American Wanderer* is December 24. All articles and photographs should be submitted directly to: The American Wanderer, Laurel Parrott, Editor, 3526 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412, email TAW@bhi.com Be sure to include "TAW" in the subject line of the email.

IRS Q&A

By Bob Wright

Have a question or comments? Contact Bob at 43224 Cardston Pl, Leesburg, VA 20176 or rwright2@jhu.edu
Disclaimer: Bob is not a tax professional or lawyer. He volunteers his time to research and write this column, offering general guidance and advice. AVA members always should seek professional help when dealing with tax-related matters.

As a public charity, what does my club need to know?

Believe it or not, the IRS considers your club a public charity. The IRS publishes a lot of useful information

on its website at www.irs.gov/charities/index.html. I recommend you check it out. There is a figure showing the life cycle of a public charity. It expands to discuss your responsibilities regarding annual filings and ongoing compliance. It references the key IRS publications with which your club should be familiar (e.g., 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, and 4221-pc, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities)—if you don't have copies, use the links to download them. The site also links to free on-line training on topics very pertinent to your operations: maintaining your tax-exempt status, unrelated business income, and disclosures. You will find information on the new e-Postcard should you want to delve into that.

(My recommendation: leave it to Jackie, Candy, and me to keep you posted. The information is still in its formative stage!) Want to keep apprised on issues pertaining to public charities? You may register for the IRS' free on-line EO (exempt organization) newsletter. It's one of my resources for following information of interest to AVA clubs.

The IRS is doing a good job posting pertinent information to its website. Take full advantage; it will steer you straight.

Call for Agenda Items

Have any items you would like the NEC to consider at their next meeting? Submit agenda items for the March, 2008 NEC meeting to your Regional Director by January 5, 2008.

March 1, 2008 NEC Meeting

This meeting will be held at the Hotel Harrington, 11th & E Streets, NW, Washington, D.C.

Volunteering for AVA

By Curt Myron, AVA President

This year your AVA leadership will focus its efforts on growing AVA. I believe your new officers are very committed people, but they can't cause growth by themselves. You will have to help as well. One way you can help is to volunteer to work

on an AVA Committee. Everyone thinks AVA should attract younger people, publicize AVA and give club training but those AVA Committees can't help much with only one or two members. Volunteering is sometimes a bit scary because you don't know what you are getting into. I'll try to make it easier to volunteer by asking each of the committee Chairs to design specific tasks based on your desires so that you can know how much of your time and effort is required. But you must start the process by expressing your interest. Descriptions of committees are at www.ava.org. Click on the MEMBERSHIP button, then on AVA COMMITTEES. Then contact the committee chair in your area of interest. Or contact me: president@ava.org

Clubs and E-Commerce Orders

Just a reminder that all clubs must have a unique email address to use the e-commerce system. The person ordering for your club cannot use their personal email address if they are also in the system as a Volkssports Associate member. Call us at 210-659-2112 or email Candy at candy@ava.org with the email address you would like to use.

Youth Program Email Postings

Nancy Wittenberg, AVA Youth Coordinator, is using the Volkssport Yahoo group to communicate about AVA Youth Programs. She would like to hear about clubs' experiences working with youth groups: what's working and what's not; ideas about working with youth groups, including Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and others; how you've worked with schools to include volkssports or establish volkssport clubs in schools and any other topics concerning the AVA Youth Programs. We can use this group to give all of us ideas about including youth in our walks. To join this group click on: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/volkssport/> and click on "Join This Group". To send a message to the group, send to: volkssport@yahoogroups.com and

please put "AVA Youth Programs" in the subject line. You can always communicate directly with Nancy through avayouth@ava.org

New Walker Packets and 2008

If you have New Walker Packets in your club stock, please look through them and pull out the inserts for the 2007 Starting Point. Call Linda at 210-659-2112 to request new replacements. You may also email her at: Linda@ava.org If you are in a hurry because you have an event coming up, you can also go to the AVA web page and print the order blank from there. Scroll down on the home page and there is a link.

Customized Business Cards

Would your club be interested in having the business cards that AVA carries for clubs personalized? We can get the shells over printed with your club's information for \$22.36 for 500. This is just under consideration right now so please email avahq@ava.org so we can get an idea if enough clubs would be interested.

Ordering Specialty Items for Christmas?

Remember to give us three weeks. We are one person departments and when people are out sick or on vacation, things can backlog. It usually won't take that long.

Checkpoint

Remember to share the knowledge and bring the Checkpoint to club meetings so that it can be read by others. Ensure that all of your officers and members know that it is also posted on the AVA web page.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



