



Official Newsletter of the RANDOLPH ROADRUNNERS (AVA44)

Volume 2024 – June, 2024 No. 6
Next Meeting – 6/12/2024

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 jbives@texas.net

Treasurer:

Pat Gunter 210-479-0805

Secretary:

Jill Troyer 830-237-6230

Committee Chairs

Membership:

Suzanne Markgraf 210-710-4842

Publicity:

Susan Alton daxkitten@aol.com

SALES: - OPEN-

Webmaster:

Randy Baker Randy826@gmail.com

Newsletter:

Audrey Vertucci – AudreyVe@gmail.com
210-861-5588

Year-round Events: Boerne

Pat Gunter 210-479-0805

Year-round Events: DeZavala Daily Bread, Broadway Daily Bread, Leon Creek, Salado-1604, Land Bridge at Hardberger Park, CrownRidge, Friedrich Park.

Ellen Ott 210-723-8574

Year-round Events: Eisenhower Park

Susan Medlin 210-325-3523

Year-round Events: Schertz

Patricia Heller paheller001@gmail.com

Club Website:

www.randolphroadrunners.info

AVA Website: www.ava.org

TVA Website: www.walktexas.org

TVA President: Dave Roberts

Deputy SW Region: Susan Medlin

SWRD: Andy Thomas

Renewal Time

The following membership renewals are currently due:

March 1: Wayne Cume.

April 1: Jacqueline Lytle, Kathy Guzman, Debra Frazier and Patsy Lozano.

May 1: Stephen & Jacqueline Ackley, and Brenda Jackson.

June 1: Janice Connor, Dorothy Creswell, and William Hamilton.

July 1: Sue Bigbee, Patricia Gunter, Briana Martinez and Dorian Rosales

August 1: Patricia V. Lozano

To renew your RR membership, fill out the attached application or print it off our website:

www.RandolphRoadrunners.info and send it with \$4 for 1 year or \$10 for 3 years, to Suzanne Markgraf c/o: RR, PO Box 2744, Universal City, TX 78148. Lifetime Memberships are available for \$30 per person.

The next RR club meeting will be held June 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Universal City Public Library, 100 Northview Drive, Universal City, TX 78148. No meetings will be held in July and August. The RR newsletter will not be published in July.



From the Desk of the Pres--

First Friday: The First Friday walk is held each month starting at the AVA headquarters, 1008 S. Alamo Street, San Antonio, TX 78210. **Friday, June 7, 2024 is the next scheduled free 5K walk.** From 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. you can

register for the walk. *Questions? Call Ellen 210-723-8574*

Upcoming RR Events:

June 1 Leon Creek Greenbelt walk is **cancelled** due to on-going construction in the area.

July 13 - Taco Cabana SunRise at 1604 & Nacogdoches- Start will be open 6:15-8:15 a.m.

August 10 - Taco Cabana SunRise- Location still to be determined.

September 21 - will be switched to Southside Lions Park.

November 29 – Pearsall Park.

December 14 – Boerne Christmas Walk will be the last RR sponsored walk before the clubs merging. A pancake and sausage breakfast will be offered and a ceremony to celebrate merging the clubs is in the planning.



Sneakers/Tennis shoe

fundraiser: Ellen is still collecting gently used sneakers or tennis shoes for the AVA fundraiser Big Give. Bring to any RR meeting or walk event.



April 27, 2024 King William Parade Event

From dawn to dusk, on the front lawn at the AVA office, our Ellen sold \$294 worth of medals and patches at the Medal Mania table during the 27 April, King William parade for the benefit of the AVA!!

Please contact Ellen if you would like to donate any medals, patches, steins or plates for further sales opportunities. (We love it!)



**Accounting Specialist –
Marian Devaul
Starting Point Books**

We have a limited number of 2024 Starting Point books available for sale at a cost of \$15 plus shipping and handling. Don't miss the opportunity to buy this year's book. To purchase please email marian@ava.org, or call 210-659-2112.

This bound 7-1/2" x 9" publication is a collection of sanctioned walking, bicycling, swimming, hiking, cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, and boating activities. It is your comprehensive guide to 1,966 self-guided events throughout the United States. The book includes directions to the events, trail ratings, hours of operation and whether an award is offered. [Click here for Order Form.](#)



**TEXAS VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
2024 VOLKSSPORTING CLUBS
OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS
CALENDAR**

Note: This is **NOT** an official document. Always verify events/dates on ava.org or with the applicable club.

June:

- SAT/01 – RRR, Leon Creek CANCELED (Y)
- SAT/8 – VVF, Founders' Day, Marktplatz (T)
- SAT/15 – HCV, Hill Country Summer time Walk, Comfort. (Y)
- SAT/22 – NBW, San Marcos (2-Y)
- SAT/29 – SAP, TBD (Y)

July:

- SAT/06 – VVF, LBJ Walks, Stonewall (Y)
- SAT/13 – RRR, Taco Cabana (T)

Club Abbreviations

- ETT - East Texas Trekkers
- HCV – Hill Country Volkssportverein
- RRR – Randolph Roadrunners
- SAP – San Antonio Pathfinders
- TTR – Texas Trail Roundup
- TXW – Texas Wanderers
- VVF – Volkssportverein Friedrichsburg
- DTI – Dallas Trekkers

**Texas
Traditional Events for
June & July, 2024: (Please
check the AVA website for any
changes or cancellations)**

Jun 8th, 2024 for 1 day. 5k-10k
SN: 126894 - 2024

Fredericksburg, TX -

Founders Day Traditional Walk
This walk honors the first walk in the USA. Although the original route is no longer suitable for walking, the same start point is used at: 126 N. Main Street. The Start is at the Kinder Halle in the northwest corner of the Marktplatz square (Crockett and Austin)
Check AVA.org for all walk information.

Jun 8th, 2024 for 1-day

Jacksonville, TX -

Tomato Festival - Traditional Walk
SN: 126905 – 2024
Start: 921 S Jackson (US-69)
Enjoy the Jacksonville Tomato Festival with many tomato products, craft booths, and the Tomato Bowl, home of the Jacksonville Indians since 1940.
Check AVA.org for all walk information.

July 13th 2024 for 1-day

**San Antonio, TX - Taco Cabana Sun
Rise Walk**

SN: 126950 - 2024
Start: 6:15 to 8:15 a.m. at Taco Cabana, 6826 N. Loop 1604 E. San Antonio 78247
The 5k will go along a city sidewalk to Comanche Lookout Park. The 10k will include the park plus a quiet neighborhood. Comanche Lookout Park is a 96-acre public park owned city of San Antonio. **Check AVA.org for all walk information.**



Total Eclipse Walk 8 April



Kathy Swoboda, Pat Gunter, Andy Thomas and Ellen Ott setting up the start/finish for the Total Eclipse Walk at Leon Creek Greenway Marquis Trailhead, which is right before the exit to the Rim Shopping Center.



Following the paved greenway trail under the I-10 overpass.



L to R, Leslie Stone, Catherine Kellner, Wayne Henry, Gerry Kamicka, Marta & Reuben Knape, Andy Thomas, Kathy Swoboda, Ellen Ott, Pat Gunter and Linda Goodman all look up in the sky for a chance to see the eclipse in between the clouds.



L to R, Shirley Conrad, Reuben and Marta Knape, Linda Goodman, Pat Gunter, Ellen Ott (partially visible behind Pat), Catherine Kellner, Andy Thomas and Martin Callahan (far right) experience the near total darkness during the total eclipse

Tales from the Trails

By: John Ives

New Mexico Trip, 2024

Good day one and all. My wife and I along with a friend (Cindy) recently took ten days to travel from San Antonio through various parts of New Mexico. In our case we did far more sightseeing with several AVA walks thrown in. Across the state there are currently 35 AVA sanctioned walks.

Our first day took us out IH-10 through west Texas where we lunched in Iraan, Texas. At one time there was a county walk which Susan and I took an opportunity to visit a number of years ago. An interesting note, this was the 4th of July and we walked 5 kilometers when a downpour (with lots of lightning and thunder) took us off the trail and back to our car.

From Wikipedia: The city's name is an amalgamation of the first names of Ira and Ann Yates, owners of the ranch land upon which the town was built. Iraan was an oil boom town, and it developed quickly after the discovery of the gigantic Yates Oil Field, which is adjacent to the town on the southwest side. The oil field was discovered in 1926, and the first buildings in town were basic housing and infrastructure for workers on the field. One of Iraan's most famous residents was V.T. Hamlin, the creator of the comic strip Alley Oop.

From Iraan, we continued west and north to Wink, Texas. From Wikipedia: Wink was a temporary childhood home to singer and songwriter Roy Orbison, although he was born in Vernon, Texas. We visited the Roy Orbison Museum, where one must make an appointment prior to visiting. There were no sanctioned AVA walks in Wink.

We continued our journey to Carlsbad and spent our first travel night on the road. We visited Carlsbad Caverns in the morning. Although no sanctioned AVA walk, we did take the King's Palace tour (information provided by the National Parks Department), a 1.5-hour walk through four highly decorated chambers will take you into the deepest portion of the cavern open to the public, 830 feet (253 m) beneath

the desert surface. Although not as difficult as the Natural Entrance Trail, this one-mile (1.6 km) tour does require additional descending, and at the end, walking up a very steep hill.

Upon leaving Carlsbad we headed to Albuquerque and spent several days/nights there. Although there are six separate walks in Albuquerque, probably the best of them is the Old Town (Downtown) starting at the Hotel Albuquerque. One strolls through the charming Old Town, go past museums and through historic residential neighborhoods to the downtown. Enjoy architecturally significant buildings and one of the first Hilton Hotels in the world. Walk segments of Historic Route 66 -- the "Mother Road" from Chicago to Los Angeles; the El Camino Real -- the Royal Road from Mexico City to Santa Fe. A high point was visiting the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center and having lunch at the Harvest Cafe.

Upon leaving Albuquerque we drove through some magnificent countryside. It had been snowing and we had a fairly decent drive to Santa Fe (New Mexico state capital). One of America's oldest and most unique capital cities with a rich Native American, Spanish and pioneer history. Fascinating architecture, wonderful art galleries and native artisans await you. Walk through the NM State Capital when open and other historic sites including the Bataan Veterans Memorial, the famous Canyon Road with its art galleries; and St. Francis Cathedral. Also, there is a tour of the Hotel La Fonda and Story Teller Railway tour, as your time permits. Again, one must register for the hotel tour presented one morning a week event with the Railway Tour having more options during the week.

From Santa Fe we traveled to Los Alamos and the walk includes stunning views of the Jemez and Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Visit the free Bradbury Science Museum of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The 10k crosses a spectacular bridge over to the (LANL). The walk is above 7,300 feet. Los Alamos is one of three sites that were part of the Manhattan District and was founded in 1943. The other two are in TN and WA. Filming

locations are on the walk from the recent movie Oppenheimer, including his residence during WWII. From Los Alamos we traveled to Taos which took a little over one hour, again through some spectacular scenery.

While in Taos we visited the Taos Pueblo and were fortunate to take a tour led by one the Native American residents. From there we went to Rio Grande Gorge Bridge (From Wikipedia: Roughly 600 feet (180 m) above the Rio Grande, it is the tenth highest bridge in the United States) and provides a great view. Also, we visited the Millicent Rogers Museum of Native American Art. We left Taos and headed south to Roswell.

Roswell's AVA walk is famous for the Roswell UFO incident which was named after the town, though the crash site of the alleged UFO was some 75 miles from Roswell. The investigation and debris recovery was handled by the local Roswell Army Air Field. In the 1930s, Roswell was a site for much of Robert H. Goddard's early rocketry work. The Roswell Museum and Art Center maintains an exhibit that includes a recreation of Goddard's rocket engine development workshop. The walk passes the historic downtown area, museums, churches, the New Mexico Military Academy, city parks, and other historic buildings. Information about "The Roswell Incident" can be found on Wikipedia at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roswell_incident.

As you can read, this was a great trip with lots to see and do. In the preceding paragraphs, I just touched on some of the various things for visitors to do. I should mention that Albuquerque is 5,312 feet above sea level (1,619 meters), the elevation continues to climb to 6,969 feet above sea level (2,124 meters). I provided this information to ensure that all who wish to go to these various sites or walk the many AVA sanctioned trails or other state and Federal trails are aware of these elevations. Some of the entries above have liberally used information provided via AVA sanctioned events, Wikipedia, state and Federal parks.

King William Parade 4/27/24



A Special Thanks to all club officers, club members, employees and family members who participated in the King William parade.



It was a great marketing opportunity for the AVA! We had over two hundred visitors! Thanks to John Ives for keeping the office lawn beautiful and to Ellen Ott for hosting Medal Mania!



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.

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

RENEWAL FEE: \$4.00 for one year
\$10.00 for three years

Telephone number _____

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

E-mail address _____

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

Family members _____

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

Amount submitted \$ _____

AVA Volkssport Associate Yes No

Eager to serve as club officer _____ or committee chair _____