



Official Newsletter of the RANDOLPH ROADRUNNERS (AVA44)

Volume 2021 – September 2021 No. 9
Next Meeting – October 21, 2021
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

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Membership:

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Publicity:

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

Year-round Events: Boerne

Pat Gunter 210-479-0805

**Year-round Events: DeZavala Daily Bread,
Broadway Daily Bread & Leon Creek**

Ellen Ott 210-723-8574

**Year-round Events: Crownridge, Friedrich
Park, Eisenhower Park**

Susan Medlin 210-325-3523

Year-round Events: Schertz

Caryl Swann 210-842-4128

Club Website

www.randolphroadrunners.info

AVA Website

www.ava.org

TVA Website

www.walktexas.org

TVA President-Deputy SW Region

Susan Medlin 210-325-3523

sueammed@aol.com

Renewal Time

The following membership renewals are currently due:

The Ellison Family, Brenda Dever-Armstrong, Dorothy Creswell, Raul & Susan Soto, Janice Connor, William Hamilton, Joan Lyman, Linda Canas, Laurie Stiteler, Patricia Gunter and Gregory Young. 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 Caryl Swann c/o: RR, PO Box 2744, Universal City, TX 78148.

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



Welcome New Member!

Erin Lunsford San Antonio

RR Club Meetings:

We meet at 6:30 P.M. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at: Universal City Library, 100 Northview Drive, Universal City, TX 78148.

**First in-person meeting
September 16 Universal City
Library Activity Room.**

Taco Cabana Walk 8/14/21

A special "thank you" to the folks who worked the Taco Cabana StoneOak walk with me: Pat Gunter, John Ives and Ted Cieslak.

There were 44 brave souls who braved the heat and humidity. When a walker comes back to the start point carrying 3 empty water bottles, you know it's humid!

Much Thanks to all.

Ellen 🐾

From the Desk of the Pres--

The first in-person meeting for the RR's in over a year will be on 16 September at the Universal City Library at 6:30 pm

in their Activity Room. (Not the usual room we have met in.) There's a full agenda so please attend to help the club make plans for the next year. A full report on the 2021 Biennial Convention will be given.

The following RR events are scheduled for 2021:

18 Sept. Gonzales
9 October Marquis Trail Head-Rim
26 Nov. Southside Lions Park
11 Dec. Boerne Christmas walk

Two new special programs starting January 2022

Rails to Trails
Town Halls/City Halls
Programs continuing next year:
Airports - Celebrating America's Flight
Carousels Across America
Little Free Libraries
Mayflower - 400th Anniversary
Walk Like an Olympian
Great Lakes, Great Fun, Great Fitness
Border Crossings
Walking with American Veterans
Appalachian Trail

If anyone has any questions or comments, please e-mail me at ellenott@sbcglobal.net



KUDOS to the following RR walkers as published in the TAW--

Finished level 1 and 2 of the "Walking with the American Veteran" Special Program: John White

Events:

50 events	Taylor Vertucci
350 events	Andrew Thomas
400 events	Kathy Schwencke
525 events	Darren Medlin
650 events	Audrey Vertucci
850 events	Susan Alton
1,350 events	Susan Medlin
2,700 events	Ellen Ott
3,300 events	Patricia Heller

Distance:

500k	Taylor Vertucci
4,000K	Mike Schwencke
6,000k	Audrey Vertucci
7,500k	Susan Alton
13,000k	Susan Medlin
45,000k	Patricia Heller



AMERICA'S
WALKING CLUB
ESTABLISHED 1976

CEO REPORT -

HENRY ROSALES

**COME VISIT OUR NATIONAL OFFICE
AND SEE THE AVA'S NEW WALK
MURAL!**



The AVA has a new walk mural created by visual artist Carlos Garrido. Mr. Garrido was born in Mexico where he studied graphic design and taught art history, drawing, and design. He moved to San Antonio in 2006 and has participated in 40 collective art exhibitions, 25 solo art exhibitions and 4 biennials. He donated his time to create the mural because he was inspired by our mission and how it impacts individuals from all "walks of life."



Tales

from the Trails –

**Sparta, Wisconsin - The Bicycling
Capital of America - Friday, June 25,
2021**

*By: Susan Alton (condensed version-
taken from her blog, Travel Bug)*

As we traveled on our way to the AVA Convention in Madison, Wisconsin, we continued to do pre-walks in many different places.

Pine View Campground at Fort McCoy was our resting place for two nights so we could do the Sparta, Wisconsin walk.

Sparta is known as "The Bicycling Capital of America." This designation was earned because it had the first Rails-to-Trails Program in the country. An abandoned Chicago Northwestern mainline railroad bed served as the basis for these trails. Now Sparta bike riders can connect to 101 miles of state bicycle trails. The town is bicycle crazy.



Memorial Park

Our walk started at Memorial Park which boasts picnic pavilions, baseball fields, a golf course, playground, restrooms, an aquatic park, and Perch Lake (which is stocked with largemouth bass, panfish, Northern pike, and brown and rainbow trout.

We then entered neighborhoods and passed by the VFW building, and numerous parks. There were interesting things to see on the way to the La Crosse River Trail.



LaCrosse River

It was a number of blocks before we got to the bike trail. At the entrance to the bike trail is [Speed's Bike Shop](#). He's got a great location with a captive audience. LOL. We took the Elroy-Sparta State Trail to where it hooks up with the La Crosse Trail.

In the depot, there is a visitor center, restrooms, clothing, postcards, and a map where you can put in a pin to show where you're from. Ours was the first pin in San Antonio.



Elroy-Sparta Bike Trail

The Elroy-Sparta bike trail is 32 miles long and incorporates 3 century-old railroad tunnels, and passes through a number of small towns.

Bob rode his bike 16 miles on the Elroy-Sparta trail. One tunnel is 3/4-mile long. You have to have a flashlight and walk your bike through the tunnel.



*Bob Alton at 3/4 mile tunnel at Sparta-Elroy
Bike Trail.*

From the Depot, Bob and I walked to the Ben Bikin' statue. The trail goes alongside Water Ave., one of the main thoroughfares in town.

At the Ben Bikin' Information Center, we looked at the display and "listened to" Ben Bikin' tell us about Sparta.

We also took our pics with Ben Bikin' (see photos at top of the blog). This is the checkpoint for this walk.

Next, we continued on a trail into Evans-Bosshard Park which has some nice covered bridges.



The most interesting part of the walk was the old downtown. It's in very good shape, even though all the storefronts are not rented out. What stood out to us was the intersection of Main and Court. There is so much history contained there. Each corner has a historical building and they are quite lovely.

The rest of the walk meandered through neighborhoods and past Blyton Park with its veterans' memorials. Different architectural styles were on display here.

We ended up back at the Memorial Park where we started. The gate to the football field was open because they were mowing the field and I took the opportunity to step inside and snap a couple of photos of the Spartans on our Sparta walk.



2021 VOLKSSPORTING CLUBS OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS CALENDAR – Check before you walk due to COVID-19 Published 1 August 2021

September 2021:

SAT/04 – TTR North Star Mall YRE
SAT/11 – SAP World Heritage Festival
SAT/18 – RRR Historic Gonzales
SAT/25 – CRW TBD

October 2021:

SAT/02 – (2) HCV Bandera walk & VVF Hill Country Natural Area YRE

TUE/05 to SUN/10 – WTX *Window Trail, *Blue Creek Trail, *Mule Ears Trail, *7 Spectacular Shorties (all at Big Bend)

SAT/09 – RRR Marquis Trail Head-Rim
SAT/16 – TXW YRE TBD
SAT/23 – SAP Coastal Weekend
SAT/30 & SUN/31 – HCV Waring/Fish Fry on Sunday only

To find information on the events listed here; go to ava.org, click on Events, click on Search Events, select the State (Texas), either a YRE or Traditional walk, the time period and hit Enter. Walks within the next 90 days should have additional information on the website. If not, please call the POC for more details.



The 6th annual [#worldheritagesa](https://www.worldheritagefestival.org) Festival will take place September 8-12, 2021. Registration is open for the ***Tour de las Misiones**, a one-of-a-kind walk/run/bike ride tour of the ONLY World Heritage Site in Texas! Get more info at www.worldheritagefestival.org and make plans to join us for this annual celebration of San Antonio's historic missions. Join us and the [City of San Antonio World Heritage Office](http://www.cityofsanantonio.org) to celebrate!



Texas Traditional Events for September, 2021: (Please check the AVA website for any changes or cancellations)

*9/11/2021 - 9/11/2021 - Walk
Event Number: 118992 10/5k
Start: Mission Park Pavilion, 6030 Padre Drive, San Antonio, Tx 78214
Event City: San Antonio - **Tour de las Misiones**

Host Club: San Antonio Pathfinders

Event Website:

www.worldheritagefestival.org

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

Write for more information to:

12235 White Ash St.

San Antonio, Tx 78245

Contact: Mike Schwencke, (210) 382-0367

E-Mail: mike.schwencke@outlook.com

9/18/2021 - 9/18/2021 - Walk

Event Number: 118982 5/10km

Start: 1919 Crouch

Event City: Dallas - Singing Hills

Host Club: Dallas Trekkers, Inc.

Event Website:

www.DallasTrekkers.org

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

Write for more information to:

2334 SAHARAH DR

Garland, TX 75044

Contact: Helen Hull, (972) 530-1026

E-Mail: helenthehun@yahoo.com

Club Website: www.dallastrekkers.org

9/18/2021 - 9/18/2021 - Walk

Event Number: 118893 10km/5km

Start: Old Jail house/Chamber of

Commerce

Event City: Gonzales - Historic

Gonzales

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

9/25/2021 - 9/25/2021 - Walk

Event Number: 119028 5/10k

Start: Dick Nichols Park, 8011 Beckett

Rd. Austin, TX 78749

Event City: Austin, TX.

Host Club: Colorado River Walkers

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

Write for more information to:

3109 Rogge Ln., Austin, Tx 78723

Contact: Carol Obianwu, (512) 771-9566

E-Mail:

cobianwu@utexas.edu

Club Website:

www.coloradoriverwalkers.org/

Crazy Horse Memorial

Join us September 26, 2021 for the 9th Annual Fall Volksmarch at the Crazy Horse Memorial.

The Crazy Horse Volksmarch is the most popular organized hike in the United States (15,000 walkers in a record year). This family event is sponsored by the Black Hills Chapter of the American Volkssport Association (AVA) and hosted by Crazy Horse Memorial®. Hikers follow dirt trails and gravel work roads up to the Crazy Horse Mountain Carving. The turn-around point is on the Arm of Crazy Horse directly in front of the nine-story-high face, which was completed June 3, 1998.

Hikers get an up-close view of the mountain. Work continues on the rest of what will be the largest sculpture in the world.



THE IVV HAS APPROVED OUR OFFICIAL LOGO FOR THE 2023 OLYMPIAD!

RANDOLPH ROADRUNNERS
PO Box 2744
Universal City TX 78148-1744



Full details on the Big Give will be in the September issue of the AVA Checkpoint.

OUR ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL DONOR CAMPAIGN IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Big Give is right around the corner on Thursday, September 23, 2021, now is the time to learn how to set up your own Peer to Peer page so you can become a fund raising champion for the AVA! Just visit America's Walking Club profile on the Big Give website, click on the Fund Raise button, create an account, log in, and personalize your profile. Early giving starts Thursday, September 16, 2021!

Hardberger Park Walk 5/29/21



Holly & Joe Dibrell following the trail into the park.



A view of the Skywalk from the trail to the finish.



Gayle Weinraub and Rudy walk the elevated Skywalk on the way to the Land Bridge.



Martin Callahan and Rudy next to map on the Land Bridge.

***All Walk Photos Courtesy of Martin Callahan**

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 \$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 _____