



# The Strider

Official Newsletter of the  
Sun Country Striders, Ltd.

Volume 24, Number 3

August 2006

## President's Corner

By: Elisabeth Johnson-Lewis

Your board has been very busy all summer, planning for 2007. You will find a list of walks for next year in this brochure and a list of remaining walks for 2006!

The biggest news came from the National Headquarters of the American Volkssporting Association. Beginning in 2007, they will allow 5 km walks as alternates for the Year 'Round Events. Many people have asked for this because of physical disabilities, time constraints and age. It will hopefully boost the participation of many people, young or old. The Historic Mesilla Walk, Historic Downtown Walk and Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces (formerly the Hilton as of September) will all have 5 km alternates beginning in January. The Glovers are gone walking somewhere so I can not report if Deming will add a 5 km walk. Ruthann and Bob have indicated they will send a new map and directions to us to improve and add to the 10 km Deming walk.

Our Historic Downtown walk will undergo several changes because of the construction at the downtown mall and the removal of the Pioneer Cabin on Lucero and Main. We will cut out the construction zone and add a jog to the **Jardin de Mesquite** (see photo above-right), up Spruce from the library. The historical tiles are very interesting and there are benches. You can sit and relax and enjoy the history panels. This walk will include a look at "Our Lady of Health", 1178 N. Mesquite, which is architecturally very interesting.



**Jardin de Mesquite Neighborhood Garden,  
located at the intersection of Spruce Avenue and North Tornillo Street**

## News from the AVA

**Goodsearch:** There is a new search engine out there on the web. Goodsearch ([www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)) is for charities, schools and non-profits. Instead of using Google or Yahoo, users use Goodsearch and input the name of the organization. For each search you do using Goodsearch and selecting AVA, AVA receives one penny. While that may not sound like much, 100 volkssporters doing two searches a day would net AVA \$750.00 in a year. We are already approved as one of the non-profits, so give it a try.

**Late Walkers:** All walkers must start a hosted event during posted start times. It is against AVA policy to stamp the books of "late starters" before they have completed the walk because of insurance coverage.

Finally, don't forget the Special AVA Programs. Our Mesilla walk qualifies for the Riverwalk America Program.

The Historic downtown walk qualifies

for the Railroad Heritage program and the Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces qualifies for the College Program. Do you have your Phd. yet?

Information on the special programs can be found at the AVA web site.

Randy Ranel and Robert Macklin are in charge of the September walk at Fairacres Elementary School. Hope to see you there September 9th or 10th. ■



Club President Elisabeth Johnson-Lewis and her Husband Hugh Lewis enjoy their meal at the Annual General Membership Meeting.



Sun Country Striders, Ltd., P. O. Box 6787, Las Cruces, NM 88006-6787  
A member of the American Volkssport Association (AVA) in the  
International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV)



Board of Directors

2007 Schedule

El Paso Amigo Amblers' 2006 Schedule

Elected members:

Elisabeth Johnson-Lewis, President
Phone: 505-521-7304
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Robert Macklin, Vice-President
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Position Vacant, Vice-President Trails
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Doyle Piland, Treasurer
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At-large members:

Randy Ranel, Member
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Joanne Poulos, Member
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E-mail: watch4dog@zianet.com

Hugh Lewis, Member
Phone: 505-521-1240
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Jan 13 & 14, 8:00 - 11:00 AM ... Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces (former Hilton) - Hosted Year-Round Walk.

Feb 10 & 11, 8:00 - 11:00 AM ... Peppers Supermarket, Deming, New Mexico - Hosted Year-Round Walk.

Mar 10 & 11, 8:00 - 11:00 AM ... Best Western Mesilla Valley Inn - Hosted Year-Round Walk.

Apr 14 & 15, 8:00 - 4:00 PM ... East Picacho Elementary School, Las Cruces, New Mexico walk.

May 5 & 6, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Zia Middle School, Las Cruces, New Mexico walk.

June - August, HAVE A NICE SUMMER!

Sep 15 & 16, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Alameda Elementary School, Las Cruces, NM walk.

Oct 13 & 14, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... La Llorona Park River Walk, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Nov 10 & 11, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Walk at the Nutcracker Suite in Anthony, New Mexico.

Dec 22, 5:00 PM ... Christmas Lights Guided Night Walk (5:30 - 8:00 PM), Trails West Clubhouse, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, Mesilla, New Mexico.

Our sister club in El Paso, the Amigo Amblers, hosts three Year-Round walks, but no regular weekend walks. However, they do host group walks at one of the three Year-Round walks about once each month except during the summer. Many find these walks enjoyable since you walk as a group and it allows you to chat with fellow walkers and make many friends that you wouldn't normally have met. They always gather at a nearby restaurant for lunch. Their schedule for the remainder of 2006 is as follows:

September 23, Rio Grande walk with the Start-Finish at Lowe's Super Save Discount Food Store located at 5300 Doniphan Drive. Start time is 9:00 AM in the store parking lot.

October 28, UTEP campus walk with the Start-Finish at Albertsons Grocery Store located at 3100 North Mesa. Start time is 9:00 AM at the far end of the store parking lot.

December 2, Fort Bliss walk with the Start-Finish at The Inn at Fort Bliss, located at 1744 Victory Avenue on Fort Bliss. Start time is at 9:00 AM in the lobby of the Inn.

If you would like to participate in one or all these walks, you can get more information by contacting Doyle Piland at e-mail dpiland@zianet.com or calling 505-523-7034.

The Sun Country Striders'

schedule for the remainder of 2006 and 2007:

2006

Sep 9 & 10, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Fairacres Elementary School, Las Cruces, NM walk.

Oct 14 & 15, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Fort Selden, Radium Springs, NM walk.

Nov 18 & 19, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Walk at Oñate High School, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Dec 16, 5:00 PM ... Christmas Lights Guided Night Walk (5:30 - 8:00 PM), Trails West Clubhouse, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, Mesilla, New Mexico.



At left, a view of Picacho Peak looking across the Rio Grande from the Check Point on the 10 KM trail at our May 2006 Walk. If you missed this walk, you missed seeing a lot of nice scenery around Las Cruces that most of you have never seen.

***The Strider, Official Newsletter of the Sun Country Striders, Ltd.***

Our May 2006 Weekend volksmarch at Mayfield High School was a nice return to the place of the Club's first volksmarch 24 years before. Below are some of the people and sights from the May walk.



Barbara Lyons with Jackson Clark, Gabriel Clark and Tyler Jenkins at the Start-Finish point at Mayfield High School



Gail Logan from El Paso and David Logan from Canutillo approach the Check Point for the May walk.



Richard Eckert from El Paso approaching the Check Point for the May walk.



Mark Barnett from Silver City at the Check Point for the May walk with Louis Bevacqua working at the Check Point.



← Left to right, Hugh Lewis, Elisabeth Johnson-Lewis and Joanne Poulos at the Start-Finish table at the Mayfield High School for the May walk.

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**RECOGNITION & AWARDS**

The following information is from the June/ July 2006 and August/September 2006 editions of the American Wanderer.

**IVV Event Awards**

250 Events: Mark Barnett  
250 Events: Eileen Roberts  
575 Events: Doyle Piland

**IVV Distance Awards**

17,000 KM: Walter Baker



Above, Club members enjoy their meal at the Annual General Membership meeting at the Dynasty Restaurant on May 20, 2006. Club President Elisabeth Johnson-Lewis sits at the head of the table with other club members enjoying their food.

## Annual General Membership Meeting

The Annual General Membership Meeting of the Sun Country Striders, Ltd. was held on 20 May 2006 at the Dynasty Restaurant in Las Cruces.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect Club Officers to lead the club for the next year and to enjoy a meal, as well as, visiting with fellow club members.

Everyone enjoyed seemed to enjoy, their favorite food from the diverse buffet offered by the Dynasty. In fact, some may have enjoyed far too much of our favorite food.

Then, we had to take care of serious business - elect the club officers. As most of you know, we normally don't have an abundance of members seeking elected club positions. It is more like a nomination and election of the willing. So, as a result, the incumbent officers were the only ones nominated and were unanimously elected. The position of Vice-President Trails (Trailmaster) has been vacant for several months and remains so, since no one seems to be willing to accept the position.

We do need help!! So, please consider helping out by taking on the duties of the Trailmaster!!



← Club members Bernita Stegal, left, and Amelia Davis enjoy their meal and conversation with friends at the Annual General Membership meeting at the Dynasty Restaurant on May 20, 2006.

→ Club members Louis Bevacqua, on the left, and Eileen Roberts are busy taking care of their food at the Annual General Membership meeting at the Dynasty Restaurant on May 20, 2006.



← Club members Randy and Linden Ranel enjoying the food and conversation at the Annual General Membership meeting at the Dynasty Restaurant on May 20, 2006.

→ Robert and Joy Macklin enjoy their meal at the Annual General Membership meeting at the Dynasty Restaurant on May 20, 2006, as they chat with other club members.

