



The Strider

Official Newsletter of the
Sun Country Striders, Ltd.

Volume 26, Number 2

August 2007

President's Corner

By: Derrill Rothermich

From Saturday, June 23 through Sunday, 1 July, I was in Sacramento, California for the AVA National Convention. It was the first one I had ever been to so I was really looking forward to it. During those nine days, there were a total of 12 sponsored walks. Walk locations included Folsom, Squa Valley, Lake Tahoe, Davis, Old Sacramento, Angel Island, and San Francisco. Several important things happened at the convention.

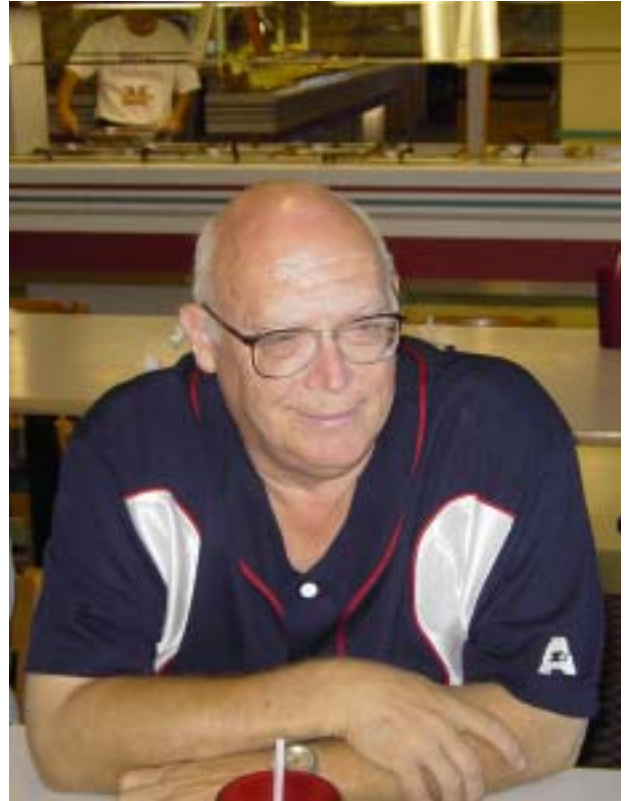
There was a meeting of the Southwest Region the day before actual convention sessions. The meeting was hosted by both incoming and outgoing, Southwest Region Directors. New Southwest Region Director is Heinz Johnson from San Antonio. Awards were presented to both individuals and clubs. The Sun Country Striders was awarded a certificate and streamer in recognition of 25 years as an active volkspport club. Doyle Piland was awarded a certificate in recognition of his long service to volksporting.

A long discussion about the next AVA convention was held. This convention in June 2009 will be held in Richardson, Texas, which is a suburb on the northeast side of Dallas. This will be unusual in that it is a cooperative venture between Southwest and South Central Regions.

The two major actions during the actual convention included elections

of national officers and choice of 2011 convention site. Curt Myron was elected the new President and John Ferguson—outgoing Southwest Director—became Vice-President. Des Moines, Iowa was chosen as the site of the 2011 convention.

Now some personal background about me. I was introduced to volksmarching in a very common way—by being stationed in Germany with the Army. In 1979, I was stationed in Hanau and got very involved in the activity. When I returned to the US, I thought my favorite pastime was over. But then I found an event of the Sun Country Striders and was glad to continue. I wanted to see a club in El Paso, so with a lot of help from the Sun Country Striders, I was able to get a club started at Ft Bliss called the Windwalkers. I served as president there until I had to return to Germany. I had been wanting, for a long time to help with the Sun Country Striders but my work schedule did not allow that. I am now officially retired and want to do all I can to help our club succeed. I hope participation increases. To encourage that, I would like to make all of our



Derrill Rothermich, newly elected President of the Sun Country Striders, listens to discussions at the General Membership Meeting on 19 May 2007

events as enjoyable as possible for participants and workers. I will be trying some ideas that I have and welcome any and all suggestions. I hope you can help by working at events and bringing friends along with you.

All the 2007 YREs have been renewed for next year and an old one in Cloudcroft started again. Hope to see you on the trail in September.



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)



Sun Country Striders' 2007 Schedule

Our 2007 and 2008 schedules below needs all your support by participation and/or volunteering to assist with various tasks necessary to put these events on. We look forward to seeing each of you at these events and hopefully working with you to expand and grow our sport.

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 Viña Winery in La Union, 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.

2008 Schedule

Jan 12 & 13, 8:00 - 11:00 AM ... Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, Las Cruces, New Mexico - Hosted Year-Round Walk.

Feb 9 & 10, 8:00 - 11:00 AM ... Peppers Supermarket, Deming, New Mexico - Hosted Year-Round Walk.

Mar 8 & 9, 8:00 - 11:00 AM ... Best Western Mesilla Valley Inn, Las Cruces, New Mexico - Hosted Year-Round Walk.

Apr 12 & 13, 8:00 - 4:00 PM ... Fairacres Elementary School, Las Cruces, New Mexico walk.

May 3 & 4, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Sonoma Rabcg Golf Club, Las Cruces, New Mexico walk.

June 7 & 8, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Chamber of Commerce, Cloudcroft, New Mexico - Hosted Year-Round Walk.

July - August, HAVE A NICE SUMMER!

Sep 13 & 14, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM walk.

Oct 18 & 19, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... La Viña Winery, La Union, New Mexico.

Nov 8 & 9, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM ... Walk at Dripping Springs Natural Area, East of Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Dec 19 (Friday), 5:00 PM ... Christmas Lights Guided Night Walk (5:30 - 8:00 PM), Trails West Clubhouse, 1450 Avenida de Mesilla, Mesilla, New Mexico.

OTHER CLUBS & WALKS

For the **Amigo Amblers** in El Paso, their group walks for 2007 are listed below:

September 29, Rio Grande walk at 9:00 AM
October 27, UTEP walk at 9:00 AM
December 8, Fort Bliss at 9:00 AM

For detailed information on these group walks, see URL <http://www.zianet.com/dpiland/AmigoAmblers/> or contact:

Mary Seagrove, President
2024 Pier Lane
El Paso, TX 79936-3868
915-595-2291
merrymary48@yahoo.com

For **The Double Eagle Hike and Bike Club** in Albuquerque;

Sat, 8 Sep, 8 am: South Rio Walk
Sun, 16 Sep, 8 am: Mile High Meander
The next two are regular weekend walks.
6-7 Oct, 7-12 am: Balloon Walk
13-14 Oct, 7-12 am: Oldtown/Bosque
Sat, 27 Oct, 8 am: North Rio Walk
Sat, 10 Nov, 10 am: Nature Center
Sun, 25 Nov, 1 PM: Foothills
Sat, 8 Dec, 10 am: UNM
Sun, 16 Dec, 1 PM: South Rio Walk

For interpatation of the event name and directions to the Start-Finish point go to <http://members.aol.com/abqdoubleeagles/> or contact:

Tom Baltes, President
10604 Royal Birkdale NE
Albuquerque NM 87111
505-298-1256
TLBaltes@aol.com

West Texas Trail Walkers

The West Texas Trail Walkers has hosted three or four event weekend walks on the Columbus Day weekend for many years. They normally rotate to various National and Texas State Parks throughout West Texas. These include Big Bend, Fort Davis, and Guadalupe National Parks, as well as Caprock Canyon and Palo Duro Canyon State Parks. And, in 2001 they

Board of Directors

Elected members:

Derrill Rothermich, President
Phone: 915-821-2199
E-mail: DerrillRothermich@hotmail.com

Robert Macklin, Vice-President
Phone: 505-524-8032
E-mail: macklin@zianet.com

Derrill Rothermich, Vice-President Trails
Phone: 915-821-2199
E-mail: DerrillRothermich@hotmail.com

Louis Bevacqua, Secretary
Phone: 505-522-0411
E-mail: louis_bevacqua@blm.gov

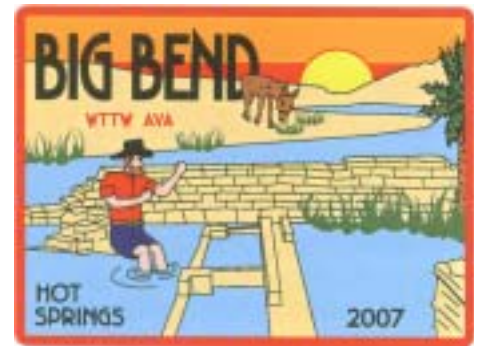
Doyle Piland, Treasurer
Phone: 505-523-7034
E-mail: dpiland@zianet.com

At-large members:

Randy Rannels, Member
Phone: 505-525-0495
E-mail: ranlinrannels@zianet.com

Joanne Poulos, Member
Phone: 505-522-3513
E-mail: watch4dog@zianet.com

Position Vacant, Member
Phone:
E-mail:



borrowed a mountain from New Mexico and hosted the events in the Ruidoso, New Mexico area.

This coming Columbus Day weekend, October 5, 6, & 7, the events will be at Big Bend National Park. You can get all the details on their website at URL <http://www.ava.org/clubs/wttv/>. There is a patch for the weekend events as shown above.



Christine and Frank Conway sit waiting for the time to eat Arrives



Robert and Ruth Ann Glover, from Deming, chat with other club members while waiting



Catharine Powers and Rita Rivera visiting with other club members while waiting to eat



Club Vice President Robert Macklin and Joy Macklin enjoy chatting with other club members



Louis Bevacqua and Bill Poulos smile while chatting with other club members while waiting to eat



And, Joanne Poulos has a big smile while waiting to eat and visiting with other club members

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Below is a copy of the Congratulatory Letter from Jacklyn Wilson, the Executive Director of the American Volkssport Association. The letter congratulates our club for 25 years of dedication to improving the mental and physical health, and wellbeing of our community through organized, non-competitive walking events. The letter is addressed to the attention of Doyle Piland, simply because he is listed as the point of contact for the Sun Country Striders.

With all your help, lets do our part to keep it going for another 25 years. So, look around, we need some younger replacements. Many of us "more experienced" members won't be around to see that, so someone needs to take the reins.



Fun, Fitness, Friendship

American Volkssport Association

1001 Pat Booker Road, Suite 101
Universal City, Texas 78148-4147
210.659.2112 • 210.659.1212 fax
zvahq@ava.org • www.ava.org

February 12, 2007

Sun Country Striders
Attn: Doyle Piland
PO Box 6787
Las Cruces, NM 88006-6787

RE: Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Your AVA Club

Dear Club Members:

Congratulations on soon reaching your twenty-fifth year of membership in the American Volkssport Association. As club number AVA-0108, chartered on February 12, 1982, you have a rich history and very special place in the volkssporting movement in America. It takes wise business decisions, many dedicated club members, and a willing spirit to go forward for the public good to bring you to this point.

As you celebrate this achievement I hope you'll use this accomplishment in your publicity efforts. Special articles in the local paper(s) and special events will help further growth and recognition and will work to bring you even greater respectability. On behalf of AVA, may you continue in fun, fitness and friendship by providing non-competitive physical activity. Thank you for all you do, and again, congratulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacklyn Wilson".

Jacklyn Wilson
Executive Director

cc: NEC (e-mail)