



The Strider

Official Newsletter of the
Sun Country Striders, Ltd.

Volume 26, Number 4

October 2007

President's Corner

By: Derrill Rothermich

Thank you for coming to the walk at La Llorona Park. Was a little windy but still a great time for walking. Everyone said they enjoyed walking along the river and hoped we will do it again. Many walkers saw Herons, Ducks, and other birds.

Several new walkers signed up and used New Walker packets, which are great bargains. The Packet has an event book, distance book, coupons for three free event stamps, a free patch from AVA and several other items—All for just \$5.

Participation has been slowly increasing so we want it to keep going in that direction.

Thanks to all our regular workers—Bob, Doyle, Walter, Randy, Joanne, and Louis. If you can donate a couple hours of your time at future walks, please let me know.

Oct 3-7 was the annual West Texas Trail Walkers (WTTW) event. This time it was at Big Bend National Park. Wednesday was workers walk along a choice of 2 different trails. Bob Macklin and I were there for these. We both did the walk to The Window from Chisos Basin Campground. It was very difficult to actu-

ally reach the Window, because of higher water in the creek bed. On Thursday, Doyle Piland joined Bob and I on the workers walk to South Rim area. If you have ever been in Chisos Basin area, you know this is a very rugged and steep trail to the top of mountains around the basin. We all got soaked due to a heavy rainstorm that afternoon. The regularly scheduled walks on Friday-Sunday were a special treat. On Friday, John Ferguson, AVA Vice-President — hosted the walk and we all got AVA Vice Presidents stamps in our books. Saturday, Curt Myron—AVA President — hosted the walk. Sunday, walk was at Rio Grande Village next to the river. That walk was hosted by, Heinz Johnson — Southwest Regional Director. Three special stamps made for a special weekend. I had a long discussion with Curt about future and current changes going on in AVA. I will talk about these in future columns. The big news is that the 2008 WTTW walk will be the second weekend in October in Ruidoso. That will be a great chance for those of you who haven't been to their walks before to give it a try. We have been asked to help them to set this up and will be doing so. See you in November at the La Viña Winery. ■

October Walk Report

..... and a Few Other Things!

By: Doyle Piland

Well, we are heading in the right direction, however slowly. We had a total of 47 participants at our September walk and we increased that to a total of 52 for the October walk. As you know, we have been sending extra copies of the brochures to club members, as well as all others who receive the brochures by mail, asking everyone to pass the extra copies to others. Hopefully that is generating some interest and participation. Bernita Stegall, who has been a club member since very shortly after the club was founded in 1982, called asking for more brochures to pass out. Unfortunately, I was out of town at the time (the call was forwarded to my Cell phone) and couldn't get her any extras. At my suggestion, she went to the library and picked up some of those that were left there. Thanks for your efforts Bernita. Let's all match Bernita's effort and get the brochures into the hands of those who might be interested. And remember, **"Be a Friend, Bring a Friend."**

Also, the debuting of the redone signage on the club's trailer was on display. The large club logos had

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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.

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:

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, 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

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started cracking and peeling off. Robert Macklin took it to his son-in-law's (Patrick Hickox) place of business and they redid the logos and lettering on both side of the trailer. The photo at right shows the side of the trailer with Derrill Rothermich and Louis Bevacqua standing at the sides.

Derrill mentioned that he, Robert Macklin, and I were at the West Texas Trail Walkers' "Hike With an Attitude" events at Big Bend National Park. In

Board of Directors

Elected members:

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

Robert Macklin, Vice-President
Phone: 505-541-4473
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 Ranel, Member
Phone: 505-525-0495
E-mail: ranlinranel@zianet.com

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

Position Vacant, Member
Phone:
E-mail:



Derrill Rothermich, left and Louis Bevacqua stand beside the club trailer with the redone signage.

addition, club member Eileen Roberts was there as well as former club members (and hopefully soon to be again) Martha Ludeman, Henrietta Vargas, as well as, Bea and John Selesky. I will include a few photos from Big Bend in the photo section. ■

A BIG Thank You!

As Derrill mentioned, we had the generous support of Robert Macklin, Doyle Piland, Walter and William Baker, Randy Ranel, Joanne Poulos, Louis Bevacqua, and Derrill worked all day both Saturday and Sunday. A BIG, THANK YOU to all!! Additionally, Derrill buys cookies, bananas, cans of Ice Tea, and bottled water for participants (and us workers too) to enjoy free of charge at our walks. Thanks Derrill, for all that you do for our club!!! ■

Be a Friend, Bring Yourself and a Friend!!

For those of you who missed the Walk from the La Llorona Park on the 13th & 14th of October, here are a few photos that give you some of the Sights and Sounds (if you have a good imagination) from the Start-Finish Point and along the trail that you completely missed out on. And, for those who participated, relive some of the things that you experienced firsthand.

Also, a few photos from the "Hike with an Attitude" at Big Bend.

Derrill Rothermich, seated left, checking in walkers Bernita Stegall, standing, and Dino Villani at the Start-Finish Point.

The Rio Grande with the Picacho Bridge are in the background.



Linden and Randy Ranel enjoy a nice quiet walk along the Rio Grande with the scenery and Dona Ana Mountains in the background. While to their left, one can see the River and across the valley, Picacho eak.



As walkers returned along the river levee to the Start-Finish Point, they saw the view at left of the south part of the park and parking lot. Then, after crossing the parking lot, they walked along the sidewalk and under the Picacho Bridge at right.





At left, Diane & Dean Hammond have just crossed under the Picacho Bridge after completing the walk and are approaching the Start-Finish Point at right, with Derrill Rothermich waiting.

The photos below were taken along the trails in Big Bend National Park in the Chisos Basin and the Rio Grande Village area. The first one has Robert Macklin in the center with blue pants. The center photo of the 9 is John Selesky followed by Robert Macklin.

