

Dallas Trekkers Newsletter



Vol. 21, No. 1

January - February 2002



JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Bring Your Wrapped Gift for the
White Elephant Gift Exchange
and**

Volunteer Recognition

TUESDAY JANUARY 8, 6:30 PM
EL FENIX, 1601 MCKINNEY AVE
DOWNTOWN DALLAS

DALLAS TREKKERS BOARD MEETING

- Open to all members -
Tuesday, February 12 at 7:00 PM
Upstairs Meeting Rm
REI, 4515 LBJ @ Welch in Dallas

MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY MARCH 12, 6:30 PM
EL FENIX, 1601 MCKINNEY AVE
DOWNTOWN DALLAS

NEW WHITE ROCK LAKE 10 KM

OPTION YRE GROUP WALKS

(for details see Page 4)

DON'T MISS ANY OF THESE EVENTS!

**FILL OUT & RETURN THE ENCLOSED SURVEY
BEFORE JANUARY 4, 2002**

**INFORMATION NEEDED FOR VOLUNTEER
RECOGNITION AT MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON
JANUARY 8, 2002**

Turtle Creek, Highland Park, Azaleas and the Katy Trail- 13 KM or 7 KM

Saturday, March 30, 2002 - 8:00 AM -12 Noon
(See enclosed brochure for more details)

The walk begins at Reverchon Park, 3505 Maple Ave. The trail follows the creek as it winds its way through several scenic parks in the Turtle Creek greenbelt, each having an abundance of azaleas and dogwood trees. From there we enter the neighborhood of Highland Park, with its expensive homes and beautiful landscaping. Many cars will be cruising to see the azaleas in bloom at the mansions and the beautiful parks, although the best way to see this area is on foot. One park features a beautiful gazebo overlooking a pond, surrounded by azaleas. There are usually brides-to-be posing for photographs. Another secluded park features a giant teddy bear sculpture and her cubs on the banks of the creek. After walking down Lakeside Drive, famous for its mansions, parks and seasonal decorations, we enter another wooded park with wooden bridges and stone steps. Most weekends you will find artists set up here with their easels trying to capture the beauty on canvas. The last 3KM of the walk we enter the multi-use Katy Trail. This was formerly the tracks of the old MKT railroad. As you enter the trail, if you take a 1 or 2 block detour, you could stop for lunch at any of the great restaurants on Knox Street. Back on the Katy Trail, we follow the hike/bike trail back to Reverchon Park.

Bring your camera for this walk. Hopefully this will be a good year for azaleas, but even if they aren't blooming there will be plenty of beautiful things to see. This trail is easy, but it is a 13K in order to get in as much scenery as possible. There will be a 7K option for those wanting a shorter route. The only obstacles are the stone steps in two parks and having to cross Preston Road without a light. We hope you will celebrate Spring with the Dallas Trekkers on March 30th.

For more information or to volunteer contact Lesley Bowen at 214-503-6874 (home) or by e-mail: lesleybowen@aol.com

DALLAS TREKKERS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am writing this as I sit at Washington's Reagan National Airport waiting for a flight back to Dallas. Wearing my Dallas Trekkers' sweatshirt, as I stood in line to check my bag, the lady next to me turned and asked if the Dallas Trekkers was a volksmarching club. I said, "Yes," and she said she used to be a volkmarcher. I had an opportunity to encourage her to get back on the trail. It never hurts to advertise because you might run into someone who wants to be a volkssporter.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a very important questionnaire that I need every one of you to fill out and return by January 4th. Even if you have never taken a Dallas Trekkers' walk we need to hear from you. We need your answers to help your board make our organization even better than it is today. We need your answers to help choose the locations for future events and to help make the club more responsive to your needs. Please take a few minutes to fill out the questionnaire and return it in the enclosed envelope.

We have some wonderful walks planned for 2002. In March we kick off the year with a walk on the new KATY Trail with a chance to enjoy the azaleas. In June we stroll through Huffines Park and in July we return to the Dallas underground. In September our DART events will include a walk from the new White Rock Lake Station, in October we will hold an event at Grapevine Lake and in November we return to the popular Dallas Nature Center. Also **new** for 2002 are **Saturday morning walks on the White Rock Lake YRE's new 10K option whenever a walk is not scheduled in the Metroplex.** If we can get **volunteers** for walks in **May & August we will add additional walks to the 2002 schedule.** John also needs suggestions of **new or favorite old locations** for these walks being planned for 2002 & 2003. **If you lost a 700 event pin, want to suggest a walk location or to volunteer,** please call John Ferguson at (214) 348-0003.

Thanks to all volunteers running next year's events and the weekly White Rock Lake walk. (YREs may be done for event credit once each half of the year & multiple times for distance credit.) If anyone is interested in sponsoring weekly walks/bikes on any of our other YREs please contact Jim Ross or me. Claudia and I sponsored The Dallas Trekkers (AVA 034) is a nonprofit walking club open to people of all ages. It is a member of the Texas Volkssport Association and the American Volkssport Association. Mailing address: P.O. Box 743813, Dallas, TX 75374-3813

Home Page: www.dallastrekkers.org

the Carrollton YRE in 1998. Over 160 people took the walk during the 16 weeks we walked the trail on Wednesday nights during Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget you may buy **Frequent Walker Coupons** that will provide substantial savings for our members who take the Dallas Trekker YREs. Remember, although these are non-transferrable, personalized coupons for Dallas Trekkers YREs only, they are good indefinitely. **Each individual member of the club may buy them in blocks of 12 for \$20.00 (\$1.66 per walk/bike credit) or 30 coupons for \$45.00 (\$1.50 per walk/bike credit). Order information is on page 4.**

If you missed the walk at the new **Dallas/Fort Worth Cemetery** you missed a great walk and the company of almost 200 people. **John Ferguson and his team of volunteers did a superb job** and we couldn't have asked for nicer weather. Thanks to everyone involved.

Don't miss the Trekkers' **Membership Meeting and Holiday Party** on January 8. **Make sure you bring your special White Elephant gift** to the celebration. We will also be awarding Worker Bee awards for 2001.

Please fill in the number of volunteer hours you worked during 2001 on your questionnaire and mail it so it will be received at least a week before the Holiday Party. Blue Worker Bee patches will be awarded for volunteering 10-24 hours and Gold Worker Bee patches for volunteering 25+ hours in any capacity to help the club. So whether you ran a YRE, set up a trail, worked a checkpoint, wrote an article for the newsletter, sold food, made phone calls for the club or anything else, add up the hours, fill out the rest of the survey and send it back right away. Speaking of volunteers, **because Ann Hughlett has health problems, we need someone to take over Rudy Dog Sales and to be Trail Director for the Duck Creek YRE.** Call John Ferguson at (214) 348-0003 or Jim Ross at 972-681-0045 to volunteer.

Our November meeting was one of the most interesting in years. **Michael Hellmann, Senior Park Planner for the City of Dallas Parks and Recreation Department** talked about the plans for major trail construction in Dallas over the next several years. His visit also allowed us to open important communications channels with the city of Dallas. **All of the officers on the slate were elected unanimously.** Please get to know **1st V.P. John Ferguson, 2nd V.P. Ken King, Secretary Lesley Bowen and Treasurer Scott West** as well as myself.

Just because it's wintertime don't let the weather stop you from walking. Join the group walking White Rock Lake, take other YREs, attend other clubs' walks or walk around the block. See you on the trail. **Bruce Fitch**

MI LESTONES

The following north Texas volkssporters were recognized in the **December** issue of *The American Wanderer* for reaching milestones in the IVV Achievement Awards system. **Congratulations!**

- EVENTS -		- EVENTS -	
1000	Elaine Samus	30	Suzanne Stenson
400	Eugene Janke	10	Tom Hall
400	Rose Marie Janke	- DISTANCE -	
325	Janet Allen	14000	Brooke Hudson
325	David Burns	10000	Elaine Samus
300	Frances Burns	8000	James Sibley
300	Reba Walker	6000	Janet Allen
200	Mary Sikora	5500	Janet Allen
175	Janica Wood	4000	Eugene Janke
150	Janis Gary	4000	Rose Marie Janke
125	Dorothy King	3500	David Burns
75	Barbara Timmermeyer		
30	Chuck Stenson		

NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

- NEW MEMBERS -		- RENEWALS -	
Lybbie Hall	Ed Herider	R. & E. Goodspeed	Virginia Graves
Leann Johnson	Marsha Nunley	Sandy Haley	Eberhard Herrmann
Ava Simpson	Mary Sparks	Connie Jeska	Barbara Kolb
Cynthia Teal Thawley		Vera Metcalf	Bob & Linda Murdock
- RENEWALS -		L. E. Nunley	Pat Pacia
Gail Bassham	Charlene Collins	Sharon Parson	Dave Prichard
Nancy Couch	Barbara Densing	Karen Sands	Margaret Swink
Harry & Beverly Eversole			

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER WRITERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, ILLUSTRATORS, CIRCULATION WORKERS
NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2002
 To volunteer or submit articles, photos or illustrations please contact:
 Claudia Fitch by e-mail at crfitch@ix.netcom.com
 or by mail at: 5706 Maidstone Drive
 Richardson, TX 75082
Questions? (972) 235-9086

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tue Jan 01, 2002 - 10K Night Walk

St. Joseph's Hall
210 West San Antonio, Fredericksburg, TX
Texas Volkssport Association
Robert N. Theis 830-896-3550

Sat Jan 12, 2002 - 2-10K Walks

Trinity University/Monte Vista and Olmos Park
San Antonio, TX
Randolph Road Runners
Larry Cook 210-525-8900 RandolphRoadrunners@satx.tx.com

Sat, Jan 19, 2002 - 5K/10K Walk

Cain Center
915 S. Palestine, Palestine, TX
East Texas Trekkers
Jan Wood 903-534-9301 tylerspu1@prodigy.net

Sat Jan 19, 2002 - 2-10K Walks

Castroville Regional Park
Castroville, TX
Sam Ramblers
Howard Unger 210-654-3813 howru27@earthlink.net

Sat Jan 19, 2002 - 5K/10K Walk

Woodland Hills Mall
Tulsa, OK
Green Country Wander Freude, Tulsa Walking Club
James Renner (918) 251-7605

Sat-Sun Jan 19-20, 2002 - 10K Walk

Phoenix Bakery
Galveston, TX
Houston Hikers and Fun Runners
Alan Bath 713-665-2663 abath@aol.com

Sat Feb 02, 2002 - 5K/13K Walk

French Lake Trailhead
Lawton, OK
Prarie Dog Plodders
Ursula Dixon 580-353-3501

Sun Feb 03, 2002 - 10K Walk

Cole Park, 1200 Shoreline
Corpus Christi, TX
Sparkling City Strollers
Helene Fennessy 361-991-8726 hfennessy@iopener.net

Feb 09, 2002 - 5K/11K Walk

Mineola Civic Center
Newsom St., Mineola, TX
East Texas Trekkers
Jan Wood 903-534-9301 tylerspu1@prodigy.netv

Sat-Sun Feb 16-17, 2002 - 2-10K Walks

Hunting Lodge, Camp Bullis
San Antonio, TX
Texas Wanderers
Lyn Ward 210-651-6536 lward10km@aol.com

Sat Feb 16, 2002 - 5K/10K Walk

Greenleaf State Park
Muskogee, OK
Green Country Wander Freude, Tulsa Walking Club
Les Clutter 918-492-6577

Sat Feb 23, 2002 - 10K Walk *****CORRECTED DATE*****

Bob Jones Park
3901 N. White Chapel, Southlake, TX
Tarrant County Walkers
Beverly Maurer 817-483-6371 bevmau@home.com

Sat-Sun Feb 23-24, 2002 - 10K Walk

Canyon of the Eagles LCRA Park
Lake Buchanan, Burnet, TX
Selma Pathfinders
Phyllis Eagan 210-496-1402

Director Needed for Duck Creek (Garland) YRE

A walk director is needed for the Garland, Duck Creek, Year-Round Walk. Ann Hughlett, who planned to direct that YRE beginning in 2002, has been afflicted with a health problem that has prevented her from taking on the job. The YRE director is responsible to insure that the walk box at the convenience store is stocked, to check the trail for any problems and make any necessary route changes, to keep a record of participation and to report it to the YRE coordinator quarterly and to forward funds to the treasurer. If you would like to fill this position for the club, call Jim Ross at 972-681-0045 (e-mail: jimross@topher.net) or Bruce Fitch at 972-235-9086 (e-mail: bfitch@ix.netcom.com).

New White Rock Lake 10 KM Option Weekly YRE Group Walk

The Dallas Trekkers will conduct a weekly group walk beginning with the first Saturday in January, 2002. The weekly group walk will begin at 8 a.m. at White Rock Lake start point (see enclosed brochure), using a new 10K option of that YRE. **The weekly group walk will be held each Saturday when there is not a scheduled event in the Metroplex.** Some of the group walkers may wish to gather at Barbec's Restaurant, next door to the start point, for breakfast after the walks.

The purpose of the weekly group walk is to have a regularly scheduled walk that new walkers may attend and walk with a group; to foster a more frequent social atmosphere than our normal event schedule affords; and to allow for more exercise. The new 10 KM option was chosen because the regular 15 KM route for that YRE may be a daunting distance for some of our walkers, particularly for new walkers.

Dallas Trekkers YRE Frequent Walker Coupons \$20.00 for 12 coupons-\$45.00 for 30 coupons

For more info: (972) 235-9086 or e-mail:bfitch@ix.netcom.com

To order please mail check made out to: The Dallas Trekkers
Please include the name to be placed on personalized, non-transferrable coupons and your return mailing address.

Send order to:

(Offer open to Dallas Trekkers Members only)

UPCOMING YRE GROUP EVENTS

Sun 13 Jan 2002 - Group Walk of YRE

The Colony YRE - 2:30 p.m.

Sun 10 Feb 2002 - Group Walk of YRE

Desoto YRE - 2:30 p.m.

Sun 10 Mar 2002 - Group Walk of YRE

Duck Creek, Garland YRE - 2:30 p.m.