

**WEST TEXAS
TRAIL WALKERS, INC.**

**19th Club Event
Note Restricted Start Times
October 10, 11, 12, 1997**



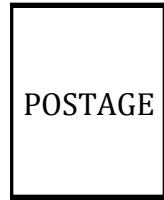
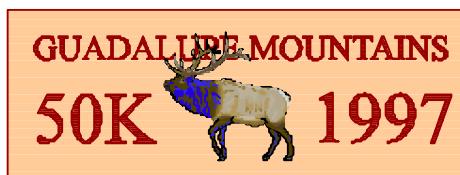
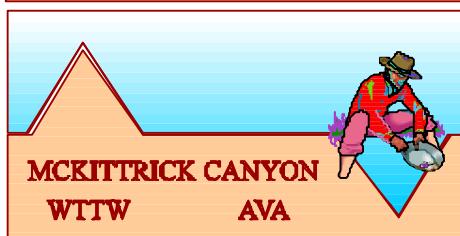
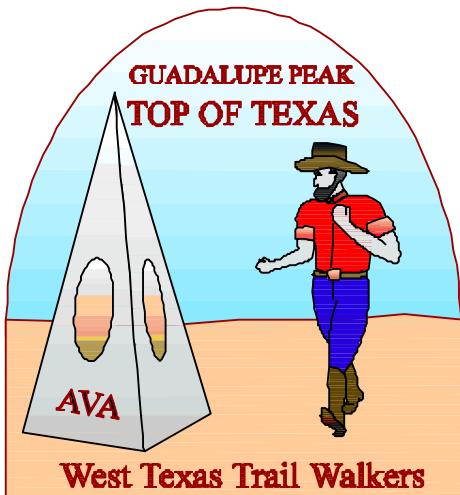
Guadalupe Mountains National Park

3 Sanctioned Events

**10, 13, 15, 22 km Walks
SW97-105, 106, 107**



*Eligible for credit toward
AWA Achievement Awards*



Sponsored by the West Texas Trail Walkers, Inc. (AVA60, TX19), a nonprofit sports organization with the aim of promoting outdoor recreation and good health in West Texas.

TRAILS

Event #1 - SW97-105 - 10, 13 km walk - Friday, Oct 10 Start 1100 - 1300 hrs - Finish 1600 hrs

The McKittrick Canyon walk begins at the US NPS Information Center at McKittrick Canyon by hiking the 1.5 km Nature Trail and then following the bottom of the Canyon going up McKittrick Creek. The route is generally flat on a well established trail (old wagon road) and begins at an elevation of 5000 feet. The highest point reaches an elevation of 5300 feet. There are no steep or difficult portions of the trail. This trail is not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers. The trail crosses and recrosses McKittrick Creek giving the walker the opportunity to observe some beautiful water ponds, etc. **It is forbidden to enter the creek.** Wildlife is abundant. Once the trail enters the canyon proper the beauty of the steep side wall is breathtaking. The canyon, an eco-system unto itself, contains a magnitude of vegetation, Maple, Oak, Pine, etc. At the 6 km mark, you reach the **Pratt cabin** which has a unique stone roof which by itself is worth the hike. **Those having difficulty, can turn around here for 10 km credit.** Continuing up the main canyon you come to the grotto where the main checkpoint is located. Here there are flagstone tables and benches where you can take a short rest before retracing your steps to the Visitor's Center. Fear not! The return trip allows a reverse look at one of the most beautiful canyons in the U.S. You must finish on time for the gate at the highway is locked on schedule every day. **Distance: 13 km. Trail rating 2 based solely on dirt trail and altitude.**

Event #2 - SW97-106 - 13, 15, 22 km walk - Saturday, Oct 11 Start 0800 - 0830 hrs - Finish 1630 hrs

The Bowl is reached via the Tejas Trail beginning at the Pine Springs Trailhead parking lot. Elevation 5822'. Hiking west up the edge of the canyon floor, you start climbing the north side of the canyon approximately 1/2 way to the top. The trail is at 6600' at this point. Crossing heartbreak ridge you can see up the canyon west to the Devil's Hall. A series of switchbacks takes you to the top at the intersection with Bush Mountain Trail and the Bowl Trail. **Check Point #1 Elevation 7760'.** Here there are beautiful views to the southeast over the lowlands, to the southwest of Guadalupe Peak and to the west of Shumard Peak. **The 15 km breaks off here on the Bowl Trail to Hunter Peak.** An optional climb to the top of Hunter Peak is worth the elevation gain for the spectacular view. Continuing along the Bowl Trail you will rejoin the 22 km trail at the junction with the Bear Canyon Trail. **Continuing on the 22 km from Check Point #1, the Tejas Trail heads north through the woods along a ridge line.** At 7900' elevation you begin a descent into an old creek bottom to its confluence with two other creeks. This is a beautiful spot shaded by Pine and Douglas Fir. Elevation 7400'. Here the route breaks off on the Juniper Trail following an old wagon road along the creek bed into the bowl area. A gradual climb through the woods takes you to the Saddle at 7940' elevation. Note the large water tanks and pipe which were used to water livestock in the bowl area. Water was pumped here from upper Pine Springs. Here the trail begins a descent into the main part of the Bowl, a heavily wooded area. Reaching a low of 7720', you begin a climb to the top of the ridge and the junction with the Bear Canyon Trail and the 15 km hikers. Elevation 8020'. Bear Canyon is an extremely steep trail switching back and forth along the canyon walls to 6200' in 3 km. The trail was built in the 1930's for the purpose of laying the water pipe that supported the tank system at the top. Here the trail joins the Springs hikers on the Frijole Trail and heads west along the base of Hunter Peak overlooking upper Pine Springs and Pine Springs. Continuing west you reach the start point at Pine Springs Trailhead. **Distance 15 or 22 km. Trail rating 5 due to elevation, climbing approximately 3000' in overall elevation changes, and steepness of some trails. All are National Park maintained trails and in good condition.**

The Springs event begins in the same location but heads east on the Frijole Trail 2/3 km to the juncture with the Foothills Trail. Proceeding 3 km on the Foothills Trail brings you to the old Frijole Ranch. This is a splendid preservation of the first permanent dwellings in the park built around 1876. Frijole Springs are also located here. Leaving the ranch, the trail leads past Manzanita Springs, a favorite camping spot of the Apache Indians. Nipple Hill is prominent a short distance to the east. Turning north you wind up Smith Canyon to Smith Springs, a delightful wooded spot with pools of clear water surrounded by large Texas Madrone, Alligator Juniper and Bigtooth Maples. Elevation 5940'. Leaving Smith Springs the trail drops down for 1.5 km to an intersection with the Frijole Trail where you turn west. Elevation 5640'. In 2 km you will join with the Bowl hikers coming down Bear Canyon and turning west on the Frijole Trail along the base of Hunter Peak and overlooking upper Pine Springs and Pine Springs to the start point at Pine Springs Trailhead. This trail showcases the desert areas and the diverse plant life in and around 5 springs. **Distance 13 km. Trail rating 3 due to elevation, minor climbing of 1100' overall.**

Event #3 - SW97-107 - 10, 15 km walk - Sunday, Oct 12 Start 0800 - 0830 hrs - Finish 1500 hrs

Guadalupe Peak trail begins at the Pine Springs Trailhead, 5822', and climbs to the **Top of Texas**, the highest peak in the state, at 8749' a 2927 foot elevation gain. Hike to the top and enjoy the view. On a good day the Davis Mountains can be seen. On the summit there is a register and a small monument erected by American Airlines to commemorate the first transcontinental mail route which went through Guadalupe Pass. You can look across at the bowl area, down into the canyons and across the valleys. The trail is good but steep. There will be a turn around provided at the 5 km mark for those preferring 10 km credit. From the top, the trail retraces itself to the start point. **Distance 10, 15 km. Trail rating 5 due to elevation and climbing almost 3000'.**

The Devil's Hall trail starts at the same location. The trail climbs to 6600' before gradually dropping into Pine Springs Canyon at 6000'. It follows the floor of the canyon west, winding up the the creek bottom to Hiker's Staircase and Devil's Hall. In the creek bottom the trail is rocky and must be walked with caution. The walk provides exposure to some of the more interesting vegetation and landscape of the Guadalupes. Devil's Hallway walls are made up of clearly stratified sedimentary rock, worth the walk to see. The route then retraces the creek bottom back to the trailhead. **Distance 10 km. Trail rating 4 due to rocky stream trail and approximately 1000' in total elevation changes.**

Eligibility: All persons and ages are welcome. Children under legal age must be accompanied by an adult. **NO PETS** allowed on trails. **None of these events are suitable for strollers or wheelchairs.**

No Refunds: The events will be held regardless of weather and there will be no refunds for no shows and no transferring of fees between events. There will also be no refunds for those refused a start stamp due to noncompliance with minimum water requirements.

Water: You are required to carry your own water. To receive a start stamp you must have a minimum of one quart per person on short routes (10km) and two quarts per person on trails longer than 10 km. We recommend more water when possible.

Clothing/Gear: The elevation ranges from 5000 to 8750 feet. Weather is Texas weather and your guess is as good as anyone's so plan accordingly. **We recommend hiking boots with lugged soles and reinforced toe box.** Long pants and long sleeved shirts are also recommended. Hats should be worn. Be prepared for changing temperatures.

Entrance Fees: All entrance fees will be handled by the individual.

Event Fees: See registration blank. **All events are free of charge to those who do not desire IVV credit or an award** except for entrance fees which are required of all. Groups should call number below for information.

Preregistration Dates: All preregistrations must be received postmarked on or before **10 September, 1997**.

Awards: Patches are shown 65% of actual size on back of flyer. All patches are 100% embroidered. We order only a limited number of awards (72 for Friday and 96 for Sunday). After awards are depleted, persons desiring the awards will be required to pay any prorated surcharge imposed for a small reorder in addition to the \$1 late registration fee.

B-Awards: A special collection of European Volksmarch medals has been donated to the club. These are unique and of a high quality. **This is your chance to enrich your Volksmarch collection while helping your club.**

Campgrounds: Individual Tent Campsites are available at park first come first served. Group campsite available to first 20 campers total for \$4 per nite if registered on form below. Self-contained (No hookups) RV camping at park for \$7 per nite. No reservations. Recommend RV camping at White City, NM. **1-800-CAVERNS**

Motels: The Quality Inn in Carlsbad, NM is the headquarters motel **1-800-321-2861**

Continental Inn 505-887-0341

Motel 6 505-885-0011

Saturday evening social, meal and club meeting: The club will hold its annual membership meeting at the evening social and dinner on Saturday the 11th of October, 1997. Dinner will be served at 7:30 pm. Tickets must be purchased in advance through preregistration. Awards will be presented after the meal and special recognition given to various club members.

For Additional Information contact Leslie Forestier at (281) 497-0764 evenings.

Or Garry Speir at (281) 265-3772 evenings

Mail registrations to: 13822 Menasco Court., Houston, TX 77077

For those not preregistering by 10 September 1997 the fees for all A-Awards and Patches will be increased by \$1.00.

Club Members Sign up for Work Friday Walk Saturday Walk Sunday Walk

West Texas Trail Walkers		Event	Marathon	Canyon	Round	Trail	Springs	Guadalupe	Peak	Denton Hall	Comptite	Campsite	Patch	Patch	Patch	Dinner
			Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Saturday					
Name	Address	Fee	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$4.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00
			1													
2																
3																
4	Sample Walker	Street, City, Phone Number				5	4		6	12	5	12	44			
Place associated dollar costs in appropriate block as shown by example. Subtotal across.																
Total																

Disclaimer and Acknowledgment: I have read the trail descriptions and the requirements and certify that I (we) am in sufficiently good health to undertake the walk(s) of the nature described. I understand the sponsors, The American Volkssport Association, or the National Park Service cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen articles, accident or injury of any kind at any time. Every reasonable effort will be made to make the event safe and enjoyable. I also understand I am responsible for carrying the required amounts of water and any snack/refreshments I may need on the trail.

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