

October 6-8, 2000 Fort Davis, Texas



General Information

3 Walks Sponsored by:
West Texas Trail Walkers
10/6/2000 - SW00-096
10/7/2000 - SW00-097
10/8/2000 - SW00-098

AVA 60, TX 19

An incorporated non-profit sports organization dedicated to promoting outdoor recreation and good health in West

These events are sanctioned by the American Volkssport Association (AVA), a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV). These events count towards acquisition of IVV achievement Awards.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

1. You are required to carry prescribed amounts of your own water. Minimum of 2 qts. for medium events. We recommend more.
2. We recommend hiking boots with lugged soles and reinforced toe box.
3. Hats, sunscreen, and long sleeves are recommended.

The **Saturday evening social, meal and annual membership meeting** will be held on the Prude Ranch outside of Fort Davis. Dinner will feature beef or chicken fajitas. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Awards will be presented after the meal and special recognition given to various club members.

Fort Davis is located in far West Texas and is the highest town in elevation in Texas at 5050 feet. This elevation combined with the dry air makes a perfect climate for hiking in October.

All events are easily located with use of the map below and the instructions on the opposite side.

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.

Entrance Fees: State Park entrance fees will be handled by the individual. Without a Passport you are subject to a daily entrance fee of \$2. National Historic Site, Nature Conservancy and Scout Ranch fees are required of all.

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.

Pre-registration Dates: All pre-registrations must be received postmarked on or before **September 18, 2000.**

Awards: Patches are shown 65% of actual size. We order only a limited number of awards (100 "A" awards and 100 total kilometer and Livermore patches). There will be no reorders. Patch on left above is the "A" award. **There is only one "A" award.**

Groups should call contact number for information.



50 KM

LIVERMORE



Lodging

The Veranda	888-383-2847
Prude Ranch RV	800-458-6232
Davis Mts. State Park RV	800-792-1112
Hotel Limpia	800-662-5517
Ft. Davis Motor Inn RV	800-803-2847
Stone Village Motel	800-649-8487
Indian Lodge	915-426-3254

Additional Info:

John Ferguson (972) 788-5028
Jerry Stovall (972) 596-5240

<http://www.ava.org/clubs/wttw/>

West Texas Trail Walkers – 2000 Fort Davis Hikes

☐ Saturday Banquet – Prude Ranch – \$14.00

Friday – Downtown Fort Davis

- 5K 10K
☐ B-Award \$3.00
☐ Credit Only – \$2.00
☐ NHS Entry Fee – \$2.00

Saturday – State Park

- 5K 10K
☐ A-Award – \$6.00
☐ Credit Only – \$2.00

☐ Special Distance Patch – \$4.00 – 30K 50K 55K

Saturday – Mt. Livermore

- 20K 25K
☐ Livermore Patch – \$4.00
☐ Credit Only – \$2.00
☐ TNC Contribution \$12.00

Sunday – Boy Scout Ranch

- 5K 10K 15K 20K
☐ A-Award – \$6.00
☐ Credit Only – \$2.00
☐ Scout Contribution \$5.00

Information:

Garry Speir – 281-265-3772
gspeir@alltel.net

Mail Registration to: West Texas Trail Walkers
5103 Plantation Colony Dr.
Sugar Land, TX 77478

Total Amount Enclosed

Name _____
Address _____

I have read the trail descriptions and the requirements and certify that I am in sufficiently good health to undertake the walks of the nature described. I understand the sponsors, the AVA, the State Park Service, the TNC, or the Boy Scouts 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 events safe and enjoyable. I understand that I am responsible for carrying water, snacks and refreshments that I may need on the trail.

Friday - Fort Davis - 10 km

Start 1:30 - 2:30 PM - Finish 5:30 PM

This event begins in the vicinity of the Hotel Limpia in downtown. Winding through historic Fort Davis, walkers will pass many buildings on the state register of historic sites. Some of interest are the Jeff Davis County Courthouse, the Neill Doll Museum, the Overland Trail Museum, and the Church in the Mountains. The route traverses the original

Overland Trail before entering the Fort Davis National Historic Site established in 1854. **Walkers will be required to pay the appropriate fee for entrance to the National Historic Site (\$2 w/o national passport).** After inspecting the main fort you will climb 320 feet to the top of the ridge overlooking the historic site. The trail comes down from the ridge and continues a short distance down

Hospital Canyon, exits the Historic Site and returns to town. **Walkers must be out of the National Historic Site no later than 5 PM.** **Trail rating 3+ due to cross-country stretch and elevation change..**

Saturday - State Park 10 km & Nature Conservancy 20 & 25 km

Start 7:30 - 8:00 AM - Finish 5:00 PM

This is an outstanding opportunity to be able to climb Mt. Livermore, the highest peak in the Davis Mountains. It is only with a special arrangement with The Nature Conservancy that we have this opportunity. **In order to support them in their endeavors to preserve the natural state, a donation of \$12 per walker will be required.** Those not desiring to contribute can do the 10-km trail at the State Park. **TNC is located west of Fort Davis on SH 118 approximately 9 miles west of the McDonald Observatory. The gate will be well flagged. Note that the time for driving from Ft Davis to TNC preserve is about 45 minutes.**

From the bunk house area of the Nature Conservancy Preserve, elevation 5900 feet, we begin walking along a rock ranch road for about 7 km though the ponderosa pines and oaks. Crossing several intermittent streams with only a 680 foot net rise before reaching the Bridge Gap junction at 6580 feet. If lucky we may see the elk herd that frequents this remote forest. From this junction we continue upward along the ranch road an additional 2.5 km to Bridge Gap. Bridge Gap is at elevation 7344 and affords great views over the Madera Valley to the north and the Davis Mountain

Ranch to the south. This will be the turnaround for the 20-km walk and this part of the **route is rated at 4+.** We now should be on the lookout for golden eagles and peregrine falcons. From Bridge Gap we follow a road for 860 feet of elevation gain to the face of the Mt Livermore peak and the turnaround for the 25-km route. **Trail rated 5 due to elevation and the steep grade of portions of the route.** At the base of the vertical face of the Mt Livermore peak at an elevation of 8200 feet, we have a view down upon the white spheres of the McDonald Observatory to the northeast. With weather cooperating, we can see the Guadalupe Mountains some 95 miles to the north and the Franklin Mountains near El Paso to the west. If we are lucky we will even see the resident of this high altitude, the elusive mountain horned toad, which, with its orange skin color, blends with the rocky surface. After viewing the surrounding scenery, it is back down the mountain along a new trail prepared by the Conservancy traveling through the pine forest and back to Bridge Gap. We then follow our earlier route back through the pine forest to the finish. This is a long walk, but well worth the effort. There will be mandatory time cutoffs at points for turnarounds along this route. We suggest that

everyone carry and use a walking staff.

Start 8:00 - 10:00 AM - Finish 1:00 PM

This 10k event begins at the group picnic grounds at Davis Mountains State Park. **Participants are responsible for their own entrance fee to the park.** Support the Parks Department, buy a passport. The trail follows park roads through the campgrounds past the historic Indian Lodge Hotel and back through the campgrounds to the hiking trailhead. The route climbs out of the campgrounds to the top of a ridgeline where views into Hospital Canyon at the National Historic Site and other views to the east and southeast are spectacular. This is an elevation gain of 500 feet. Continuing along the ridgeline the trail joins the old road built to the top shortly after the turn of the century. Walkers will follow the old road back through a cut in the ridgeline where views of Limpia Canyon are predominant. The Cottonwood trees lining the creek should be in there yellow autumn splendor. The old road joins SH 118 at the base of the mountain for a short hike back to the finish in the park. **Trail rating 4 due to the altitude, elevation changes and cross country.**

Sunday - Scout Ranch 10, 15 & 20 km

Start 7:30 - 8:00 AM - Finish 4:00 PM

This event begins at the Buffalo Trails Boy Scout Ranch at the end of FM 1832 which is accessed off of SH 17 south of Toyahvale. **This is a one hour drive from Fort Davis so walkers should be prepared to start on time. Absolutely no pets or alcohol are allowed on the Scout Ranch.** The Scouts will have the souvenir shop open and will be serving food upon completion of the trail. A limited breakfast is available. This is a private ranch owned by the Buffalo Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America, a non-profit group. This worthy organization requires all the financial assistance possible; therefore a **\$5 fee per walker will be assessed** to help them in support of their operations. Larger donations would be appreciated. **The 10 km walk can be started until 9:00 AM.** It leaves the headquarters area and proceeds upstream along the Little Aguja Creek, passing through the scout campgrounds and traversing a deep

canyon with spectacular mountains rising to both sides. The canyon is well wooded and with the right weather good fall color should be apparent. Needle Rock, a locally significant geological landmark is located at the 2.5 km mark. Walkers having trouble with the rocky trail may turn around at this point for 5 km credit. Alternate 5 km available. Continuing up canyon, you will come upon several deep, clear pools of water. Further along you will pass the Notch and come to the Pole Pens. At this point the trail splits off making a turn back towards the HQ. After a short hike the original trail is rejoined for return to the start. This is a 480 foot elevation gain. **Trail rating 3+ due to altitude, elevation changes and rocky terrain.**

The 15 and 20 km trails leave the headquarters and climb up Goat Cave Canyon. An elevation change of 1000 feet is enjoyed in the first kilometer. The route levels off with the gently rolling terrain passing by views into

Million Dollar Canyon and continuing past Whiskey Bottle Tank to a fork. Taking the right fork, the walker follows the 5800 foot contour around Central Mountain for the next 5 kilometers. Views into Little Aguja Canyon are fantastic with sheer drop-offs of 1400 feet. The trail comes to a "T" and the 15 km trail turns left to Trickey Gap and returns to HQ. The 20 km trail drops into Trickey Gap Park in the canyon bottom for a loss in elevation of 1000 feet. There is a nice park like area along the creek where walkers can enjoy a well deserved break. Continuing downstream for 2 kilometers, the trail joins the 10k walk at the Pole Pens for the return to scout headquarters. **Trail rating 5 due to altitude, elevation changes and rocky terrain.**