



# The Rover Reporter



The Newsletter of the Susquehanna Rovers Volksmarch Club

April-May-June 2023

## 2023 Executive Officers

President  
 Bill Rhoat  
 717-847-3567  
 rhtpr@aol.com

Vice Presidents  
 Lester Miller  
 717-938-3488  
 millersd@ptd.net  
 Marcy Lucas  
 lucas\_mj@hotmail.com

Secretary  
 Regina Zapotosky  
 717-545-4982  
 rmzapoto@gmail.com

Treasurer  
 Gloria Grabenstein  
 717-652-1607

## Executive Committee Members

After Action  
 Pat Eby  
 717-379-8945

Map Maker  
 Lester Miller  
 717-938-3488

Membership  
 Mary Watts  
 717-234-7765  
 3848 Green St  
 Harrisburg PA 17110

Newsletter  
 Pat Eby 717-379-8945  
 patriciaeby@verizon.net

## Publicity Manager -Vacant

Sales Manager  
 Amy Trommer  
 717-991-5232

Trailmasters  
 Lester Miller  
 717-938-3488  
 Bill Rhoat  
 717-817-9724

## Volunteer Coordinator -Vacant

Webmaster  
 Regina Zapotosky  
 717-545-4982

[www.avaclubs.org/SRVC](http://www.avaclubs.org/SRVC)

## President's Message



Greetings Fellow Rovers,

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure of attending the IVV Olympiad and Texas Trail Roundup in San Antonio. This was my first Olympiad, first IML walk, and first full week of walking for me in four years. If you ever get the chance to go to San Antonio, I recommend you take it.

A little closer to home, we have the Louise Clouser Memorial Walk coming up on May 13 and the Charlie Baeckert Memorial Walk on September 16. We will need helpers with both events.

Louise's walk will be held in Little Buffalo State Park in Newport, which once hosted the first year-round in Pennsylvania. Charlie's walk will be held in Union Canal Tunnel Park in Lebanon.

We have some business to conduct. The zoom meeting to be held on March 28 will include a discussion on proposed bylaws revisions during the second session. Voting on the proposed bylaws will be held during the April meeting, which will be held April 26<sup>th</sup>. *Notice this is on a Wednesday.* We couldn't get the library for the usual day. It is vitally important we get as many members as we can to decide the direction we want the club to go in the future.

Also we want to welcome some new members:

James and Martha McGraw  
 Lydia Hack from Camp Hill  
 Bill Lore and Amanda Tome from York  
 Lorraine and Tom Jackson from Biglerville

See you on the trail.

- Bill

## Inside this issue:

Meetings, AVA New Address, Group Walk Schedule, Awards	Page 2
Group Walk Reports	Page 3
Rovers Year Rounds, KSVA Seasonal and Year Rounds	Page 4
Bill's Trip	Page 5
More of Bill's Trip, Louise Clouser Memorial Walk	Page 6
Schedule of Events	Page 7

## Group Walk Schedule

**Definition- Group Walk-** several walkers get together to walk a Traditional, Seasonal or Year Round event. They start off together and then walk at their own pace. Maybe they get together to eat along the way or at the end. This type of walk will not be on [ava.org](http://ava.org) list of events. GP is used on our listing for these events.

The **Penn Dutch Pacers (PDP)** meet occasionally to walk one of their year rounds. Check their website at [www.avaclubs.org/pdp/calendar](http://www.avaclubs.org/pdp/calendar) for information.

**York White Rose Wanderers (YWRW)** are hosting their group walks 2023. They make these walks feel like a traditional event by giving walkers a range of time to start usually 10 am to 1 pm. Contact Art at 717-266-1152 for a complete list for the year or to check if they will be there weather permitting. Art is the interim president as Pam is moving and is ill.

**June 3** - Thurmont - Mountainview Convenience and Truck Stop, 140 Frederick St, Thurmont MD.

**July 8** - York Rail Trail - Hanover Junction Station, 2433 Seven Valleys Rd, Seven Valleys PA.

**Aug 5** - York Rail Trail Northern Extension, John Rudy County Park, 400 Mundis Race Rd, York.

The **Susquehanna Rovers** meet at a certain time to sign up and go at our separate paces and maybe meet for lunch. If you can't meet us, these are year-round events and can be walked anytime during daylight hours.

**April 15** - Hershey town walk, Karns, 731 Dr, Hershey. Meet in Café area at 9.

**May 13** - Louise's walk in Little Buffalo State Park. See page 6.

**June 10** - Lebanon, YMCA, 201 N 7th St, Lebanon. Meet at 9.

**July 1** - Harrisburg city walk, Quality Inn Riverfront, 525 South Front St, Harrisburg. Meet at 9 in Lobby.

Contact Pat 717-379-8945 for information or if weather is bad to see if we are walking.

Please join us. We miss seeing you.

**Be sure to use this address when mailing your books.**

AVA Headquarters  
1008 S. Alamo St  
San Antonio TX 78210  
210-659-2112



## Meeting Location

The club meetings are now being held at the East Shore Library in their conference room downstairs. All are invited to attend. Contact Bill with questions 717-847-3567

## Meeting Time

Join us at 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Apr 26, 2023  
Wednesday May 31, 2023  
Tuesday June 27, 2023



## Events

4300  
Tom Jackson

## Online Start Boxes

When you look at the club's events on [my.ava.org](http://my.ava.org) you will find that they are shown as OSB/PSB. PSB stands for physical start box and OBS stands for the online start box. Our events will have both options. I am working with the point of contact for the events to set up the directions for the OSB option. Please be patient as we work on them. You will need to use the physical start box option until the directions are done and then you will have both options to use to do our events.

Thank you, Marcy Lucas

## Mark Your Calendars September 16, 2023

### Memorial Walk for Charlie Beckert

Union Canal Tunnel Park  
25th Street and Union Canal Drive  
Lebanon

He was the former president of the Baloney Stompers Club and planned several walks for the Susquehanna Rovers after his club folded. Look for more information in our next newsletter.

### Group Walk Reports Chambersburg Ice Fest and Pancake Breakfast January 28, 2023

What can I say about Chambersburg. Beautiful weather, seeing friends, and eating pancakes. I saw Anne Gale there helping with the breakfast. She is with the Cumberland Valley Lead Foot Club. This is their event. Of course Sis and Roy Clugston are the first ones there. They are very loyal to our club and having fun walking.

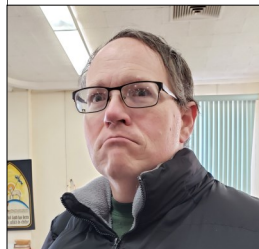


Above is Judy Packheiser and new member Lydia Hack after having pancakes. Happy and content. Judy and Dave from Maryland, to the left, were patiently waiting to find us. I was facing the wrong way at the breakfast and didn't see them.



Shown below are Sarah and Eleanor Garcia. Yes, they are standing and Eleanor is almost as tall as her mother.

Bill is shown below. He was grumping that he might have missed the pancakes.



Judy, Lydia and I took a historic tour of the old Chambersburg Jail. Judy got stuck there for a while.

We had a splendid time. There were so many



people there, including a lot of dogs and a man walking around on a pair of very high stilts.

Is there something missing from the picture on the left. Can you spot it?

It is the large fountain that is usually in the middle of the square. Apparently someone was going too fast through the square and ran into it. Now it is off for extensive repairs. The poor soldier looks lonely.

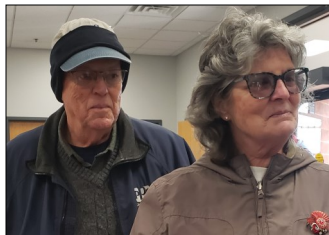


We also took time to rest in the sunshine. That is Pat Eby and Lydia. Hack. It was a bit windy that day.

Anyway it was a great day for a walk and it felt great to be out and about. Sorry that you missed it.

### Lititz Ice and Fire Festival February 18, 2023

Another great walking day. Pictured below are Roy and Sis Clugston and Julie Geyer with her friend Barb.



Judy Packheiser, Mary Watts and Lydia Hack are behind the big ice sculpture of 2023. We had a great time looking at the sculptures and then stopped to have lunch at Tomato Pie Café. It was a picture perfect day to be wandering around Lititz. You can go there anytime. The walk is a year-round sponsored by Penn Dutch Pacers.



## 2023 Seasonal and Year Round Events

Events listed are year rounds unless stated as seasonal. Since we haven't produced a KSVA booklet since 2019, the following is a list of available walks, bikes and swims for the Susquehanna Rovers events and KSVA events

### Susquehanna Rovers

These walks will have a start box.

#### Altoona - Blair County

Wingate by Wyndham Hotel, 909 Chestnut Ave. Altoona. Walk Dawn to Dusk. 5 or 10K Rating 1A Ask at reservation desk for walk box.

Judy Yost [jpjost820@gmail.com](mailto:jpjost820@gmail.com) 814-932-3334

#### Carlisle - Cumberland County

Comfort Suites, 10 South Hanover St. Carlisle Dawn to Dusk. 6 or 10K Rating 1A Ask at reservation desk for walk box.

Sandy Smith 717-265-4264 [srsmith527@yahoo.com](mailto:srsmith527@yahoo.com)  
Sandy will be moving out of state during the summer, so then Pat Eby 717-379-8945 will be the contact person.

#### Columbia and Marietta - Lancaster County

Northwest Lancaster County River Trail - Bike and Walk Marietta Walk - 5 or 10K Rating 1A

Columbia Crossing River Trail Center, 41 Walnut St.

Columbia Open 10 am to 5 pm Wed - Sun

Walk 5 or 10K Rating 1A; Bike up to 35K Rating 2A

Ask at desk for the walk box.

Sharon Miller 717-805-9540 [millersd@ptd.net](mailto:millersd@ptd.net)

#### Harrisburg - Dauphin County

Capital and Wildwood Park

Quality Inn - Riverfront, 525 S Front St. Harrisburg Dawn to dusk. 5 or 10K Capital Trail Rating 1A

Wildwood Trail Rating 3C; 5K trail is easier can be a 1A.

Ask at reservation desk for the walk box.

Sharon Miller 717-805-9540 [millersd@ptd.net](mailto:millersd@ptd.net)

#### Hershey - Dauphin County

Bullfrog Valley Trail (5 or 10K) and Town (5 or 10K) Both are rated 1A

Karns Food, 731 Cherry Dr. Hershey

Ask at the Service Counter for the walk box.

Dawn to dusk.

Trish Bowra 717-982-7077 [trishbowra@gmail.com](mailto:trishbowra@gmail.com)

#### Lebanon - Lebanon County

Lebanon Valley Family YMCA, 201 N 7th St. Lebanon

Hours vary - call 717-273-2691

5 or 10K Rating 1A

Ask at the service counter on the right for the walk box.

Pat Eby 717-379-8945 [patriciaeby@verizon.net](mailto:patriciaeby@verizon.net)

#### Mechanicsburg - Cumberland County

Rutter's #29, 714 W Main St. Mechanicsburg Dawn to Dusk 5 or 10K Rating 1A

Walk box is on window sill in café area.

Pat Eby 717-379-8945 [patriciaeby@verizon.net](mailto:patriciaeby@verizon.net)

#### Mifflintown - Juniata County

Juniata County Library, 498 Jefferson St, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Walk box is in the library under a table.

Joyce Krow 717-527-4798 [jakrow@centurylink.net](mailto:jakrow@centurylink.net)

#### State College - Centre County Arboretum, Boalsburg, Town and Campus

Super 8 Motel, 1663 S Atherton St. State College Dawn to dusk Arboretum Trail Rated 1A, Boalsburg Trail Rated 2B, Town & Campus Trail Rated 2A

All have 5 or 10K trails.

Ask at reservation desk for walk box.

Pat Eby 717-379-8945 [patriciaeby@verizon.net](mailto:patriciaeby@verizon.net)

We plan on having two seasonals this year but they have not been sanctioned yet. Fort Hunter and one in Sullivan County at Eagles Mere. They will be available through September, buy only with an online start box.

### KSVA

**Appalachian Trail** - Walking across PA - Many options are available. Online start box only.

Marcy Lucas 717-979-3960

[Lucas\\_mj@hotmail.com](mailto:Lucas_mj@hotmail.com)

Contact person for other events - Tom Jackson 717-677-6511 [thomasjackson@embarqmail.com](mailto:thomasjackson@embarqmail.com)

#### Biglerville - Michaux State Forest - Piney Ridge Rd

Jan 1 to March 31 **Snowshoe** 5K to 10K Rated 1C  
1287 Shippensburg Rd, Biglerville PA 17307

#### Fayetteville - Michaux State Forest "Smoke Zimmerman"

Jan 1 to March 31 **Snowshoe** 5K to 10K Rated 1C  
Rutter's, 6837 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville PA 17222

#### Fayetteville - Pine Grove Furnace State Park - walk and swim

Rutter's, 6837 Lincoln Way East, Fayetteville PA 17222  
5K, 10K or 14K Rated 3C

#### Harper's Ferry WV - Online or physical start point

ATC Visitor Center, 799 Washington St.

5K, 10K, 15K or 20K Rated 3C

#### Waterville - Bike Pine Creek Rail Trail - 10K to 240K.

Online start box only.

ONE STEP AT A  
TIME IS GOOD  
WALKING

## Bill's Trip to San Antonio

I left in the dark and early Friday with the hopes of getting Alabama and Louisiana on the way to Texas and Mississippi on the way back. After driving for about 16 hours I finally arrived at Athens Alabama. After waiting for it to warm up and scraping frost off of my windshield, I did the 5K. After the walk I had lunch.

I left for Baton Rouge after noon. While I was driving I finally figured out that I would be rushing myself too much if I did a walk on the way and decided to just sleep in while I was on the road. I arrived at the Olympiad hotel just in time for Sunday night supper.

On Monday, I woke up early enough to get breakfast and do the 20k. The start opened at 7am. The walk went along commercial areas in the North section, around the park near the zoo, and along a creek. Toward the end it followed the Riverwalk. They turned the San Antonio River into a nice commercial area. It was warm. I think the highs most of the week were in the 80's. Being from Pennsylvania, I packed every sweater and sweatshirt I had but not one pair of shorts. I saw an interesting sight (to me), a pair of Egyptian geese. I also picked up a blister on my foot.



On Tuesday, I got up early again for the 20k. This time we walked through the East area, over the Hays Street Bridge. There were a lot of Sears bungalows. They looked like they were well taken care of. As a rule, I don't take pictures of private residences, which turned out to be prudent on my part. I heard a member of the international contingent took a picture of someone's house. The homeowner was not a happy camper, and came out and chased them off.



On Wednesday, I thought it best if I slept in, as the 20k walks were a little too tiring for someone in blue jeans in 80 degree weather, and if I take it easy, maybe I can enjoy myself in the Olympiad village a little. I got tired of eating eggs and sausage, so I had a waffle in the shape of Texas.

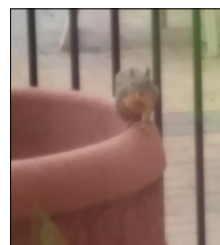
Are you tired of getting letters from someone wanting to buy your house? Apparently the same thing is happening in San Antonio, as there were lots of "mi barrio no se venda" signs. If my rusty Spanish is correct, this means

"my house is not for sale". The walk went by a creek as well as the Latino section. I saw a crane (feathered variety) in the creek, but the sun glared on my cell phone screen so I didn't get a picture of it. My cheap Pennsylvanian finally sprung for a pair of shorts. I also finally popped my blister. That was a release of pressure. On Thursday I slept in again. This walk took us to the historic King William district. There were lots of fine looking private homes, but I don't take pictures of private homes without permission.



We walked past AVA headquarters and I took the opportunity to drop off my books and cheat the post office. In the evening, there was a meet and greet. The fee for this was \$50. It was held in a fourth floor nightclub with a slow elevator so I took the stairs. The place was packed. We got two drink tickets and whatever food they could scrape up. Since I got lost sober, I wasn't going to take a chance getting tipsy so I gave my drinks away. All the food they could find by the time I gave up on it was a plate of nachos I could have gotten from a gas station. That was the last walk that was part of the Olympiad. They had a nice ceremony to close it out and open the Texas Trail Roundup. There were traditional Mexican dancers that put on a nice show during the intermission.

Friday was the friendship walk of the Texas Trail Roundup. It went around the downtown area, and along the Riverwalk. This was the first walk I did that took me past a famous San Antonio landmark.



After the walk was over, and I was chilling in the hotel, I saw this little fellow in the courtyard. I also sprung for a new pair of shoes.

On Saturday, I got up early once more and boarded the bus for the 20k. We walked past Mission Espada, Mission San Juan Capistrano, Mission San Jose, and Mission Conception. This walk was the last one to take us to the Olympiad village.

Sunday's walk took us into the North area again, but was a different walk than the one on Monday, and used the Riverwalk instead of streets to take us to the park. This is a nice, big park, and includes the zoo, which wasn't on either of the other walks, and a Japanese tea garden, which is where one of the checkpoints was.



When I woke up on Monday morning, I headed home. I stopped for the night half an hour from the Mississippi River, then left again in the morning. Near Crossville Tennessee, I stopped at a convenience store called Buc-ee's and had a brisket sandwich, and got some gas for the car. The brisket sandwich was one of the best, if not the best I ever had. If you ever find yourself in the South and see a sign that says "165 miles to the best bathrooms around" I suggest you hold it and check out Buc-ee's.

All in all, I had a good time, and would do it again. I did learn a few lessons though. The states in the south and west are a lot bigger than the northeast, and you just don't have the time to drive through them and do a walk in one weekend. Texas in February is like Pennsylvania in June. Also, have a good pair of shoes.

- Bill Rhoat

## Louise Clouser Memorial Walk

Little Buffalo State Park, Pavilion 2, Perry County

May 13, 2023



Trail distance: 5K Rated 2B or 10K Rated 2C

Special Programs are Par-for-the-Course, Rails to Trails and Perry County.

The 10K route will take a woods trail to the Shoaff's Mill Area where you will see the Newport and Sherman's Valley Railroad car, Shoaff's Grist Mill, Clay's Covered Bridge, and Blue Ball Tavern. You will then walk on a portion of the Exercise Trail before walking by Holman Lake to walk along Little Buffalo Creek before returning to Pavilion 2.

After registering, the 5K walkers will drive 2 miles to the Shoaff's Mill Area to start their walk, The 5K route will start out in the Shoaff's Mill area. You will see many of the same sites as the 10K but will return to the 5K start point, instead of walking back to the pavilion. You will drive back.

The start point will be open from 8 am to 1 pm. You must be finished by 4 pm. There are restrooms and you may bring a pet if leashed.

Marcy Lucas is the point of contact: 717-979-3960 lucas\_mj@hotmail.com.

1579 State Park Road, Newport PA is the address of the Park Office. Do not turn onto State Park Road, stay on Little Buffalo Road until you reach Swimming Pool Road, turn left to Pavilion 2. 40.45182,-77.18859



Come and remember our former leader, Louise. Think of her while you walk and then share your favorite memories with us. Lets have a joyous celebration. If you can't walk anymore, come, sit and chat with us anyway.

## 2023 ATLANTIC REGION CALENDAR of EVENTS

From [ava.org](http://ava.org) as of 3-22-2023

Be sure to check with the [ava](http://ava.org) website or contact number before traveling a great distance to an event.

### April

1	GP	<b>York Rail Trail</b>	<b>York White Rose Wanderers</b>	<b>717-266-1132</b>
1	W	Fulton MD	Columbia Volksmarch Club	410-290-6510
1	WB	Bear DE	First State Webfooters	302-388-5740
6	TGW	Bristol PA	Liberty Bell Wanderers	215-767-5079
8	W	Richmond VA (Bryan Park)	Lee Lepus Volksverband	804-909-9916
15	W	Rockville MD	Seneca Valley Sugarloafers	240-753-0119
<b>15</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b><i>Hershey PA</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-379-8945</i></b>
<b>22</b>	<b>W</b>	<b><i>New Freedom PA Rail Trail</i></b>	<b><i>Baltimore Walking and YWRW</i></b>	<b><i>410-638-7043</i></b>
22	W	Burke VA (40th Anniv.)	Northern VA Volksmarchers	703-867-1073
23	W	Fredericksburg VA	Fredericksburg Walking Club	540-841-1855
<b>26</b>	<b>M</b>	<b><i>Harrisburg PA (6:00 pm)</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-847-3567</i></b>
29	W	Laurel MD	Freestate Happy Wanderers	301-523-6098
29	GW	Huntingdon Valley PA	Liberty Bell Wanderers	845-774-5335

### May

6	GP	<b>Dillsburg PA</b>	<b>York White Rose Wanderers</b>	<b>717-817-9724</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>W</b>	<b><i>Louise Clouser Memorial</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-979-3960</i></b>
13	W	Washington DC (Embassies)	US Freedom Walk Festival	703-209-0174
17	NW	Greenbelt Md	Great Greenbelt Volksmarch	301-431-6668
20	TGW	Media PA	Liberty Bell Wanderers	215-787-5079
<b>31</b>	<b>M</b>	<b><i>Harrisburg PA (6 pm)</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-847-3567</i></b>

### June

3	W	Columbia MD	Columbia Volksmarch Club	410-804-8053
<b>3</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b><i>Thurmont MD</i></b>	<b><i>York White Rose Wanderers</i></b>	<b><i>717-266-1132</i></b>
<b>10</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b><i>Lebanon PA</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-379-8945</i></b>
10	W	Millersville MD	Freestate Happy Wanderers	410-437-2164
21	NW	Greenbelt MD	Great Greenbelt Volksmarch	301-431-6668
24	W	Silver Spring MD	Seneca Valley Sugarloafers	301-651-1875
<b>27</b>	<b>M</b>	<b><i>Harrisburg PA (6 pm)</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-847-3567</i></b>

### July

<b>1</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b><i>Harrisburg PA</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-379-8945</i></b>
<b>8</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b><i>Hanover Junction PA Rail Trail</i></b>	<b><i>York White Rose Wanderers</i></b>	<b><i>717-266-1152</i></b>
19	NW	Greenbelt MD	Great Greenbelt Volksmarch	301-431-6668
<b>25</b>	<b>M</b>	<b><i>Harrisburg PA (6 pm)</i></b>	<b><i>Susquehanna Rovers</i></b>	<b><i>717-847-3567</i></b>



(M is Meeting; G is a Guided Walk; NW is a Night Walk; GP a Group Walk; TGW is a Traveling Guided Walk, W is a Walk, S is a Swim, B is a Bike)

PA events are in bold; *Susquehanna Rovers* are bold and italicized



### Take your dogs Volksmarching -

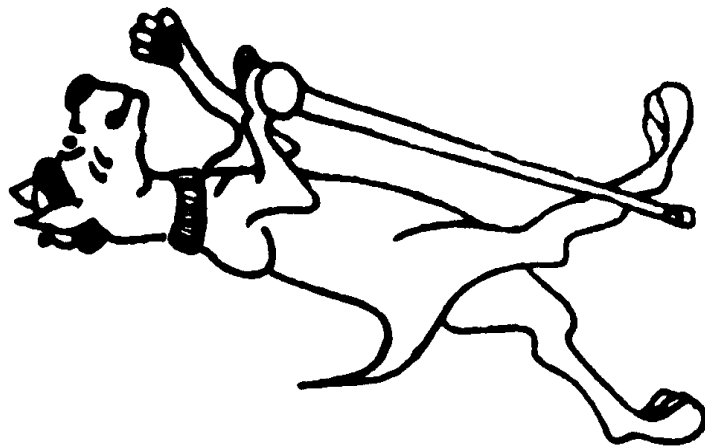
They need exercise too! We even have books for them. They like to be with you.



Susquehanna Rovers Volksmarch Club  
797A Academy Heights Avenue  
Ephrata PA 17522-6915

**Dated Materials**

# **The Rover Reporter**



**April - May - June 2023**