

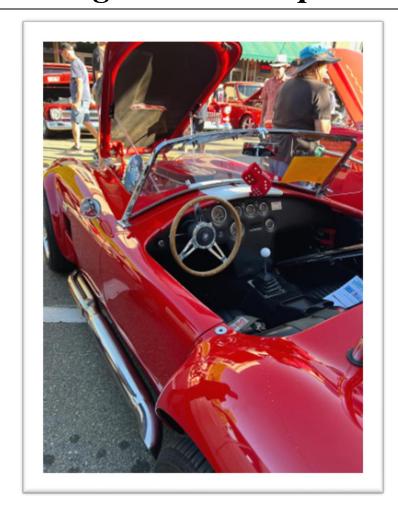
A Publication of the California Volkssport Association

July

August

September

*2025* 



The Placer Pacers' May Friendship walk in Auburn included viewing the monthly "Cruise Nite" participants, like the one shown here. Photo by Bruce McDevitt.



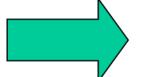




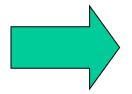




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AVA's Vision: Increasingly engage Americans in lifelong walking and other noncompetitive physical fitness activities.

AVA's Mission: Promote and organize noncompetitive fitness activities that encourage lifelong fun, fitness, and friendship for all ages and abilities.

#### AVA Executive Council 2025 - 2027

Chair of the Board, Carl Cordes, chair@ava.org 2250 Knoll Crest Ave, North Las Vegas, NV 89032 Phone: 702.540.6632

Vice-Chair, Ed McCabe, vice\_chair@ava.org 109 Horseshoe Drive, Dripping Springs, TX 78620 Email: emccabe1234@gmail.com

Secretary, Leslie Stone, secretary@ava.org 1103 Hansberry Court, Ormond Beach, FL 32174 Phone: 832.588.1417

Finance Chair, finance\_chair@ava.org currently open

Pacific Regional Director, pa\_rd@ava.org
Pending final vote, Holly Pelking

15680 Alum Rock Ave., San Jose, CA 95127 Phone: 408.859.7978, Email: ilex56@yahoo.com

Pacific Deputy Regional Director,

pa\_drd@ava.org currently open

National Headquarters Executive Director

Henry Rosales, execdir@ava.org

National Office - RECENTLY MOVED

1032 South Alamo Street

San Antonio, TX 78210 Phone: 210.659.2112

#### **COMPASS** Article Deadlines

August 10 for Oct., Nov. & Dec events

November 10 for Jan., Feb. & March events

February 10 for April, May & June events

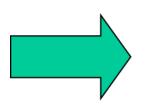
May 10 for July, August & September

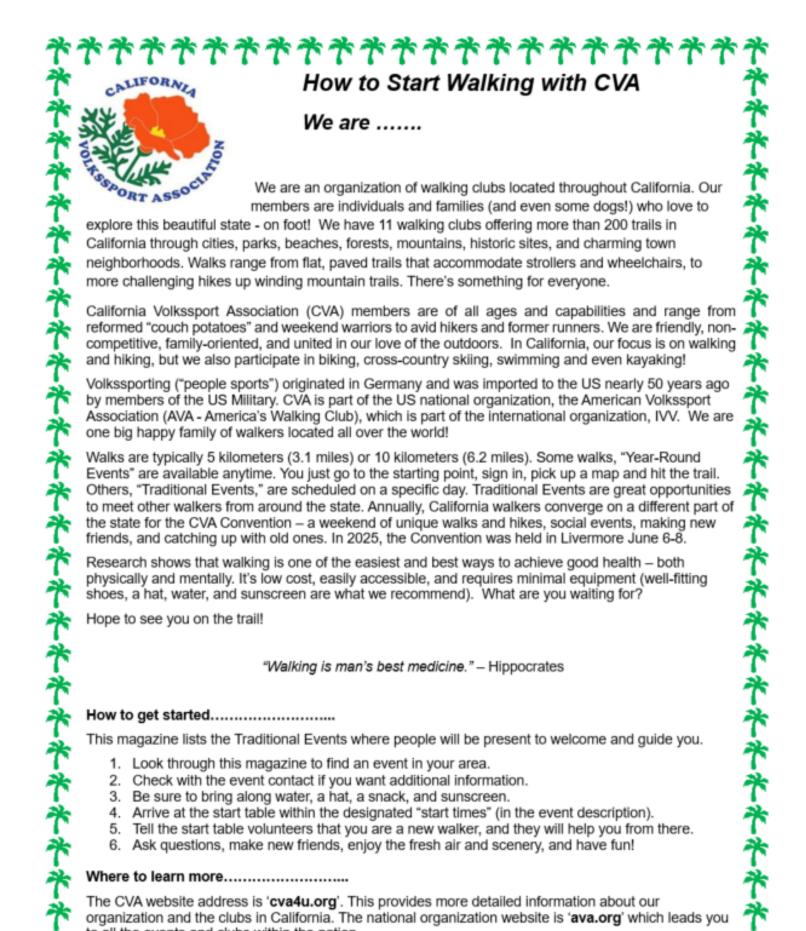
send articles to:

Suzi Glass: glass2walk@gmail.com



**Subscribe see Page 8** 





organization and the clubs in California. The national organization website is 'ava.org' which leads you to all the events and clubs within the nation.

The CVA website address is 'cva4u.org'. This provides more detailed information about our

*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\** 

### 2025 CVA CONTACTS: California Club & CVA Officers

CCBB: Central Coast Beach Boardwalkers	DTT: Delta Tule Trekkers	LDR: Low Desert Roadrunners
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PP: Placer Pacers	SBS: South Bay Striders	SCS: Sonoma County Stompers
Bruce McDevitt 530.412.4452	Suzi Glass 408.592.3935	Marilyn Nasi 707.539.8083
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walknsail@gmail.com	glass2walk@gmail.com	mbnasi91@comcast.net
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Priscilla Fife 916.616.6003	Barbara Nuss 916.283.4650	Betsy McDevitt 530.412.4453
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Alameda, CA 94501	Sacramento, CA 95827-7303	Applegate, CA 95703
sfbaybandits@aol.com	suki2010@mycci.net	betsywalks@gmail.com
Feating Sulps	VVV: Vaca Valley Volks Tom Smith 707.628.9808 848 Stonegate Court Vacaville, CA 95687 smithkey78@gmail.com	LABOR Day

## CVA Officers

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## **COMPASS SUBSCRIPTION DEADLINES**Subscribe by August 15th for the last issue in 2025

Subscribe by November 15th for all 4 issues in 2026 Subscribe by February 15th for 3 issues in 2026 Subscribe by May 15th for 2 issues in 2026 Message from the Prez, Cathy Pauley:

There is a lot of news to share since our last COMPASS. When you read this, the 2025 CVA Convention will be over, and I am sure enjoyed by all who attended. Again thank you to the Bay Bandits and Delta Tule Trekkers for hosting the convention.

Since I cannot see in the future, I can't share everything we discussed at the 2025 business meeting (the article is submitted before the convention), except that the 2026 CVA Convention will be hosted by the Central Coast Beach Boardwalkers and the Low Desert Roadrunners in Temecula. I am excited to gather as CVA and walk in that beautiful wine country area of Southern California.

As many of you know, AVA held its biennial convention in May in Las Cruces, N.M. and we have a new board of directors. Carl Cordes (our former PARD) was elected as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Ed McCabe was elected Vice Chair. It's great having a chair who is part of the Pacific Region and understands our unique challenges. AVA Secretary, Leslie Stone is continuing for another term. Chris Mellon was the nominee for Finance Chair but had to withdraw for health reasons, so AVA is looking for someone to step up to that position.

Let's talk Pacific Regional Director:
Becky Forsythe who stepped in over a year ago so Carl
Cordes could step in as Board of Directors Vice Chair,
had to step down but could not legally do so without a
replacement. Holly Pelking agreed to serve as Pacific
Regional Director for the two year term pending a positive
vote from the clubs. Holly, Becky and Suzi (the deputy
PARD) are working with potential nominees to take over
in 2027. When my term as CVA President ends at the
2026 business meeting, I am willing to step up as the
Deputy Pacific Regional Director.

This leaves me again emphasizing that CVA is too important to dissolve so we need people to step up as CVA Officers in 2026. At the 2026 Convention, we will be voting on a new President, VP South/Central, Treasurer and Secretary and VP North who is the only officer eligible for one more term. So please consider becoming a nominee in one of these positions. (P.S. I am willing to run as a VP or Secretary).

Let me share about this edition's photo. Joan Sykes and I joined my sister Margaret and partner, Pam, in Yosemite in May. What a beautiful time to visit Yosemite!! One of the day trips was to the Giant Sequoia Groves, where this photo was taken. It is such an honor to trek with my dear friend, Joan.

Your Prez, Cathy



#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

All activities of the American Volkssport Association shall be carried on so as to be responsive to the needs of all persons, without regard to race, religion, sex, age, national or cultural origin, place of residence, economic circumstance, lifestyle or social status. Events are open to everyone.

**IVV/AVA SANCTIONS:** All events in The COMPASS are sanctioned by the American Volkssport Association (AVA), a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV).

IVV RECORD BOOKS: IVV issues special awards for participants who complete specified milestones (10, 30, 50, etc. events and/or 500, 1000, 1500 km, etc.). Those who wish to receive awards for completing these milestones record them in official IVV record books which are submitted to AVA when each milestone is reached. These official IVV books may be purchased at the Start/Finish for \$6.00 each. New Walker Packets containing both an Event and Distance book plus coupons for free walks and information about volkssporting are also available for \$10.00.

**REGISTRATION AND FEES:** All participants must register for each event. All participants will pay no more than \$4.00. An event may also have a special award available for an additional fee to those who have completed the course. **Awards will not be sold outright.** 

If there are not enough awards available on the day of the event, the sponsoring club may choose to reorder additional awards to be mailed to those who paid the appropriate fee. *Pay close attention to the event advertisement*. Sponsors may advertise that only a specified number of awards will be available and that *no* reorders will be made.

Where pre-registration is offered, participants are encouraged to pre-register as instructed in the event advertisement or flyer. *No refunds will be made to pre-registered persons who do not participate.* 

**PROCEDURES:** At the event start, each participant will receive a start card which must be filled out with the person's name and address. *In addition to a start card, each participant must also sign a waiver.* 

This card must be carried during the event and personally presented at the checkpoints along the route. All cards remain the property of the sponsoring club and **must be turned in at the completion of the event**, whether or not the participant receives IVV credit or an award.

DISCLAIMER: The American Volkssport Association and its officers, members, and agents shall not be liable or responsible for, and shall be saved and held harmless for and against, any and all claims and damages to or loss of property arising out of or attributed to the operation of events conducted by the AVA. Participants must sign a disclaimer (waiver) for all events. A parent or guardian must sign for those under 12 years old.

STIPULATIONS: With registration for these events, the participant accepts the guidelines of the AVA and agrees to observe the principles of good sportsmanship and safety. Every participant must adhere to the directions of the control personnel. Littering is not permitted. Check each event advertisement or flyer to determine if the route is suitable for baby strollers and wheelchairs and if pets are permitted. All events will take place regardless of weather conditions.

REFRESHMENTS: Water will be available at the Start/Finish and control points. Other refreshments are often provided either at the Start/Finish or at the control points. It is a good idea to carry water, especially in warmer weather.

YEAR ROUND/SEASONAL EVENTS: Registration materials for Year-Round/Seasonal events will include instructions for remitting the fee and the fee for the award, if one is available, to the sponsoring club. All participants, must register and sign the waiver form for each event. You may only have one Event credit per day. You may participate in an event without limit for Distance credit, but you must obtain a new start card (and pay the registration fee of no more than \$4.00) each time you participate except when completing the course twice in one day.

#### WEBSITES

AVA: www.AVA.org

myAVA.org - personal account, OSB

CVA: www.cva4u.org IVV: ivv-web.org

California Club Websites

CCBB: www.beachboardwalkers.org

DTT: www.DeltaTuleTrekkers.org

#### LDR:

www.LowDesertRoadrunners.org

PP: www.PlacerPacers.org

SBS: www.SBStriders.org

SFBB:www.facebook.com/ SanFranciscoBayBandits

#### SWS:

www.SacramentoWalkingSticks.org

TTT: www.TahoeTrailTrekkers.org

VVV: www.VacaVolks.org

#### CVA Pin on Sale Now!!



Get your new California
Volkssporter Pin
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betsywalks@gmail.com
or 530-412-4453
Betsy will have pins at
up-coming walk events.

## **Trail Ratings**

#### What do the trail route/ratings mean?

The following trail rating system is used to indicate the degree of difficulty of a trail for the AVA sanctioned walk.

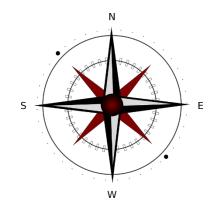


Part 1 – INCLINE/ELEVATION	Part 2 - TERRAIN
Very small hills or very little stair climbing.  Probably suitable for strollers and wheelchairs.  Cumulative elevation gain from Starting Point: up to 200 feet.	A. Almost entirely on pavement.
Some moderate hills and stair climbing.  Probably suitable for strollers. May not be suitable for wheelchairs. Cumulative elevation gain from Starting Point. 200 - 1000 feet.	B. A significant part of the route is on well-groomed trails with very few obstacles.
Some significant hill or stair climbing. Not suitable for strollers or wheelchairs. Cumulative elevation gain from Starting Point: 1000 - 2000 feet.	C. A significant part of the route is on somewhat difficult terrain (rocky/rooted paths or soft sand.)
4. Lots of significant hills or stair climbing. Cumulative elevation gain from Starting Point: 2000 - 3500 feet.	<b>D.</b> A significant part of the route is on very difficult terrain.
5. Many steep hills. Cumulative elevation gain from Starting Point more than - 3500 feet.	E. The majority of the route is on very difficult terrain.

#### **Examples**

- When determining elevation gain, if a route goes up for 50 feet and down for 50 feet and back up for another 75 feet, the cumulative gain would be 125 feet.
- A route that is mostly on flat pavement would be rated  $1\Delta$
- A beach walk would be rated 1C.
- A route with moderate hills on well groomed trails would be rated 2B.

Precautions: Please be aware that weather conditions will cause a variance in the trail rating. Inclement weather or an unexpected hot or cold day can increase the degree of difficulty of a trail, so each participant should adjust their pace accordingly. You alone know your own limits. It is advisable to carry water to all walking events.



## RENEW OR SUBSCRIBE TO THE COMPASS FOR THE LAST ISSUE OF 2025

The COMPASS is a quarterly publication of the California Volkssport Association (CVA).

Subscriptions are on a calendar year basis and prorated each quarter.

The donation for 1 issue is \$3.75, payable to CVA.

Name:		
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Club:		
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Please check:		
New	Renew	Address Change
Dy August 15 places can	d your chack for the cu	pagested donation payable to

By August 15, please send your check for the suggested donation payable to The California Volkssport Association (CVA) and your completed form to: COMPASS Subscriptions, Jean Lucas, 2423 Regis Drive, Davis, CA 95618-2543

Questions? Call Jean Lucas 530.848.5362 or email jeanb@dcn.org



## Special Event Programs

Special Event Programs are designed by clubs, often partnering with groups with notable items outdoors. Walkers interested in those items search for the qualifiers while walking, then note their finds in a special book.

When the book is complete, it is turned into the club for an award (patch, pin, etc.). The 15 Special Programs below include 2 new ones for 2025 (listed in bold).

The abbreviations are used in the Traditional Event columns here in *The COMPASS*. AVA's Starting Point 2025 book and the ava.org "Events" tab also lists Special Programs for Year-Round and Seasonal events.

Check with the sponsoring club to see if books from programs ending in 2024 may be turned in and awards received in 2025.

## Special Programs 2025

Abbrev	Program Name	Ends
AT	Appalachian Trail	2028
BC	Border Crossings	2024
Grain	Grain Elevators-Monarchs of the Plains	2027
Laby	A-MAZE-ing Labyrinths	2026
Light	Lighthouses II	2025
Par	Par for the Course	2025
R-to-T	Rails to Trails	2025
Step	Step to the Beat	2026
TH/CH	Town Hall/Gity Hall	2024
Univ	University Walkin' (Pacific Region)	2024
USA	Walk USA A-Z	no end
Vet	Walking with America's Veterans	2027
Walk Wild	Walk with the Wild Things	2027
50St	50 States	no end
51 Cap	51 Capitals	no end



#### THE DELTA TULE TREKKERS

Invite you to walk with us at

# Oakdale, The Cowboy Capital of the World August 23, 2025

Start: CVS Pharmacy, 1520 East F St, Oakdale, CA 95361 Start Time: 8:30 a.m. Finish: 3:00 p.m. Distances: 5K & 10K Trail Rating: 1A both

Sanction #129488-2025

Fee: \$4.00.

A beautiful walk along park trails provides wonderful views as we stroll along the **Cowboy Capital of the World**. Views overlook the Stanislaus River as we go up, down and around toward other interesting areas. We can imagine "Ole" sounds as we go by rodeo grounds.

Special Programs: R-to-T, TH/Ch. Co: Stan.

**Miscellaneous**: Water and restrooms available at the start and along the route. Strollers and wheelchairs may have difficulty traversing the slightly hilly trails. An alternate route will be available. Dogs are welcome and must be <u>on</u> leash with clean-up.

**Additional Information**: Contact: Cathy Pauley at 915-479-1060 or the club website, Deltatuletrekkers.org.

**Directions**: Follow Hwy 99 toward Manteca to **Hwy 120 East.** Continue on Hwy 120 East through Escalon toward Oakdale. As you come to Oakdale turn left and continue on Hwy 120 East, now East F Street. Follow about a mile to N. Maag Ave (stoplight). Turn left, then right toward CVS. Registration will be nearby.



In Memory of Howard "Bud" Simmons
July 15, 1931 – February 6, 2025

Longtime walker, Bud Simmons, was a native of Los Angeles before embarking on a U.S. Air Force career that took him all over the world. He then worked as a Medical Technical Asst. for the State of California until retirement. He and his wife, Jill, had a daughter and 2 sons. Although already doing "Fun Runs", Bud and Jill were introduced to Volkssporting by them daughter and son-in-law while the latter were stationed in Germany in 1984.

Bud and Jill were founders of the Vaca Valley Volks in 1986. They took on leadership roles, including Bud as Treasurer and later VVV's President in 2002-2004. They became members of the Placer Pacers around 2006 and were instrumental in the 2007 AVA Convention based in Sacramento. They joined the Sacramento Walking Sticks in 2012.

For the Vaca Valley Volks, Bud developed walks including Vacaville (Historic) and Rodeo Beach (Marin) and served as POCs for YREs. Bud even designed and built the PVC frameworks used for the AVA emblem and VVV banner.

They participated because they loved to walk. Bud and Jill completed walks in 50 states, 51 Capitals and many AVA Special Programs. Bud's totals were 2,800 Events and 25,000 Kilometers! A leader and friendly and helpful walker, Bud is missed.

Happy Trails, Bud!



#### LOOK WHO'S WALKING

The March Issue of The American Wanderer (TAW) named the following EVENT award winners from CA clubs. Be sure to Congratulate them on the trail!

Name	Events
Doug Rathgeb	1,250 Events
Jean Lucas	1,300 Events
Holly Pelking	2,500 Events



#### LOOK WHO'S WALKING

These listed walkers were also singled out in the March TAW for their DISTANCE achievements.

Please make note!

Name	Distance
Carole Soenke	6,500 km
Doug Rathgeb	13,000 km
Jean Lucas	15,000 km

#### 2025 Year-Round & Seasonal Event Changes Since the Q 2 Issue

OsB = Online Start Box. OsB entries are online only.

Go to my.ava.org to get started.

Anaheim - Co: Orng - Disneyland-California Adventure walk (Y0794) start: OSB only POC: PARD

Benicia --Co: Sol -- 2 walks Benicia State Recreation Area (Y1346) & Historic (Y0213) start: Benicia Fitness, 606 1st Street, Benicia, CA 94510 POC: Tom Smith 707.628.9808 by VVV

Coronado - Co: SD - Herm Husbands Memorial Walk (Y0352) start: OSB only POC: PARD

Encino - Co: LA Nature & Historic walk (Y0934) start: OSB only POC: PARD

Los Olivos - Co: SB - Wine Country walk (Y2357) start: Fess Parker's Wine Country Inn, 2860 Grand Ave., Los Olivos, CA 93441, POC: Ty Fredriks 805.714.1552 by CCBB

Redding -Co: Sha - Sundial Bridge walk (Y0705) start: OSB only, POC: PARD

Santa Cruz - Co: SCruz - walk Natural Bridges (Y0328) start closed -- moving to OSB. POC: Holly Pelking 408.859.7978 by SBS

Vacaville - Co: Sol - 2 walks, Historic (Y1586) & Joe Sutter/Jo Hefner Memorial Lagoon Valley (Y0331) start: Diggers Deli, 876 Alamo Dr., Vacaville, CA 95688, POC: Tom Smith 707.628.9808 by VVV

Whitewater - Co: Riv - walk Pacific Crest Trail (Y0975) start: OSB only, POC: Cathy Pauley 915.479.1060 by CVA

Yosemite National Park - Co: Mrp - 2 seasonal walks 05/01/25 - 10/31/25 Cloud's Rest (Y0734) & Half Dome (Y0765) start: OSB only POC: PARD - check park website for access updates.

Yosemite National Park - Co: Mrp - Valley Floor walk (Y0727) start: OSB only, POC: PARD.

FROM
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