



Roadrunner Happenings

Roadrunner Activities and News (April 2011)

President's Corner:

- The great walking weather is finally here as are the Mid-week walks so let's get out and take advantage of the weather before it gets hot and humid. Make sure that you identify yourself as a Roadrunner when you buy your start cards – the club earns group prizes if we have over 25 people at a walk and these prizes are given out to the May Walk volunteers at our volunteer picnic.
- Don't forget to volunteer for the May Walk – we have lots of opportunities for our members to come out and support the volksmarch community through their help – learn what it really takes to put on a volksmarch and enjoy the friendship and camaraderie of not only your fellow club members but the walking community as a whole. You'll see old friends from all over Europe – lots of ex-Roadrunners that have PCS'ed to other parts of the continent over the years. Many of our old friends and members also come back to Europe in May expressly to do the annual walk. This walk tradition stretches back to the mid 70s for those of you old enough to remember so let's make it good for our fellow walkers. Lynne and I have traveled from as far as Seoul, Korea some years to participate in the walk, see old friends and make new ones. This year as usual – World Walking Day coincides with the Saturday walk, so anyone that participates (works or walks) will get their DVV stamp and DVV certificate commemorating the event. Sunday coincides with Mother's Day so get your friends and family to come out and participate this year. The trails are 5km, 10km, 15km, and 20km and all of them offer beautiful views of the Ramstein Valley so come out and take advantage of the day. Volunteers also get to participate in the Volunteer Picnic on a date TBD, where the club Officers and Directors treat all of you to a club funded BBQ – you will each get a volunteer achievement patch as well as each family gets to select from the cache of group prizes we have collected over the last year.

New General Membership Meeting Location for April: We are always looking for new locations that members can enjoy while participating in the General Membership meetings. This month we are moving to the Rimini , also called the "Schutzenhaus" in Weltersbach. The social hour will begin at 6PM, we have a back room for the meeting. There is a full menu (Pizzas, salads, full meals) and the food is good and prices reasonable. If you'd like to eat before the official meeting starts arrive closer to 6PM. The Rimini is located on Bergstrasse 7, 66879 Weltersbach. More detailed directions are at the end of the newsletter.

Car Pooling and Flag Walks (Lynne Crandall): There will be a flag walk to Rodenbach this month (9 April), we plan on having the flag there on Saturday - more to follow on Facebook. We are also going to have a carpool to Orscholz, Germany 16 April. This will give our members the chance to see the "Key of the Saar River" – hopefully, the trail will take us right above for a great view. If not, we will make a side trip to go see it, it is worth it. We plan on taking a side "shopping" trip into Mettlach that afternoon – the home of the Villeroy & Boch factory stores. We

will tentatively meet at the Park & Ride in Spesbach at 0830 but check back on Facebook and e-mail as we get closer to the event. Let us know if you are interested in these or any other trips so we can schedule things that interest our membership.

Sales (Pat Patterson): The long awaited “new line” of clothing has finally arrived. Pat Massey and Pat Patterson have found us an embroiderer that does great logos, not only on the front but we can get the club logo embroidered on the back of the polos and fleeces. Come by the General membership meeting in April and place your order so you can have them to wear in time for the Spring Walk. Take advantage of the opportunity. We have also received our new supply of club patches so if we owe a patch come by and pick it up from Donna and stay for the meeting. The meeting will be held at the Rimini in Weltersbach starting at 7pm on 19 April. Come a little early and socialize with your fellow members!

NEW -- How about sharing your trail information with other members and walkers?

Recent Trail Reports:

Bitche, France – Same trail as in past years, 5km is very flat taking you through town and then out to the lake. Lots of parking and easy to find. The hall is a little old but they have plenty of room and make everyone feel welcome. Lots of tourism opportunities once the walk is over – Citadel of Bitche, Maginot Line (Forts Simserhof and Casso within a few minutes drive).

Aschbach, Saar – Walk held in Thalexweiler (Don Bosco Hall) and unless you get there early parking is non-existent, you’ll need to be inventive and patient or be prepared to hike in. The hall is small but nice. The trails are new this year and is NOT senior friendly – the surfaces are good but the hills are brutal. Seems like the only flat place in the area was in the hall 😊 We walked the 5km and it took us much longer than usual.

Kirn-Sulzbach, RP – New trail, the outbound trail was hilly, once you got to the control on the 5km it got flat, walking by the river from the town of Kirn back to the hall. Hall is small and crowded, parking is good but you have a short walk (2-300 yards) to the hall

Achievements (Sheryl Neal): Contact Sheryl Neal if you have volunteered to help a club or achieved any of the IVV or club distance goals so we can recognize your efforts in the newsletter

HOT Club Elections (BOD): The annual club elections will be held on 21 Jun. We’d like to see as many members there as possible to participate and vote for the officers and directors for 2011-2012. Anyone interested in running for a club office (either officer or director) please contact any of the board members by the May General Membership meeting. Nominations can be made from the floor the night of the elections. This year we are also looking for any of our members that are interested in working as the assistant or alternate to our present board members. This gives you the chance to participate actively in your club and meet more people interested in volksmarching. Pat Massey and I would love to see all of our Board Members have an alternate – that way people can participate, learn the ins and outs of volksmarching and it helps cut the overall work load for everyone. Try it – you might like it and have a great time.

Upcoming Events

- Here's how you decode the listings - you'll find the event name (i.e. **Morbach**) followed by the state or the country the walk is in (**RP, Saar, etc**) and the trail lengths if they have been published in the termineliste (**NEW for 2011**). Check on the web site in the Master Distance Listing Dec 09 for how far approximately the walk is from Ramstein-Miesenbach. You still need to check the weekly walking column in the Stars & Stripes, the walk brochures and the official termineliste but this will give you a start. We will also suggest some nice "mini-trips" for folks who are more adventuresome. The officers have done a number of these over the years and can provide information if you need it.

- Always remember to take your **passport AND international driver's license** if you are traveling to a walk outside the boundaries of Germany. You never know when the customs officials will enforce the borders and the fines can be steep. At best, the hassle may cost you several hours and much frustration.

| <u>Dates</u> | <u>Location and Distances</u> |
|-------------------|---|
| April 2011 | |
| 2 Apr 2011 | Steinfort, Lux (5/10/20km) |
| 2/3 Apr 2011 | Ludwigshafen (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 2/3 Apr 2011 | Weiler (RP – 6/10/20km) |
| 2/3 Apr 2011 | Duppenweiler (Saar – 5/10/15/20km) |
| 2/3 Apr 2011 | Schmelz (Saar – 5/10/20km) |
| 6 Apr 2011 | Mainz (RP – 5/10km) |
| 9/10Apr 2011 | Rodenbach (RP- 6/11/21km) - Flag Walk on Sat |
| 9/10 Apr 2011 | Wissmansdorf (RP – 6/11/15/20/30km,9 Apr – 42km) |
| 9/10 Apr 2011 | Rohrwiller, FR (A/10/20/42/50km) |
| 10Apr 2011 | Hahnenbach (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 10 Apr 2011 | Forbach, FR (A/10km) |
| 9/10 Apr 2011 | Bexbach (Saar – 6/10/20km) |
| 9/10 Apr 2011 | Saarlouis-Roden (Saar – 5/11/20km) |
| 13 Apr 2011 | Hohenoellen (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 13 Apr 2011 | Miesenthal, FR (A/10/20km) |
| 16/17 Apr 2011 | Bingen (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 16/17 Apr 2011 | Rhaunen (RP – 6/10/20/42/50km// Rad 30km) |
| 16/17 Apr 2011 | Illingen (Saar – 6/10/15km) |
| 16/17 Apr 2011 | Orscholz(Saar – 5/10/20km) - Car Pool on Sat |
| 17 Apr 2011 | Montbronn, FR (A/10/20km) |
| 17 Apr 2011 | Consdorf, Lux (5/10/20km) |
| 22 Apr 2011 | Urexweiler (Saar – 5/11/20km) |

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|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 25 Apr 2011 | Bischofsdhron (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 25 Apr 2011 | Etting, FR (A/10/20km) |
| 30 Apr/1 May 2011 | Bockenau (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 30 Apr/1 May 2011 | Duppenweiler (Saar – 5/10/20km) |

May 2011

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|----------------|---|
| 1 May 2011 | Ludelage, Lux (5/10/20km) |
| 4 May 2011 | Konz-Krettnach (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 7/8 May 2011 | Brachbach (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 7/8 May 2011 | Ramstein (RP - 5/10/20km) – Annual Club Walk |
| 7/8 May 2011 | Quierscheid (Saar) |
| 8 May 2011 | Wien, Austria |
| 8 May 2011 | Itzig, Lux (5/10/20km) |
| 14/15 May 2011 | Kriegsfeld (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 14/15 May 2011 | Monreal (RP – 5/10/20km) |
| 14/15 May 2011 | Hasborn-Dautweiler (Saar – 6/10/20km) |
| 14/15 May 2011 | Koellerbach (Saar – 5/10/20km) |
| 14/15 May 2011 | Holving, FR (A/10/20km) |

Long Range Event Planning

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|---------------------|---|
| 5 Apr 2011 | Board of Directors Meeting – Maxi, 6PM social. |
| 19 Apr 2011 | <u>NEW LOCATION</u> -- General Membership and May Walk Volunteer Meeting – Rimini (Bergstrasse 7, 66879 Weltersbach, 6PM social hour |
| 3 May 2011 | Final Pre-Event Coordination and Board of Directors Meeting –TBD, 6PM social. |
| 7-8 May 2011 | May Walk 2011 (Merzweckhalle, Miesenbach) |
| 17 May 2011 | <u>NEW LOCATION</u> -- General Membership Meeting – Rimini (Bergstrasse 7, 66879 Weltersbach, 6PM social hour |

General Membership Meeting Location Map – Rimini (Near the Schutzenhaus in Weltersbach)

- The social hour will begin at 6PM, we have a back room for the meeting. There is a full menu (Pizzas, salads, full meals) and the food is good and prices are reasonable. If you'd like to eat before the official meeting start arrive closer to 6PM. The Rimini is located on Bergstrasse (#7).
- If you are coming from the west of Ramstein - take the Spesbach exit on A62 and proceed towards Ramstein, take the left turn just before the new lumber yard (at the light), follow this road and the restaurant will be on the right just before the pedestrian bridge – look for the Schutzenhaus also on the right.
- If you are coming from Ramstein, take L356 (Spesbacher strasse) until you get to the lumber yard then turn right at the light, follow this road and the restaurant will be on the right just before the pedestrian bridge – look for the Schutzenhaus also on the right.

