

Fredericksburg, Texas, native, Kenn Knopp, was visiting some distant relatives in Germany in early 1976. They took him for an afternoon “stroll”, a Volksmarch in the hills, totaling 10 km! He went straight to bed upon completion.

He still thought it was a good idea since he was on the lookout for an activity Fredericksburg might sponsor as a reflection of its German heritage. When he returned home, he and some other public-minded citizens formed a walking club and the international IVV headquarters approved it. Volkssportverein Friedrichsburg (People’s Sports Association Fredericksburg) naturally became “First in Texas, first in the USA” Lester Frantzen was part of that original group and currently serves as club treasurer.

The first internationally sanctioned walk in the USA was held in Fredericksburg in June 1976 as part of the nation’s Bicentennial Celebration. More than 200 participants came from far and wide to have their Distance and Events books officially stamped. Most of those taking part had been introduced to the popular weekend walks being held all across Europe. Almost immediately new Volkssport clubs were organized elsewhere in Texas and across the country.

The national headquarters of the American Volkssport Association (AVA) is now located in Universal City, a suburb of San Antonio. Presently there are 264 such clubs chartered by the AVA.

These events, like the 2014 Year round Events, are presented in memory of Kenn Knopp, Founding Father of Volkssporting in the USA and Joyce O’Rear, longtime, faithful President of the sponsoring club, Volkssportverein Friedrichsburg.

The passing of these two leaders last year was followed by a dramatic reduction in local club members and prospects for the club's survival were questionable. Since the first of the year, more than 25 households - from near (San Antonio, Austin and vicinity) and far (Hobbs NM and Ft. Worth, Lorena, Houston and Quemado TX) - have answered the call and joined together to support its rebirth. The club will be sponsoring a walking event/lovers party for Valentine's Day, 2015, and gearing up for a gala celebration of the Fortieth Anniversary of the formation of Volkssporting in The Americas with a trio of events in June 2016. Plan to join us!



Volkssportverein Friedrichsburg AVA-1/TVA-1

Willkommen - Bienvenue - Welcome

**Presents:
“der Aufschwung”
(The Revival)**



Photo Credit: Fredericksburg Convention & Visitor Bureau

**Vereinskirche Museum
Fredericksburg, TX**

Saturday, June 21, 2014

5km, 10km, & 20km Walks (SW14/98665)

25km Bike (SW14/98710)

300m Swim (SW14/98711)



SPONSOR: Volkssportverein Friedrichsburg, AVA-1

ELIGIBILITY/TYPE OF EVENT: Noncompetitive. Walk, jog or run at your own pace. It is open to all and families are encouraged to participate. Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult and will receive a complimentary “B” award of their choice.

STARTING POINT: Kinder Halle, behind the Vereins Kirche Museum,
(near the playground)
100 W. Main St, Fredericksburg, TX 78264

START AND FINISH TIMES: Walks and bike starts 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; walkers choosing 20km MUST start by 9:00 a.m. Both events finish by 2:00 p.m. The Swim starts 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., finish by 1:30 p.m.

DISTANCES: 5k, 10k, and 20k walks; 25k bike route, and a 300m swim

AWARD: B awards from previous events will be available for a nominal fee.

REGISTRATION: All participants must register and carry a start card. There is no preregistration.

FEES: The fee is \$3.00 for all participants. “B” Awards are available for an additional \$2.00. Swimmers will be charged an additional \$2.00 pool entrance fee. There are no refunds. Donations are appreciated to help defray event expenses and promote Volkssporting in Texas.

TRAIL: The route is considered easy and is on paved surfaces. Baby strollers may need to be carried at times; not suitable for wheelchairs. The Trail Rating is 1A.

WATER & RESTROOMS: Water and restrooms are available at the start/finish. Water is available at the checkpoints.

AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS: These events qualify for a variety of Special Programs; see the details at www.ava.org.

DISCLAIMER: The sponsors are not liable for accidents, thefts, and/or material damage. Reasonable effort has been made by the sponsors to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

MISCELLANEOUS: You may bring your leashed pet AND you must pick up after it. Animals are not permitted in buildings along the route.

INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Hamilton, (830)-285-7062, e-mail: hamhook1124@gmail.com.

DIRECTIONS TO START POINT: Entering Fredericksburg from the North or West, head through town on Main St. (US87/US290) until you get to Crockett Street. The Start is on the left. From the South or East, the start will be on the right along Main street (US 87/US 290) just past N. Adams St.
Google Map: goo.gl/maps/07vi8 GPS: 30.27621N 98.87277W

