

## **CINDY BURKE**

1. Why did you sign up for the hike? How old were you?  
I signed up to become Rich and Famous. Mentally I was 5 but in reality, I was 84.
2. What is your favorite experience from the hike?  
The Day it ended!
3. Did you have a moment of enlightenment or “ah-ha moment” on the hike and if so, what was it?  
One day I just woke up and said to myself.....it could be worse, in lieu of using a zipper on a tent, I could be one of those idiots pulling a door that says ‘push’.
4. What was your favorite state and why?  
Missouri because it was so freezing cold that I got to sleep for 15 hours.
5. What was your least favorite part of the hike?  
The day I flew out to California to hike back.
6. How did the hike change you?  
My feet grew a whole size along with my butt.
7. What do you tell people about your achievement now?  
Google it!
8. What would you have changed about the hike?  
I would change it to HikaVatican. It’s the smallest country in the World at .2 square miles! And could be done in less than 10 minutes.
9. Did you pursue other hiking/backpacking afterwards? Long journeys or short weekends?  
Of course not, I may be stupid but I’m not INSANE!
10. What did you learn about yourself that you are willing to share?  
That I wasn’t going to become Rich and Famous.
11. Did it make you a stronger person?  
No, I was the opposite of most of the Hikers.....I lost muscle and weight and became anorexic.
12. Are you proud of your accomplishment?  
No, I’m ashamed because I didn’t become Rich and Famous.
13. What was the dumbest thing you did on the hike?

Bring a garden hoe to grub out the poison ivy.

14. What was your most vivid memory from the hike?

All the food that I could eat.

15. What was your funniest moment on the hike?

It was the morning I put 20 pounds of rocks in Janet's pack and removed them later that evening and she never knew it.....not even till this day!

16. What was your most embarrassing moment on the hike?

On the first day of a new joining hiker (not mentioning any names), I had too much to drink and I crawled into his tent by mistake that night. He was so devastated, he nearly never talked the whole trip!

17. What was your nickname on the hike?

I didn't have one. However, the best nickname in the group that I liked (not mentioning any names again).....was 'rollyourown'.

18. Any other thoughts or stories you'd like to share?

On a serious note, I'm glad we got the ball rolling for the East to West trail now known as The Discovery Trail.