

News from N.E.W. #11, Tuesday, January 28, 2014

- 1. Starting Point Changes: Forest Grove, OR:** "Due to construction at front of Tuality Forest Grove hospital, our AVA start box is relocated to the Emergency entrance. Park in the lot near the front entrance and walk to the Emergency entrance (just a short walk right of the front entrance). Ask the person located on the right of the Emergency waiting room for the Walk Box".
- 2. Entering 4th Qtr AVA Participation Reports:** If you're entering your participation reports online at the very last minute, be sure you are entering in the 2013 version of the walk, not the 2014 version. They both show until the 30th.
- 3. December 13, 2014 – 10:11AM, or 10:11 12/13/14:** Members of the National Executive Council are beginning to work on a nation-wide event that will put folks out walking at 10:11 AM on December 13, 2014. There's some thinking along the lines of a tag line "It's time to get out and walk. Come walk with the AVA"; attracting national attention as well as national sponsorship; providing a special patch available to all clubs who host a walk that covers this time. No matter what happens along that line it is an opportunity for AVA to "host" something with all (or at least lots) of clubs involved. A suggestion has been made that we have a call or email in status report from all clubs at 10:11 about how many people are out walking. The NEC is hoping to generate further ideas from clubs.
Our region already has one walk on 12/13 in Vancouver by the Vancouver USA Volkssporters (Christmas at the Fort). I know that Lilac City often has a night walk around this time. Is there a Puget Sound Area club willing to think about a 12/13 walk? How about a walk in Yakima, or Leavenworth (Christmas decorations)? What about someplace further south in Oregon? Rather than poo-pooing the idea, consider what could be done and how your state associations can help. Snowshoeing anyone?
- 4. New ED of AVA – Stephanie Sinclair:** Our new ED started work January 27th. Her direct email is ssinclair@ava.org. avahq@ava.org will continue to be monitored by Candy Purcell with items directed to the appropriate person. We should be getting the new Checkpoint next week. They wanted to give Stephanie a chance to write an article for it.
- 5. Complete Future Events List:** Our event calendar continues to fill up. Looks like a great year. Please don't sit on a decision to hold an event. Try a Sunday, if no Saturday is available in your area. How about a mid-week guided walk? Don't know what that entails? Ask me or your state association. It's a traditional event, held with one start time and group leaders for walkers of different abilities. Done in Canada all the time. All you need is parking, a restroom, a table for registration and book stamping, limited direction sheets, and off you go. Of course you need a route, generally both 5 and 10K or thereabouts.
- 6. Fill in the Details:** So you've sanctioned your event. Please go back in and fill in the event description. There are some clubs that never do this. I guess they rely on the NW Pathfinder to provide information. But there are lots of us who look on the website. Please be considerate and enter descriptions and driving directions. You are losing out on participants.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

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