

News from N.E.W. #12, Monday, February 24, 2014

- 1. Starting Point Changes:** Be sure to check the www.ava.org website before planning any trips involving YREs. Many times start points have changed. Hopefully each club is making changes to the AVA website when they change a location, even if temporarily. And, notifying linda@ava.org so she can put them in the "Starting Point Changes" page and in the TAW.
 - **Gig Harbor YRE 1234** is temporarily closed. The McDonald's remodel had made this place impractical to use. The new start point will be the ACE Hardware, but has not been set up as yet. I'll forward information when it is available.
 - **Albany YREs Y0215 & Y0934:** The start point for these walks has been further changed from Starbucks to the Subway in the same complex. Ask for red notebook under customer service counter. Payment to be mailed. Open daily 5am to 7pm.
 - **Port Gamble YRE 1685:** Available again. Store was closed for remodeling Jan. 3.
- 2. Please submit the full name of **volkssporters who pass away**** to Karen Winkle, karen@ava.org. She will add them to our necrology. The necrology list is read aloud at AVA conventions and will be posted in the AVA convention program.
- 3. Participation Decline:** Overall participation nationally for all types of events in 2013 **increased** by 4590 participants or 2.6% over 2012 to 181,040. Five regions increased participation. However, the NW region **decreased** by 591 participants or 1.4% to 41,118 down from 41,709. Let's not stand on our laurels of being the region with the most participants. Let's look at how we can increase participation: more traditional events by more clubs, more publicity by individual clubs in their own areas for their events, etc.
- 4. December 13, 2014 – 10:11AM, or 10:11 12/13/14:** Please keep what I wrote last time in mind. I've seen some interest in holding group walks of sanctioned YRE's on this date. Great idea! Remember put them on Meetup and **advertise locally** to get non-volkssport people out to your event. The idea is not just to have a walk with your club members, but to increase people walking with us.
- 5. Complete Future Events List:** Please check the details on the Complete Future Events List and let me know if there are things that need to be changed. And, **fill in the details** on the AVA website. Please sanction your events as soon as you can, to allow those who want to fill in with guided walks or Meetups a chance to plan.
- 6. Remember the NW Regional Conference:** Portland State University June 23-28, including seven walks and 4 swim events. Go to <http://www.walkoregon.org/conf/nw2014.htm> for information, a brochure and links to registration.
- 7. AVA Convention 2015:** Please put **June 13-21, 2015 on your calendar** for the next AVA Convention in Salem, OR. The Grand Hotel in Salem will be the convention site. Kings and double Queens will be \$127/night including breakfast. Parking is free. Great walks are planned throughout the area, some previewed at the NW Regional Conference. Watch for a request for volunteers. Sam Korff is chair. Plan to attend.

Thanks so much for all the great events you are hosting. I'll be sending out another list of events I'll be attending soon. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

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