

News from N.E.W. #18, Sunday, June 15, 2014

1. YRE Changes:

- **Mt. Rainier Ohanapecosh Seasonal:** Yakima Valley Sun Striders reports the following opening for Ohanapecosh Visitor Information Center. Although the seasonal is stated as open from July 1 through September 30, the walk is really only available when the Visitor Information Center is open. This is a beautiful walk up Silver Creek on a dirt trail to and through the Grove of the Patriarchs.
"Starting Wed. July 2 through Sunday Aug. 3, the VIC will be open from noon to 4:00 pm Wednesdays through Sundays.
Starting Thurs. Aug. 7 through Sunday Sept. 7, the VIC will be open from noon to 4 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays.
The last day for the VIC to be open will be Sept. 7.
The walk box will be at the Visitors Desk inside the Center."
- **Bellevue (WA) Botanical Gardens Walks YRE638/YRE639** reopen July 1. The start location is now Shorts House (formerly Visitor Information Center), 12001 Main St, Bellevue, WA. Driving Directions: I-405 NB: Exit #13B (NE 8th St E). RIGHT on 124th Ave NE. RIGHT on Main St. Bellevue Botanical Gardens entrance on LEFT. Follow signs to Shorts House. Kitchen on RIGHT behind Schogi screen. Start materials in kitchen drawer immediately on RIGHT after entering kitchen.

2. **Remember this: Annual dues for clubs was increased to \$100 per year at the August, 2013 NEC?** The original information I had said when a club holds a Traditional Event during the fiscal year (this year it begins July 1, 2014 and ends June 30, 2015), the club gets a **credit of \$50** on their AVA account against that \$100. **Actually all that is needed for the credit is to have a traditional event sanction approved**. You need not have held it yet to get the credit. So make sure you sanction an event during this next fiscal year ASAP. I'll inform AVA when the first sanction for your club is approved. I have sent AVA a list of the 33 clubs that have already had a traditional event sanction approved as of June 12th. You don't need to do anything.
3. **CALL OR EMAIL ME, NOT AVA HQ if you have a problem with AVA.** Please – I am your first line of defense when you have an issue with AVA. Of course you still email them to order supplies, but if you think there is an error or a problem, please email or call me first. That's my job. I may know the answer or I can get through to those who can.
4. **Articles for the TAW (The American Wanderer):** Thank you to those clubs who send articles about their club's events to the TAW. It's especially nice to see articles about events, especially those special destination events (big) that will happen in the future with a picture. I'd like to see articles about the IVV and any international trips you've been on recently. Write an article about your trip and send a picture with it (separately attached). See the back page of Section B of the latest TAW on "How to Format your Article for TAW".
5. **Please Renew your YREs/Seasonals ASAP:** Please work on getting your YRE/Seasonals renewed. As of June 12th I hadn't seen any to approve, except a new one I entered. You have through August 31 to renew and until mid-September to correct or add Special Programs. Please don't wait as I have to approve all those sanctions. See the last News from N.E.W. for some points to remember. **And Please send me walk directions with maps for any new YREs/Seasonals and those whose routes have changed!!!!**

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- 6. June 13-14 National Executive Council in Indianapolis:** Here are some results of this session:
- The NEC recommended approval by the membership at the next national meeting in Salem of the following Bylaws amendments. The NEC did not recommend approval of the amendment to require a two-thirds vote for Bylaws changes. The Bylaws Committee will present further Bylaws changes to the next NEC meeting in Albany, NY.
 - i. The President will call for voice vote when only one candidate for a national office.
 - ii. Clarification of RD election procedures with addition of required consent of nominee in a nomination from the floor.
 - iii. Definition of "Mail" to include various electronic media.
 - I withdrew the motion to have the Executive Director establish rules and establish a pilot for the Remote Club Guided Walk proposal by Lilac City Volkssport. I will rework the proposal. There was much confusion across the country for what it meant, and it was deemed up to the NEC, not the ED, to work out.
 - The NEC supported the idea of a Deputy Region Director, especially in light of Dave Schull the Atlantic Region Director's death. The NEC wanted this person to be selected by the Director, and approved by the clubs. It now goes to the Bylaws Committee for reworking and presentation to the NEC in Albany. RDs can always appoint assistants.
 - The motion to not charge a fee to delegates to attend regular or special membership business meetings of the AVA failed. The question of how to control someone who is just able to attend the meetings, but not other functions such as workshops, and the cost of holding a meeting including printing, facility and audio-visual rental were deciding factors. Our attorney will answer whether this is "legally wrong."
 - The motion to provide Service Award pins for years of service after 20 years failed. These people should get Meritorious or Distinguished Service awards if they have worked to support volkssporting for that long. Service Awards are not longevity awards.
 - The motion to provide the option for those working on distances above 22000 KM to use the 1000 KM books, in place of the 3000K and 5000K books passed. Regular certificates will be issued. The insert card in the Passport Book may need to be revised.
 - The budget for the July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 was approved.
 - More info at the NW Region Conference in Portland – Town Hall meeting 4-5pm Monday, June 23.

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

Nancy Wittenberg, NW RD, nw_rd@ava.org