

News from N.E.W. #19, Tuesday, July 15, 2014

- 1. My Email:** My email was hacked and used to send out spam emails. It was blacklisted and many providers don't allow it to go through. So, I've had to change it. Please use nw_rd@ava.org to email me. This is my RD email and it forwards to my new email address. My old personal email is still functioning while I convert everything. The new one is newittenberg@gmail.com.
- 2. The AVA's database is being converted off of Access.** If you have problems entering events, changing events or changing officer information, it may be the bugs in Access due to it's incompatibility with their current Windows operating system. Please check to be sure what you've entered has gone through. **CALL OR EMAIL ME, NOT AVA HQ if you have a problem with the website.** You should still email or call them regarding accounting issues or with regard to orders.
- 3. Time to Walk 10-11-12-13-14: AVA needs to know NOW about how many walkers you might expect at your club's walk for the national "Time to Walk" event at 10-11-12-13-14.** There are plans afoot to publicize this event nationally. But we need to know now approximately how many participants there likely will be. These can be group walks of YRE's as well as traditional events. Please send me an estimate by July 31st of how many might be walking with your club on this date. This is just a rough estimate. Think about how many you usually have for a walk like this. Please plan a walk of some kind. Walks could start any time. You saw in the Checkpoint the special patch available for clubs to order.
- 4. YREs/Seasonals and "Starting Point" Tips and Guidelines:** You all received the "Starting Point" Tips and Guidelines document attached to the Checkpoint for June/July. Please check the "Starting Point Listing" link on your YRE's ESR list:

99283	Vashon Island - Island Center Forest, WA <u>Starting Point Listing</u>	Click to Request Insurance REQUEST	7/11/2014 3:35:49 PM	Approvals
YRSW	(4/1/2015)	(10/31 /2015)	Special Program Listing	Edit

The fields you need to look at are Start Point (comprised of the Start Point Only and Start Point Address and Driving Directions fields) and Event Info (comprised only of the Extended Description field). Pick Edit and check these fields to make sure the proper information is in them. Edit them if they are not. In addition, note the sanction number (upper left – 99283 in this example). Go back to the page you get when you login and click on "Special Programs". Pick the event with that sanction number and enter the special programs. Don't put them in the Event Comments field. Use that for any state programs and more detail about the event. The point of this exercise is to have the right information in the "Starting Point"; and, to make the book smaller. Refer to the Tips and Guidelines documents.

News from N.E.W. #19, Tuesday, July 15, 2014

5. **Kudos to the NW Regional Conference Planning Committee.** Not only did they give us plenty to eat at our Meet and Greet and Hail and Farewell, but they made a profit for OTSVA. Now on to the NW Regional Conference for 2016. Treasure Valley Volkssports agrees that having it in Boise is doable and could be held in mid-September, 2016 for a long weekend, possibly Friday – Sunday, September 16-18. September has great weather in Boise. And they have lots of super walk routes. Now, for what we need from you:
 - **Would you go to Boise?** Please canvas your clubs and report back to me. We need this for site planning purposes. This is just an estimate, you are not committing in stone.
 - **Could you help staff events?** Although Treasure Valley has some great walk routes we could use, there are few members and we'd need your help. I'll be asking at state meetings if you can commit to help at an event. I anticipate 3 conference walks.
6. **Time for Fiscal Year End reports:** Please update the Officer Updates page of your AVA club website. If there are no changes, you need to click on "submit" anyway. You have until November 15 to update officers, send in your AVA financial report, do your IRS 990 e-postcard and send AVA a copy of the IRS response saying you filed. Please send me a copy of that as well.
7. **Please Renew your YREs/Seasonals ASAP:** 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 News from N.E.W. #17 for some points to remember. **And** Please send me walk directions with maps for any new YREs/Seasonals and those **whose routes have changed!!!!**
8. **2015 Salem Convention:** The convention webpage is beginning to be populated. A link will be on the AVA website soon, and will be on the www.walkoregon.org site as well. Look for it!

See you all on the trail. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Nancy Wittenberg, NW RD, nw_rd@ava.org