

News from N.E.W. #22, September 14, 2014

1. **Thank you all for renewing on time.** The cutoff for editing info for the **Starting Point** has passed. Continue to make any changes online.
2. **ED Resignation:** Due to health reasons, Stephanie Sinclair has tendered her resignation. Dennis Michele accepted it with great regret. Stephanie had great ideas and I am very sad to see her go. We hope she can come back to us sometime in the future. The members of the Executive Committee – all officers plus the RD representative, Glen Conyers, SC RD need to make a decision and hopefully present a candidate to the entire NEC at our October 17-18 meeting.
3. **Time to Walk 10-11-12-13-14 (December 13, 2014):** Please see the information I sent earlier about patches. If you ordered patches and specified your club is doing a YRE, you will automatically get a slug for your YRE stamp (it will be installed in a traditional event stamp) and a certificate. You don't return the slug to AVA. (You do return the traditional event stamp as always.
 - **T-shirts from Café Press:** Don't call AVA if you are having trouble. The website is <http://www.cafepress.com/AVAgear> . This is not an AVA site. Please search the site and try "Time to Walk". Clubs that informed me they had an event by some unknown date will have a design available with their club name on the back. Check it out.
4. **Walk Directions with Maps:** Every YRE must have a map with the directions. When you get them ready, probably closer to year end, I want a copy of your directions with the map of all **NEW YREs AND those whose routes have changed**. Please review your routes. Change them up if at all possible. And, tell us on the website. Are there new areas to include this next year? Can you reverse some or all of the route? You can tell when you walk some of those – streets have changed, businesses no longer there, etc.
5. **SNOB (Special National Officer Books):** I have SNOB books for sale for \$10 and will have them with me at all the walks and meetings I will attend. It is an AVA special program where you get each AVA officer and RD's stamp at some event. For instance I have a NW Regional Director Stamp which can be used at an event you might have if you request it and I am coming to your event. At the convention next June, each officer and RD will be responsible for having their stamp available at two convention walks at least. This will be an opportunity to fill up the S.N.O.B. book. You would then send it in to the AVA and they will return your award – a SNOB pin. Send your \$10 directly to me or see me at an event.
6. **Time for Fiscal Year End reports: November 15 is the deadline for:**
 - Officer Updates page of your AVA club website. If there are no changes, you need to click on "submit" anyway. If there are new officers who have not received my News from N.E.W., let me know their email addresses.
 - AVA financial report. Find the form on the AVA Forms page under Administration.
 - IRS 990 e-postcard (this is critical as you will lose your 501(c)3 IRS status and lose your club if you don't make this deadline) and send AVA and me **a copy of the IRS email response saying you filed**. Just forward the email.
7. **NW Regional Conference for 2016:** I've had some great positive responses about going and helping at a Boise NW Regional Conference in mid-September, 2016 for a long weekend, Friday – Sunday, probably September 16-18. When we finalize this I will let you know what jobs we will need at Boise. I do know we would need workers at events and help with on-site registration.

News from N.E.W. #22, September 14, 2014

9. **2015 Salem Convention: The convention needs a registrar.** Although much will be online, there will still be those who will send in a paper copy to the AVA and that will need to be reentered into a registration database. There are other jobs associated with registration, including filling grab bags. If you'd like more information, contact Sam Korff: korff.sam@wildblue.net. The convention link is on the AVA website. Here's the direct link: <http://www.nationalavaconvention2015.com/>.

10. Next National Executive Council (NEC): The next NEC is in Albany, NY on October 17-18. I will pass on any proposal information I get.

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