

News from N.E.W. #47, August 3, 2016

- 1. Quarterly Reports for YRE/Seasonals were due Sunday, July 31.** Presidents, check to be sure all your YRE/Seasonals have had their participation numbers entered. Login and go to “Events” then “Check ESR”. Click on “Participation Report” for each event. Is the **Quarter 2 box checked?** If so, the report has been submitted. If not, click on Quarter 2 and enter the number of walkers in each category. Then click on “Submit”. Print the page as proof. The top of the page will show the charges that will be on your bill from AVA. **If you failed to do this on time (July 31) your club will be billed a late charge of \$10.** But you will still need to do this.
 - 2. YRE/Seasonal Renewals: We are now less than a month out to get your YRE/Seasonals renewed for the Starting Point 2017.** Please do it NOW. They must be renewed by **midnight August 30** or they WILL disappear from the renewal list, and will NOT make the Starting Point for 2017. If you miss the deadline, you will have to reenter the event if you still want it. If you check the “not renewing” box (or some such wording) it is irretrievable and you will have to reenter it if you didn’t mean it.
 - 3. Financial Reports, IRS 990 N Form, and Officer updates.** Has your club completed the **one-time registration with the IRS** for filing the 990 N Form? See the July Checkpoint for the link to instructions for doing so. If you did this, **it is just the registration, not the filing for end of fiscal year 2016.** You do the registration, then you do the filing for year end. All things listed in this section can be done **anytime BEFORE November 15.** The financial report form can be found on the AVA website. The Officer updates are done online. If no change, you still must go in and click ‘submit’ anyway. Information about the new IRS requirements have been in previous newsletters and Checkpoints. If the financial report and 990 N Form filing (previously e-postcard) are your Treasurer’s job, be sure your treasurer knows this and knows what to do.
- 4. Northwest Regional Conference: Boise, ID Friday – Sunday, September 16 – 18, 2016:** Please, please register for the conference ASAP so we can make arrangements, get materials, etc. I have ordered patches and there may be some extra available at the conference. **I am holding the price for Friday dinner at \$35 through August 16.** All registrations must be postmarked by August 31 with a check for the full amount, although you can register for the walks on site. Questions? Email me.
<http://nwregionalconferenceboise2016.weebly.com/> for the form and information.
 - 5. Bike Rentals will be available at the conference hotel.** I need to let the hotel know by August 31 so they can make sure they will be there. Let me know – newittenberg@gmail.com. The last newsletter had an incorrect email address. You must bring your own helmet. So far we only have 9 bike riders and no one has said they want to rent.
 - 6. YRE Registration.** Registration for YREs in Boise will be available at the hotel along with the credit stamps. The start point for YREs is their usual location depending on the walk.
 - 7. Hotel Rooms:** The conference room rate at the TownPlace Suites by Marriott **expires August 16.** The held rooms are released **on that date.** There may still be rooms available but at their normal rate.
 - 8. We need volunteers for various tasks. Copy & paste into your browser:**
www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4DA4AE29A0F85-Boise and volunteer.

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9. **Fun Walks:** One of the possible programs that has come out of Strategic Planning is the idea of having walks not sanctioned as IVV walks. So they would not be for credit. I will attach a paper on the topic. This is **FOR DISCUSSION ONLY**. It is not a proposal at this time for the NEC. We want club comments. These walks would be covered by insurance so there would need to have a waiver signed and a set route. Some clubs are using something like this to interest other kinds of walkers – perhaps cardiac patients, even the blind. Please discuss this with your club and let Henry Rosales execdir@ava.org know if you have comments or suggestions.
10. **National Awards:** As you probably read in the last News, there are no more Years of Service Awards. Instead we now have a **Commendable Service Award**. See the AVA Policy Manual for information about this and other National awards. Rather than giving an award for being a club member for a number of years, give an award for what the person has done. Although there is a form in the Policy Manual, I would just need an email from you nominating the person and letting me know why they should get the Commendable Service Award. I can also give out **Certificates of Appreciation** and **Meritorious Service Awards**. Awards that require NEC approval are the **Distinguished Service** and **Hall of Fame Awards**. I need to have the forms for these by Thanksgiving as I need to get them in to the Awards chair by December 1.

Hope to see you soon.

Nancy Wittenberg,
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