

## News From N.E.W. #2 July 24, 2013

1. **Appreciate your club Members.** Have you recognized your club members? It can be simple:
  - Saying a public "Thank You" at a meeting to a particular individual -- say their name -- for a specific action.
  - Sending a thank you note or card to those that work at your events.
  - Watching your communication. An email I received from someone suggested clubs word notices to renew differently. Say how much you value their membership, what's been accomplished that year, and ask how they can be more involved. The words you use make a difference.
  - Asking me to give AVA Regional Level Awards to your officers and others who have contributed to your club or state. These are
    - » Certificates of Service for individuals with at least 3 years of significant service to the club, state or region; and, then at 5 years and every 5 years thereafter.
    - » Meritorious Service Award for at least 5 years of outstanding service.
    - » Certificate of Appreciation for individuals, organizations or businesses with service to AVA, on a national, regional, state or club level. How about your start locations? Let me know the particulars and I'll print certificates. The first two come with a patch and pin. I have a list of those that have received awards. Ask if someone has received one.
  
2. **Missing a Stamp in a book?** Did you know the RD carries a little box of numbers and a stamp to create any walk number? If you missed stamping a challenge book, for instance, see me at a walk with your record book showing the stamp that you need and I will create that stamp for you and stamp your book. I know it's frustrating when you've forgotten to stamp the particular challenge book you need. Or you discover later that it could have been stamped. I also carry the NWRD stamp if you're doing the SNOB book and need that one, or if you'd like it for use at a walk.
  
3. **Conflicting Traditional and Advertised YRE's.** Wonder why much of the rest of the country dislikes YRE's so much? And, why President Dennis Michelle would like to decrease the number of YRE's? Well, it's because people do them instead of traditional events. Every time you advertise a YRE at the same time as a traditional event, you decrease the participation at that traditional event. Participation numbers are looked at and traditional event participation has gone down while YRE participation has gone up. Bob Morrison pointed this out at the AVA convention in Florida.
  
- It is my policy and it was Sam Korff's before me, that we not advertise a YRE group walk to be held at the same time as a traditional event in an area.** What is advertising? Not only putting it in the newspaper. It's putting it on Meetup.com, emailing it to a list your club has set up, using Walklist. Anything, in fact, that urges others to come to your group walk. It does make a difference. And, I ask you not to do it. We consider anything west of the Cascades and Chehalis north to be one area. Cowlitz and Clark Counties I consider part of the Oregon area.
  
4. We are so close to the end of July. That means we have only one month (and a few days) to **get those YREs and Seasonals renewed/entered for 2014.** If you're not going to renew a walk, you can indicate that in the entry process. There are some clubs that have not renewed many of their walks. If that's you, get busy. August 31 is the deadline. Please check the dates and the city. You can't change those once you submit. I have to do it. And, please go back in and enter Special Programs. You can find all the new ones in the TAW or online at [ava.org](http://ava.org).
  
6. I'll send my travel/walk schedule for the rest of the year under separate cover.

Nancy Wittenberg, NW RD