

News From N.E.W. #3 August 15, 2013

1. Participation Numbers by Region: Again, the NW region has 25% through 2nd quarter of all the participants in the country. By region:

Atlantic:	8085
Mid America	2542
No. Central	2639
North East	2701
North West	13,059
Pacific	7782
Rocky Mtn	1362
So. Central	3281
South East	6754
South West	<u>4120</u>
Total	52325

Everyone back east says it's because of our nice weather. But isn't Winter is also great in the south?

2. Traditional Events in Less Populated Areas: Please be cognizant of those areas where there are fewer walks and walkers and not step on the attempt to have walks in less populated areas. Carpool, make a weekend of it, and do whatever you can to get to walks at a distance. State associations can try to reserve weekends for walks in other parts of the state and support the effort. Go walk a YRE if you must, but please don't advertise it.

3. 2 weeks left (deadline midnight Central time August 31) to renew YREs/seasonals so they can get in the Starting Point for 2014. I'm gone from August 20th – 25th to San Antonio for the NEC meeting, so I may be slow approving events during that time. It would help me review if you could "Mark as not being renewed" any you are not renewing. After that date you have a couple of weeks to edit and get those Special Programs entered. **But you can't renew any or add any that will get into the Starting Point.** There are 9 clubs with lots of events not renewed. Get busy – contact your POCs.

4. Thanks to all who have commented on the various proposals sent to the NEC. Like many of the responses I have seen from all over the country, I am concerned about AVA's business model, why we exist, why people would want to walk with us instead of the many walking opportunities that exist for free on Meetup and other websites. There will be lots to discuss in San Antonio.

5. NW Regional Conference Registration is open: You can now register for the NW Regional Conference to be held at Portland State University June 23-28, 2014, right after the Columbia Gorge Walks. Go to <http://www.walkoregon.org/conf/nw2014.htm> and click on the links for housing and registration. See the video there as well.

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