

News From N.E.W. #4 August 25, 2013

1. Results from the NEC meeting: I will send the minutes of the NEC meeting when I have them.

Sent from the hotel in San Antonio:

- a. The motion to eliminate free walkers **did not pass**. It will not be brought up again in this NEC XVIII. We did change the Policy Manual Section 4.06 II. E.2. phrase "Clubs may allow participants who do not want the event award or IVV credit to walk without paying a fee." to **"Clubs may determine the fee for participants who do not want the event award or IVV credit."** Please note that where regions do not permit walking for free that the eliminated phrase was in contradiction. The change in no way eliminates free walkers for clubs who have the option and do not wish to charge.
- b. The motion to identify candidates for the position of Executive Director passed. The Executive Council will begin this process.
- c. The motion to reduce the charge for the Centurion Program for participation in the second and subsequent years to \$20 from \$25 failed. It remains \$25 for each year of participation.
- d. The motion to increase the price of Record Books (Event and Distance) to \$6.00 for sale of books by AVA effective October 1, 2013 passed.
 - i. **Clubs may continue to charge whatever price they want for books.**
 - ii. **Clubs who need books should get their orders in prior to October 1, to avoid the price increase.** You still get your 20% discount.
- e. First year dues for a new club will be complimentary effective July 1, 2014.
- f. **Annual dues for clubs has been increased to \$100 per year, with a discount of \$50 for existing clubs hosting a Traditional Event during the fiscal year effective July 1, 2014.**

There are many other things brainstormed, discussed and sent to committees.

- Some motions were sent directly to the Bylaws Committee, which will review and recommend action to the NEC at a future meeting.
- My Training Committee will create a DVD for clubs to use to train on best practices at traditional walk start locations, with emphasis on effective new walker assistance.
- The Training Committee will also review the information on forming a new club and revise as needed.
- Another adhoc committee, chaired by Bob Morrison, will work on a mentoring program to use by clubs with new walkers.
- The Star Program for clubs from many years ago will be revised, adding best practices. Wayne Holloway, Pacific Region Director, will chair this ad hoc committee. Each RD is to recommend three clubs in their regions that have what we consider best practices in an area of their operation for the purpose of establishing criteria for the award.
- We intend to have the The American Wanderer (TAW) in November, 2014 sent by email as a PDF file to clubs and Associate Members, saving on printing and mailing costs.

I have much to share with you when I see you at State Association meetings and other club meetings. And, I'll share more in future News from N.E.W. This is a very effective NEC. We are all working well together and everyone is doing their part and have action items to report on at the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for the Phoenix area January 10-

2. Maps for YREs/Seasonals: It's AVA Policy that all YREs and Seasonals shall have a map in addition to the written directions. I want to see maps on all YRE and Seasonal event directions.

Where can you get a map? Here are some suggestions from the AVA Trailmaster Guide:

- a. **Visitor Center's** usually have maps of your town.
- b. **Map Books** of your county.
- c. www.gmappedometer.com – You can set this program for kilometers and use either a auto, runner or straight line mode. Auto and runner use streets only. The straight line view

lets you go wherever you want. You can change during your drawing of the map. You will have to print, cut and tape to an appropriate size.

- d. **Streets and Trips** – This program from Microsoft can be purchased for \$49 from Amazon. It does a great job on streets. Not so good on woods and trails.
 - e. **GPS and MapMyWalk.com.** Using an Android or Iphone app. Contact Maryann Brown, at OTSVA about how to use these.
3. **Less than 1 week left** (deadline midnight Central time August 31) **to renew YREs/seasonals.** If you do not intend to renew, click on the **“Mark as not being renewed”** button to save me having to contact you. 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.** Please **review all your walks for the proper information using the “Starting Point Listing”** link to check that walk descriptions are in the right place and enter Special Programs ASAP.
 4. **NW Regional Conference Registration is open:** Register as soon as you can 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. Registering as early as you can helps the committee plan for transportation and other offerings
 5. **Articles for the TAW:** The deadline for the December 2013/January 2014 **American Wanderer** is October 25th. Please consider an article for any special events you are **going to do** for this time period or later in the year, as well as special events you have done. Send the article in Word, single spaced, Times New Roman font, 2 lines between paragraphs. Photos must be attached to the email separately, not embedded in the article and must be high quality, not off a web page.

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