



Hello NW Volkssporters!

1. **Wallace ID weekend.** Congratulations Lilac City Volkssport Assn on a super fun Wallace ID event! Great walks, super job with the hotel and banquet arrangements, and super touch with all the photo boards. Well done Allan, Dennis and all the volunteers who helped host the weekend.

2. **Super September.** Get ready for some more incredible events this month in Bend OR, Winthrop WA and walks between events! Signups look good for both, but we can always use more feet on the trails. Even if you can't spend the whole weekend at each event consider dropping in for a day to catch a walk, bike or swim and feel the energy of a big event. See the latest Pathfinder for all the details.

3. **Walk Updates.**

- Reggie Blake from East County Windwalkers reports that the Gresham OR Town and More YRE 0519 is closed due to loss of start point.

- Michelle Roberts from FS Family Wanderers indicated Seattle-Northgate, YRE 1221 will not be renewed in 2020 and for the remainder of 2019 you'll need to contact her via phone or email to register and get directions. See the event listing at <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=112792> for her details.

4. **Charity Miles Team.** John McClellan wrote an article in the recent American Wanderer about working toward earning funding via the Charity Miles app. For now, we're building a team under the name of #AmericasWalkingClub. I see several regional members are already part of the 61 team members and Louise and I just joined. Please download the app, get registered and join the team.

5. **Catherine Byrd.** We recently received word that Catherine passed away just short of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. She was a past ESVA president, active leader of the Vancouver USA Volkssporters and a key player in the Vancouver Discovery Walks. She was preceded in death by her husband Bill in 2018.

6. **Event Renewals for 2020.** Your club has until 15 September to finish renewing year round/seasonal events for 2020. Great job so far and just 79 left to go. Let me know if you want the events as PPSF, as I have to make that change before approving. Please review your sanctions to ensure the directions are all clear and current, start times up to date, personalize the stamp verbiage, add the national and state challenges, and be sure to note where the walkbox is located.

7. **Traditional Events for 2020.** There's plenty room in the calendar for Traditional Events in 2020. Please get your sanctions in now so your club can reserve the dates you want. Be sure to coordinate with clubs in your planned walk area if there are potential conflicts.

8. **Regional Conference.** Planning is moving along for the June 2020 Regional Conference. We have the hotel reserved, the walks are in draft form, and we recently lined up live music for the banquet. I've asked Dennis Standridge, NW Deputy RD to work on some picture boards for display and he'll need a half dozen or more action photos from your club's recent events. An alternative is for you to bring along a tri-fold featuring your club and upcoming events.

9. **National Team.** Attached is a sheet outlining the team at AVA providing support to your program. Please use the job descriptions to help find the right person to answer your questions.

Happy Trails! Tom Baltes, NW Regional Director, 505-298-1256, [TLBaltes@aol.com](mailto:TLBaltes@aol.com)