

News from N.E.W. #26, January 27, 2015

1. **Officer Info on AVA site:** I have been reminded by AVA that Checkpoints and other information is not reaching some clubs, because their email address on the AVA website is invalid. It is critical that you make sure your **President's and Treasurer's email and physical addresses** are correct. Please go check and fix, if necessary.
2. **The Northwest Pathfinder:**
 - I mentioned in the last News that The Northwest Pathfinder is re-forming as a Washington State Volkssport Club. The name will be "The Pathfinder Volkssport Club of the Northwest". Bylaws have been done and the club is in the process of obtaining an EIN number, registering with the State of Washington and applying to AVA to be a club. We expect the process to be completed sometime in February.
 - The Bylaws state there is a governing Board consisting of officers and two voting representatives each from ESVA and OTSVA. We still need one more representative each from ESVA and OTSVA. In addition we need a Secretary to keep the minutes of the meeting. Meetings will be held by conference call, except for the annual meeting. Please let me know if you are interested.
 - The Northwest Pathfinder will be a newsletter for members, those who have currently paid a mailing fee to have the issues mailed to them. This mailing fee will be considered "associate member dues", entitling them to receive the newsletter of the club.
 - Since there are no financial commitments from ESVA and OTSVA, other than to currently, pay for issues given to clubs, we are opening the Board to a representative from each of our Idaho and Alaska clubs, if they wish. Alaska and Idaho are welcome to send in an ad for their walks, as Washington and Oregon currently do.
3. **National Officers:** I am happy to let you know that **Sam Korff has decided to run for Secretary of the AVA**. The national nominating committee is still looking for candidates for **Treasurer**. If you or anyone you know might be interested in finding out about these national offices, please contact Doug Reynolds, the nominating committee chair at dougreynolds@juno.com. Sam is no longer on the committee, of course.
4. **IVV Americas:** See President Dennis Michele's message in The American Wanderer (TAW) that just came out, about clubs voting by mail ballot on whether to join IVV Americas or not. The next TAW will have arguments pro and con. I am personally in favor of us joining, and suggest that each of you review information on the **IVV-Americas Facebook page**.
5. **National Executive Council (NEC) Meeting – Sacramento, January 30-31.** I am off Thursday to Sacramento for the NEC Meeting. I will let you know ASAP on what the NEC does. We will see if indeed we will have thirteen new AVA Special Programs starting in 2016. I look forward to meeting the new Executive Director, Henry Rosales at the meeting.
6. **Salem Convention:** Please check out the convention website linked from www.ava.org or www.nationalavaconvention2015.com. All walks are finalized. Workshops are decided and will be on there soon. The schedule is set and the brochure is being finalized. There will NOT be a paper registration form. There will be a link for online registration and if you must register on paper, you can download a form. But if you use a paper form, remember it will all have to be entered online by someone else.

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- 7. A Seasonal Swim:** Something new – an experiment by Vancouver USA Volkssporters. They have sanctioned a seasonal swim in Vancouver you can do between April 1 and June 30. You'll register at a Starbucks on Mill Plain, then drive to either the Firstenberg or Propstra Pool. Check pool hours.

See you all on the trail. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

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