

News from N.E.W. #39, October 8, 2015

1. **Do you have a New YRE/Seasonal to enter?:** Candy at AVA has told me that you can ALWAYS enter new YRE/Seasonals. But you know that there was a time just after August 31, when the ESR entry program would not allow you to enter a new one. Please try now. Let me know if you have any problems. We need these to get in so we can get them into the NW Pathfinder and into the AVA website.
2. **Strategic Planning Surveys:** I sent out the links for the Individual Stakeholder Survey. I will also attach to my email, the 3 page, two column survey. You can print this off with multiple copies to have at any walks you participate in or go to – Meetups, club events, anywhere you find participants at AVA events. If you've already taken the survey, thanks. And, you should continue to send your ideas as they come to you in writing, please, either to our rep Maryann Brown – maryannbrown_1999@yahoo.com or to me.

Club Survey: The committee is very close to finalizing the Club Survey. It will be sent out to club officers, similarly to who gets the Checkpoint. Since many clubs will not have meetings between the time it comes out the when it is due, club officers should get together and/or with recent past officers to take the club response.

3. **What do your Events look like on the AVA website?** There are a lot of clubs whose websites and/or The Northwest Pathfinder (NWP) have complete event information, but not the AVA website. Many who go to the Internet to get event information from AVA will not find it. Please look at your ESRs and make sure they are complete with start locations, driving directions and detailed information about the event content.
4. **November 15 Deadline:** This deadline is VERY important for clubs under the AVA's 501(c)3 umbrella: (Most clubs are.)
 - Update the Officer Updates page of your AVA club website. All clubs need to do this. If there are no changes, you need to **click on "submit"** anyway. My own club has not done this.
 - Send your AVA financial report for the 2014 fiscal year to AVA. Form is http://www.ava.org/Clubs_Only/AVA_Form_102_C3_F.pdf
 - Complete your IRS 990 e-postcard online. This is critical as you will lose your 501(c) 3 IRS status and lose your club if you don't make this deadline. You must send AVA and me **a copy of the IRS email response that states the IRS accepts your filing**. Just forward the email. Instructions for filling out the form are at <http://www.ava.org/E-Postcard.pdf>.
5. **Northwest Regional Conference: Friday – Sunday, September 16 – 18, 2016:**

The hotel has been selected for the NW Regional Conference. Treasure Valley Volkssports has reserved 25 double queen and 25 Studio King rooms at \$129/night. (Two bedroom suites are available for \$199/night.)
Check out the hotel website at www.marriott.com/boits.
Rate includes free hot breakfast buffet, free wireless internet, airport shuttle, fully equipped kitchen, guest laundry, complimentary parking. Reserve rooms now until August 16, 2016 by calling and asking for the American Volkssport Association Regional Conference rate.

TownePlace Suites by Marriott
1455 S. Capitol Blvd.
Boise, ID 83706
Phone: 208-429-8881, Fax: 208-429-8884

The brochure will come by the beginning of the year.

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- 6. NW Regional Conference Bike:** Steve Jalbert of the Treasure Valley Volkssport Association is a biker and would like to provide a bike or bike events for the regional conference. He has set up a survey using Survey Monkey for you to express your interest in having a bike event. If you might like to ride a bike event, please take the survey. It will help him plan the event(s) and rentals.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JYSW7WZ>.

All for now.

Nancy Wittenberg,
NW Regional Director
nw_rd@ava.org