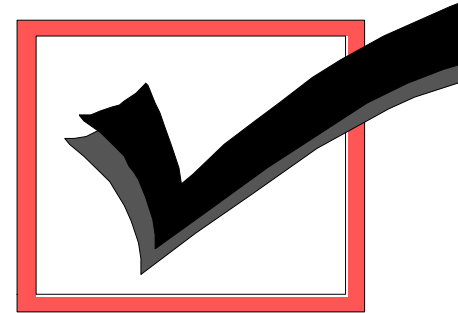


AVA CHECKPOINT



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TAW Deadline

The deadline for the October 2010 issue of *The American Wanderer* is August 25. All articles and photographs should be submitted directly to The American Wanderer, Laurel Parrott, Editor, 3526 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412, email TAW@bhi.com. Be sure to include "TAW" in the subject line of the email. Some folks continue to send these to AVA Headquarters and this causes delays in your information getting in.

Agenda Items for NEC Meeting

The next meeting of the NEC is October 1 & 2, 2010, in Albany, NY. If your club has anything they think should be on the agenda, please submit it to your Region Director by August 3, 2010.

Starting Point and IVV Calendar Event Submission

Just a reminder that your YRE/Seasonal Events need to be entered into the system by August 31, 2010 for the Starting Point and all events (including 2011 Traditional Events) need to be entered by then to appear in the IVV Calendar of Events.

Proofreading

PLEASE, when entering information into the database for your club and events, proofread, proofread, proofread. We are noticing more and more misspelled names, phone numbers, city names, etc. This information that you enter is what appears on the web and in the Starting Point.

National Volkssport Month

October is National Volkssport Month. Remember that if your club is hosting an event they can order the National Award Patch for their event

Say Goodbye!

Connie Runkel, who processed the awards, has left the AVA Headquarters to move to Maryland. We will certainly miss her. Books will continue to be processed by other staff members and volunteers until the position is filled.

The 2010-2011 Walk-Together Patch



We have selected the Girl Scout Walk-Together patch for 2010-2011. It will be available for events starting in September, 2010. The patch design came from Kendra Wardon, of troop 1107 in Phoenix, Arizona, part of Girl Scouts Arizona-Cactus Pines council. Loralie Cruz of the Saguaro Sun Striders Volkssport Club arranged with the New Horizons Neighborhood of Girl Scouts who had walked with their club before to hold the patch contest.

If your club has held Walk-Togethers with Girl Scouts and would like to work with the Girl Scout council or troops in your area to design the patch for the 2011-2012 school year, please contact me, Nancy

Wittenberg, at avayouth@ava.org. I have guidelines and forms which you can use.

Because it is an award, those who want the patch must walk for credit. The patch can be used as the award for everyone for your walk if you wish, not just Girl Scouts. It can be ordered from AVA on consignment so you're not burdened with paying for patches you can't use. Please be conservative when you order patches. The AVA sends the patches with a Girl Scout Patches Consignment form. You return the form with the count of patches sold, and the unused patches along with the stamp for your walk. You can get patches on consignment for a scheduled group walk of a year round or seasonal as well. The AVA will bill the club for patches used. The cost for patches you use is \$1 each. Call the AVA office or email them to order patches and let them know what walk you want them for. If you want to have patches on hand for Girl Scouts who walk your events – traditional or year rounds or seasonals -- you may purchase the patches ahead of time. Purchased patches may not be returned.

Please remember that unless you are working with a local troop directly, Girl Scout councils need a great deal of lead time to publish events. It is now summer and most troops are not active until the fall. It would be a good time now, to contact your local council about walks you might be planning for winter or spring. Check out the AVA's website under Special Programs/Youth Programs to see more information about Walk-Togethers. It includes a downloadable .pdf format copy of a Walk-Together brochure which explains the process of arranging for walks for Girl Scouts. We'll be updating it with the new patch design shortly.

Reminders

- ✚ Annual dues were billed in May. They were due to the National Headquarters by July 1. Late fees will be billed if they are not received by September 1, 2010.
- ✚ Second quarter YRE/Seasonal Participation Reports are due by July 30. Remember, these must now be done electronically. Please remember that when submitting these reports, you MUST check the second quarter box in order for the reports to take correctly. It is NOT automatic. Also, if you have 0 walkers, you must physically enter the 0.
- ✚ Remember to remove the "+" sign from your YRE/Seasonal stamps. It can easily be cut off with a knife or scissors.
- ✚ The E-Postcard must be completed between July 1 and November 1, 2010 if your club comes under the AVA's 501(c)(3) umbrella.
- ✚ Late ESR submissions (less than 90 days before event date) must be emailed to Cathy at cathy@ava.org Reports are run to assign stamps and if your event is submitted late and misses the report, they will not get an automatic event stamp. Clubs that don't contact us in time for regular mailing will be charged the UPS fee to get the stamp to them in time.
- ✚ Nominations for National Level Awards – Hall of Fame, Distinguished Achievement, Trailblazer and the Ted Ballman Youth Award – must be submitted on AVA Form 302 to the appropriate Regional Director not later than November 1. See AVA policy Manual paragraph 3.03.A.1.
- ✚ Just a reminder that ***The American Wanderer*** advertising rates have changed and you can find the Advertising Agreement on the AVA website under the *Publications-Forms link, AVA Club Forms* web page.
- ✚ 2010 Starting Point is on sale as of July 1. It is now \$12.00 plus \$4.00 shipping. There are no discounts added. Revised order forms are posted on the AVA web site.
- ✚ Email photos of your club events, volunteers and members for posting to the AVA web site. This is a nice, free way to expose your hard work to others. Send them to AVAHQ@ava.org or Linda@ava.org
- ✚ ***The American Wanderer*** would also like for you to send your photos by email for print consideration. Email Donna Seline your photo attachment with the subject line: Photos for TAW consideration. Donna's email address is alamacque@earthlink.net Remember to send in photos for the "Where's AVA" contest as well.
- ✚ National Physical Fitness and Sports Month patch coupons will expire on August 1. Please remind your walkers to send them in.