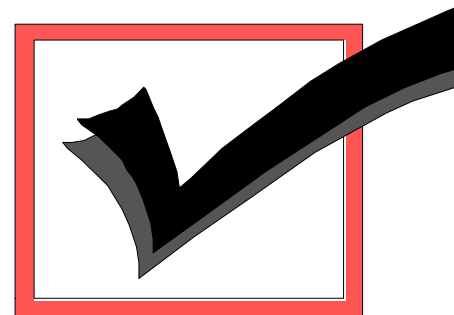


AVA CHECKPOINT



Official Voice of the American Volkssport Association • 1001 Pat Booker Rd, Suite 101 Universal City, TX 78148
Phone (210) 659-2112 Fax (210) 659-1212 Email avahq@ava.org

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June 2011

National Executive Council Meeting

The next meeting of the NEC will be held in beautiful Des Moines, Iowa at 1:30 p.m. at the AVA Biennial Convention, Tuesday, June 21, 2011. The convention itself starts on June 18-26.

South Central Region Director – Events

Our best wishes and thoughts go out to Glen and Doris Conyers in the aftermath of the tornado that hit Joplin, Missouri and surrounding areas. Glen has intermittent internet service at this time. Glen stated he and Doris are extremely grateful for the overwhelming number of emails they have received from the Volkssport community, but he and Doris are unable to answer all they have received at this time. He has asked Headquarters to let everyone know how much he and Doris appreciate the well wishes and prayers. Our thoughts and prayers go out to members and all our award recipients in this area, as well as the Vice President of the Dogwood Trailblazers club in Joplin.

Official Nominations for Board Officers positions per the Nominating Committee are:

President – Heinz Johnson / Sam Korff
Vice President – Marvin Stokes / Becky Forsythe
Secretary – Bonnie Johnson
Treasurer – Annette Tollett / Bob Morrison

Form 500 Delegate/Alternate/Proxy Credentialing – Deadline June 1

Pre-registration for convention has closed. Everyone must now register on-site at the Registration booth. If you are a Delegate/Alternate/Proxy you must be registered for the convention meeting/meetings to exercise your vote: Once registered for the convention, take your proof of registration to the credentialing booth to complete the voting eligibility. Pat Lucero AVA Secretary, will be at the Credentialing booth during these hours:

Tuesday – June 21 – 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday – June 22 – 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thursday – June 23 – 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Friday – June 24 – 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

TAW Deadline

Deadline for the August / September issue of *The American Wanderer* is June 25. All articles and photographs should be submitted directly to Laurel Parrott, Editor taw@bhi.com or 3526 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412. Be sure to include "TAW" in the subject line of the email. Please send advertising agreements and advertisements to Linda Rebmann Linda@ava.org prior to the 25th.

Candidate Forum at the Convention by Susan Pinneke 2011 Convention Chair

Because we have some real issues, and therefore, real choices, in the election of our national officers this year; we are offering a session for Volkssporters to meet and get to know the candidates for national offices. We plan to hold this session on Wednesday evening, June 22, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Des Moines Convention Complex. It will be open to all. This will be a time for people to ask questions and get to know the candidates and issues before the election.

Last minute convention items: The deadline for registration is now past. We are sorry about the confusion with the registration deadline. We are very excited about all the walks and activities we have planned for you here in Iowa. If you did miss the deadline, you can register for all the walks at the start point just like any Volkssport event. Awards may be limited. Also, any convention sessions will be available for registration in Des Moines and the social activities on a limited basis, depending on our caterers timing needs and there will be additional charge. Only limited souvenirs and bus transportations will be available, determined by supply on hand. Check out the convention web site for additional information. Suzy Belle and I can't wait to see you all in Des Moines.

If you are coming in a group of 10 or more, please visit our "Tour Group" link on our web site home page. We can stream line your walk and convention check in.

We still need volunteers. If you'd like to help and get the exclusive volunteer t-shirt for your efforts, please sign up on line with the volunteer link on our web site home page or call Marg Powell at 515-277-3233.

Don't forget your Silent Auction Donations!!! We have some great stuff already, so bring your cash, checkbooks or credit cards. Have some fun and take home something really special.

Remember to pick up the daily convention newsletter, "Cow Tales", each day of the convention. It will contain information you will need each day, corrections to the published materials due to changes or construction, the schedule of events and news of the day.

Regional Director and Executive Council Fundraising: Hopefully, you already know about the Convention Cow Races. Each of your Regional Directors and Officers has designed their own special racing cow; you can check out the herd on the convention web site. They need to move their cows along by securing donations. The first and second place cows' owners will be guests of Suzy Belle at the Barn Dance during the convention. The four last place cows' owners will be working for their supper that night, appropriately attired for such work in hair nets, aprons and rubber gloves. Please help move the cows along with your generous donations. Some cows are off and running while others are still chewing their cud at the start line. Mail your donation check payable to 2011 AVA Convention, Attn: Susan Pinneke, 221 Prospect Ave, West Des Moines, IA 50265 or give to the cow's owner. Thank you.

To whom do I make my check payable for event fees?

Please do not make checks payable to an individual for event fees. All check payments are required to be made payable in the club's name. It is a requirement for clubs to have a bank account in the club name; this way their bank records will provide accurate tracking of only the club's financials and funds are not co-mingled with an individual's personal bank account.

SEE YOU AT THE CONVENTION!