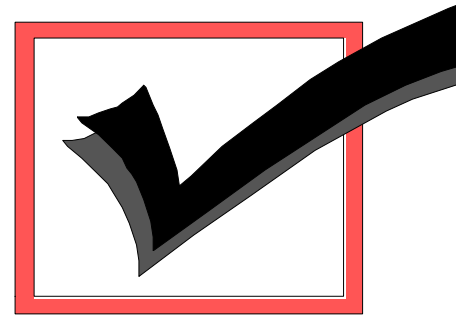


AVA CHECKPOINT



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NEC Meeting

The next meeting of the NEC will be held in Floribama on the border of Florida and Alabama, Friday, February 18 – Sunday, February 20. Further details will be posted when they become available.

TAW Deadline

Deadline for the February/March 2011 issue of *The American Wanderer* is December 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.

Checkpoint News from Headquarters

Future issues of the *Checkpoint* will be prepared by Linda Rebmann. Email your items and ideas that you would like considered for printing no later than the 20th of each month to linda@ava.org. Club Officers please remember to forward each issue of the *Checkpoint* to your entire club as it contains valuable information and updates affecting everyone in your club.

2011 Starting Point Book

Club Pre-Order forms have been posted in two areas of the website. From the *main* AVA web page, select *AVA Club News Updates* link. Also found at the *Publications-Forms* link, select *AVA Club Forms*. Deadline for Clubs ordering 10 or more copies that will ship directly from the publisher is midnight CST November 12. Shipping cost will be determined and invoiced separately. All Clubs receive 20% discount on their purchase and will be invoiced.

Individual Order forms have been posted to the web site on the *main* AVA web page and in the *Membership* area of the web site. All clubs are asked to check their on hand supply of *New Walker Packets* or any other area at your event that features a *Starting Point Book* order form. Please remove all outdated order forms and print the 2011 form to place inside your *New Walker Packets* as this will reflect the current individual pricing.

AVA Logo/Tag Line and Brazos Walking Sticks Graphics

Please use the new *AVA Logo/Tag Line* graphic and new national sponsor *Brazos Walking Sticks* graphic that has been posted to the *Publications-Forms* link, *AVA Logos/Graphics* link. These graphics should be used on newsletters, brochures, etc. moving forward.

Brazos Walking Sticks

Go to www.brazos-walking-sticks.com to see their beautiful walking sticks. See attachment for frequently asked questions.

Biennial Publicity Contest

March 1, 2011 is the deadline for entering the *Biennial Publicity Contest*. The form has been posted to the *Publications-Forms* link, select *AVA Club Forms* link, select *2010 Publicity Contest Entry Form* link and is an interactive (fill, save, email) form. The form is also posted to the *June 2010 Checkpoint* listing. Please submit forms to Joan Lampart.

CONVENTION NEWS:

Help Clubs Celebrate 35 years of American Volkssporting

As part of our celebration, we are working on a pictorial history of volkssporting in the US. We hope to feature photos from every club in the US. We need your help to do this!! Please send us your photos recent and past events. Each photo should include your club name and number, information about the event (date, location, as much as is known), and who is in the photo. Send photos to: Kim Young, 701 S 25th Ct., West Des Moines, IA 50265. If you need the photos returned, you must put your name and address on the back of each photo. They will be available for pickup at the convention or returned by mail if a stamped self-addressed envelope is included. Photos may be emailed as an attachment in tiff or jpeg format to: kimyoung1981@gmail.com. Be sure to include all the identification information in your email.

A Big Shout Out for Silent Auction Donations

The 2011 AVA convention is just around the corner. It is definitely not too early to think about making a donation to the convention's silent auction. In past years the silent auction has featured a variety of goods and services. Some examples of past donations include, jewelry, quilts, handmade items, gift baskets of local specialties, art work, children's books & toys, walking related items, gift certificates for a variety of products, meals and get aways. The silent auction is our association's biggest fundraising opportunity and the funds raised go to support national volkssporting. We all benefit from the funds raised during this event. Be creative, but remember these items will need to be transported home from the convention. You might ask local businesses, who are often glad to help. Get your whole club involved in putting together a basket of fun local merchandise. Once you've decided on a donation, please let us know so we can plan the space. Call or email Tom or June Doyle, Silent Auction Chairs, at 608-576-7414 and/or email: tjdoyle98@msn.com. If you'd like to ship the items ahead; please ship to Susan Pinneke, 221 Prospect Ave, West Des Moines, IA 50265. Please indicate silent auction item on the box. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Wishing you and yours a **Happy Thanksgiving** from the staff at AVA.

Reminders

- ✚ *Third Quarter Club Participation Reporting* due by October 31, 2010. When you enter your Club Events Data in the ESR Status Listing first there are 2011 Events followed by 2010 Events. You must scroll down to 2010 for the Participation button to report the 3rd Qtr. There are help modules found at the Help For Clubs link at the bottom left side menu, from the main AVA web page. Module 12 Submitting Electronic Events Participation Reports has very helpful information. Other help with Confirmations, Retracting, etc. are covered as well.
- ✚ Nominations for *AVA Recognition Awards* must be in the hands of your Regional Director by November 1, 2010. Sooner will be better. Don't forget!
- ✚ The *E-Postcard* must be completed by November 15, 2010 if your club comes under the AVA's 501(c)(3) umbrella. Please send a copy of the confirmation to AVA Headquarters and make sure that it has the club name and number on it so we know who it belongs to. Guidance is posted at the *AVA Club News Updates* link, select *E-Postcard IRS 990 Filing Information* link. If you have additional questions please email linda@ava.org.
- ✚ Update your *Club Officer Listings* and submit your *Club Financial Reports*, due November 15, 2010. *Financial Report Form* is posted under the *Publications-Forms* link, *AVA Club Forms* link, *AVA Form 102C3F* link.

Attachments: AVA Logo/Tag Line and Brazos Walking Sticks graphics
Biennial Publicity Contest Entry Form
2011 Starting Point Book *Club Pre-Order* Form
2011 Starting Point Book *Individual* Order Form
Brazos Walking Sticks Information