

AVA General Donations
Beginning May 21, 2018
Ending December 20, 2018

(6(a))

Donation Date	First Name	Last Name	State	Donation Amount	Campaign	Fund Type	Gift Type	Donation Note
5/21/2018	Red Roof Inn		TX	\$2.83	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
5/31/2018	Robert	Grünwald	VA	\$4.60	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
5/31/2018	Terry	Bennett	IN	\$50.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
5/31/2018	John	Pavlovsky	TX	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
5/31/2018	Frank & Lynda	Thomas	AZ	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/4/2018	Craig & Debbie	Beam	SC	\$5.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/4/2018	Betty	Vaughn	SD	\$100.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/4/2018	Sheila & Emma	Sartin	WA	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/4/2018	Winifred	Balz	NY	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/4/2018	Leon & Elizabeth	Levan	TX	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/5/2018	Carole	Owens	IN	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Credit Card	
6/14/2018	Anonymous		IL	\$125.00	General Contributions	Restricted	Check	Towards June 2018 NEC Mtg
6/14/2018	Carolyn	Lai	UT	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/14/2018	Daniel & Ruth	Holter	PA	\$50.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/14/2018	Rita	Jones	SC	\$15.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/14/2018	Bruce & Susan	Skinner	AZ	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Credit Card	
6/15/2018	Nancy	Wittenberg	WA	\$555.00	General Contributions		In-Kind	NEC Travel Expenses
6/18/2018	Thomas	Baltes	WA	\$912.00	General Contributions		In-Kind	NEC Travel Expenses
6/24/2018	Jerry L.	Wilson	WI	\$594.63	General Contributions		In-Kind	NEC Travel Expenses
6/26/2018	Red Roof Inn		TX	\$2.67	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
6/27/2018	Jerry L.	Wilson	WI	\$169.42	General Contributions		In-Kind	NEC Travel Expenses
6/28/2018	Barbara	Brehm	IL	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
7/3/2018	Red Roof Inn		TX	\$3.18	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
7/5/2018	Leo	Bourque	MA	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
7/5/2018	Carol	Yegerlehner	OH	\$50.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
7/5/2018	Sarah	Pierce-Rubio	NC	\$5.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
7/16/2018	Emery & Nancy	Cox	MO	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
7/17/2018	John	McClellan	FL	\$552.50	General Contributions		In-Kind	NEC Travel Expenses
7/30/2018	Carol	Reid	NY	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Credit Card	
8/2/2018	David	Bonewitz	TN	\$100.00	General Contributions	Restricted	Check	Donation for NEC Challenge
8/3/2018	Keith Alan	Johnson	WA	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Credit Card	
8/3/2018	Barbara	Yott	OH	\$100.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
8/13/2018	Carol	Romig	HI	\$48.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
8/13/2018	Marcia	Leonard	FL	\$45.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/4/2018	Diane	McFarland	AL	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/4/2018	Joseph	Pepia	WA	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/13/2018	Danielle	E. Daskam	WA	\$70.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/13/2018	Gloria	Reedy	PA	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/24/2018	Denise	Arn	IN	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/24/2018	Karen	Gill	MD	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/24/2018	Peggy	Kugel	AK	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/25/2018	Tom & Colleen	Spencer	WA	\$100.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/27/2018	Judy	Michale	NC	\$1,000.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
9/28/2018	Letitia	L. Zook	FL	\$100.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
10/1/2018	CAPT (Ret.) Tom	L. Mosely	MD	\$250.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
10/5/2018	Martha N.	Sykora, M.D.	MD	\$5.50	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
10/5/2018	Mary	Gage	TX	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Credit Card	
10/11/2018	Bruce & Deanna	Grier	IA	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
10/11/2018	Gene & Cindy	Biehl	PA	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
10/15/2018	Robert	Miller	KY	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
10/19/2018	Barbara	Esker	MD	\$15.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
11/5/2018	Ronald	F. Kresnicka	AZ	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
11/6/2018	Karen	Merritt	PA	\$50.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	In memory of Gloma Rosental
11/7/2018	Patricia	Reed	NY	\$10.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Credit Card	
11/14/2018	Susan	A. Medlin	TX	\$125.00	General Contributions	Restricted	Check	Towards 2019 QuickBooks
11/27/2018	Anonymous		IL	\$17.50	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
11/28/2018	Elizabeth	Foley	TX	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
11/28/2018	Timothy	Monahan	FL	\$100.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Credit Card	In memory of Martha Bonewitz
11/30/2018	Meandering Manatees		FL	\$530.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	Closing Club
11/30/2018	Sound Steppers Volkssport Club		WA	\$100.00	2019 Biennial Conventio	Restricted	Check	
12/4/2018	Andy & Tina	Howard	TX	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/4/2018	Janice	Brown	GA	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/4/2018	Paul	Mullen	IN	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/4/2018	Christopher	Ramsay	MO	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/4/2018	Bonnie	Theall	FL	\$5.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/7/2018	Jack & Joann	Highberger	PA	\$20.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/7/2018	Randolph Roadrunners		TX	\$86.28	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	Percentage from Taco Cabana walk
12/10/2018	Betty J.	Andrews	TX	\$100.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/11/2018	Marvin	Baker Jr., Ph.D.	OR	\$55.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	ACH	Percentage of donations received
12/15/2018	Volkssport Club at West Point		NY	\$24.50	General Contributions	Unrestricted	ACH	
12/17/2018	Alice	Kreider	MA	\$25.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
12/20/2018	William	Ridge	PA	\$35.00	General Contributions	Unrestricted	Check	
								In-Kind Total: \$2,783.55
								Restricted Total: \$450.00
								Unrestricted Total: \$3,655.06
								Grand Total: \$6,888.61

**PUBLISHING CONTRACT
THE AMERICAN WANDERER**

PUBLISHING CONTRACT dated November 20, 2018, between **Typesetting a la Macque** ("TALM") of 3951 Russell Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55412 ("TALM") and **American Volkssport Association, Inc.** of 1001 Pat Booker Road, Suite 101, Universal City, TX 78148-4147 ("AVA").

RECITAL

AVA is a national, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt association that promotes health, fitness, fun and friendship through noncompetitive sporting events across the United States. These sporting events are conducted by organizational members of the AVA under the rules and guidelines established by the AVA. One method of promoting these sporting events and other programs and activities of the AVA and its organizational members is through the AVA's newspaper, **THE AMERICAN WANDERER** ("TAW").

1. **Official Publisher.** AVA hereby grants **Typesetting a la Macque** ("TALM") the privilege and permission to be the official publisher of **THE AMERICAN WANDERER**.

2. **Obligations of TALM.** TALM shall undertake the following obligations in connection with this contract:

- a. Provide full publication service to include:
 - 1) Copy editing
 - 2) Typesetting
 - 3) Layout and Design
 - 4) Required halftones, photograph scans and color separations
 - 5) Other pre-press production requirements as needed
 - 6) Printing
 - 7) Distribution to include individual mailings and bulk shipment of leftovers to AVA.
- b. Publish the newspaper in a tabloid size of 11.375" x 17" or an alternate size as may be agreed upon in writing prior to publication.
- c. Ensure the newspaper includes article, photos and related information from the AVA and clubs, paid ads, as well as a listing of AVA clubs, sanctioned events and IVV award participants.
- d. Ensure each issue of the newspaper contains 32-48 pages, to include processed, four-color printing on the front page, back page and two center pages of the news section. Any change to extend the number of pages to more than forty-four (44) pages must be agreed to in advance. Final number of pages for any individual issue is dependent on the number of submissions from clubs and AVA Headquarters.

e. Print the number of copies of each issue as requested by AVA Headquarters to be distributed as directed by the AVA. Any quantity above 2300 must be approved by the Executive Director prior to printing.

f. Ensure the publication cost of each issue does not exceed \$4,600. This publication cost will include all services listed in paragraph 2a, above, except the cost of postage and return of leftovers, and is based on the issue containing thirty-six (36) pages. The printing cost will be reduced or increased in proportion to the final number of pages. Publication costs more than \$4,600 will not be paid without prior written approval. This maximum may be adjusted if the number of copies printed increases significantly, or the cost of newsprint increases more than five percent.

g. Publish the newspaper four times per year with publication dates of March, June, September and December.

h. Ensure each issue is mailed to subscribers and other designated individuals and organizations no later than the 20th day of the month prior to the publication date, with the exception of convention years. In cooperation with AVA, establish appropriate deadlines to ensure timely publication of the newspaper.

3. Obligations of AVA. The AVA will undertake the following obligations in connection with this contract:

a. Retains the right to establish editorial policy which will include, but not be limited to, the right to the direct placement of specific stories, items and advertisements.

b. Provide all camera-ready advertising copy to TALM on or before each issue deadline. Non camera-ready advertising copy will be provided to the publisher by the publication deadline date.

c. Provide a current mailing list of subscribers and other individuals and organizations in a usable electronic format to TALM or their designated mailing company on or before the seventh day of the month prior to the publication date.

d. Maintain the required United States Second Class Postal Permit required for the mailing of TAW from St. Paul, MN and pay all postage associated with the mailing of TAW under this permit.

e. Pay TALM or their designated agent all agreed upon costs of publication and mailing of each issue except the postage cost noted in 3d, above, within ten (10) days after receipt of the invoice.

f. Advise all organizational members of the deadlines established by TALM for editorial material and of the address to which such material must be sent.

g. Respond within two (2) working days to any request for change that requires AVA prior approval, such as increasing to 48 pages. The AVA president will serve as backup if authorization is not available from AVA Executive Director. TALM shall provide three (3) days for AVA staff to proof TAW draft.

h. AVA reserves the right to renegotiate this contract at any time during the two year term if change to a "magazine" or other format is considered. It is understood that both parties will negotiate a fee for new design and set up if the format is significantly changed.

4. Term. This Contract shall commence on the date hereof and terminate on November 30, 2020.

5. Ownership of Trademarks, Trade Names and Logos. AVA and TALM represent to each other that each, respectively, is the exclusive owner of the trademarks, trade names and logos used by either of them for the purposes of this Contract, and acknowledge and agree (a) that each of them shall use the trademarks, trade names and logos owned by the other exclusively for the purposes of this Contract and strictly subject to the condition upon such use imposed by the other party and (b) that neither of them nor any third party shall obtain any rights or title to, or interest in, any such trademarks, trade names or logos as a result of such use. Upon the termination of this Contract, each party shall immediately cease using all trademarks, trade names and logos owned by the other party.

6. Representations and Warranties.

a. AVA represents and warrants that:

(1) it has the full, exclusive right and legal authority to enter into and fully perform this Contract in accordance with its terms without violating the rights of any third party;

(2) it has all licenses, permits or other authorizations necessary to conduct the activities contemplated hereunder; and

(3) it will comply with all applicable laws, regulations and ordinances pertaining to the promotion and conduct of the activities contemplated hereunder.

b. TALM represents and warrants that:

(1) it has the full right and legal authority to enter into and fully perform this Contract in accordance with its terms without violating the rights of any third Party; and

(2) the TALM trademarks do not infringe the trademarks or trade names of any third party.

7. Entire Contract; Amendments. This Contract supersedes all prior Contracts, oral or written, between the parties hereto relating to the subject matter covered herein and sets forth the entire contract between the parties with respect thereto. No modification of this Contract or any of the provisions hereof shall be binding unless made in writing and signed by both parties hereto. Neither party shall have the right to assign, transfer, alienate, encumber nor hypothecate any of its rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written approval of the other party.


8. Relationship of Parties. Nothing in this Contract shall constitute either party the employee, agent or representative of the other party for any purpose whatsoever. Neither party is granted any right or authority to assume or create any obligation or responsibility, express or implied, on behalf of or in the name of the other party, or to bind the other party in any manner or thing whatsoever. Neither party shall make representations that it is an employee, agent nor representative of the other party.

9. Governing Law. This Contract shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the State of Texas and is performable in Bexar County, Texas.

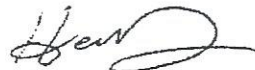
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract as of the date first above written.

TYPESETTING A LA MACQUE, a Sole Proprietorship

By: 

Its: 

AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION, INC.

By: 

Its: Executive Director

TAW Production Schedule 2019

○ = Holidays (see below)

Pink = Deadline

Yellow = Proofing

Blue = Print Date

January 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Jan 1, 2019 New Year's Day
Jan 21, 2019 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb 18, 2019 Presidents' Day (Most regions)

May 27, 2019 Memorial Day
Jul 4, 2019 Independence Day
Sep 2, 2019 Labor Day

Oct 14, 2019 Columbus Day (Most regions)
Nov 11, 2019 Veterans Day
Nov 28, 2019 Thanksgiving Day

Dec 25, 2019 Christmas Day

TAW Production Schedule 2020

○ = Holidays (see below)

Pink = Deadline

Yellow = Proofing

Blue = Print Date

January 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

March 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Jan 1, 2020 New Year's Day
Jan 20, 2020 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb 17, 2020 Presidents' Day (Most regions)

May 25, 2020 Memorial Day
Jul 3, 2020 'Independence Day' observed
Jul 4, 2020 Independence Day

Sep 7, 2020 Labor Day
Oct 12, 2020 Columbus Day (Most regions)
Nov 11, 2020 Veterans Day

Nov 26, 2020 Thanksgiving Day
Dec 25, 2020 Christmas Day

**American Volkssport Association
Acceptance of New, Reactivated, and Deactivated Clubs**

January 2019

New

SC Region 09-AVA-0984 Northland Steppers	pending officers
NC Region 04-AVA-0985 Dakota Wanderers	9/5/2018

Reactivated

None

Deactivated

AT Region 02-AVA-0021 Washington DC Area Volksmarch Club	6/28/2018
NC Region 04-AVA-0564 Panhandle Walkers	10/2/2018
PA Region 07-AVA-0941 Sierra Gold Striders	6/19/2018
RM Region 08-AVA-0922 Columbine Country Cruisers	8/10/2018
**NE Region 05-AVA-0969 NH Patriot Pathfinders	9/20/2018
**MA Region 03-AVA-0524 Olentangy Owls	10/4/2018
SE Region 10-AVA-0755 Meandering Manatees	12/7/2018
AT Region 02-AVA-0975 Canterbury Trails	12/4/2018
NC Region 04-AVA-0864 Menominee River Volkssport Club	12/28/2018
*SW Region 11-AVA-0967 Whatever of Texas Sporting Club	

**Clubs deactivated per request of the Regional Director.

*Deactivation status is pending receipt of all required documents.

7(a)-1

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE _____ Convention _____ **COMMITTEE**

FOR THE _____ January 2019 _____ **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

FROM (Name): _____ Lea Darling & Teresa Kennedy, Convention Co-Chairs

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Convention Committee Report

The Convention Chairs continue to meet monthly to discuss ideas and logistics. The walk committee has also been meeting monthly as our goal is to present organized, informative and fun walks for the conventioners.

Hopefully by the time of the NEC meeting registration will have opened. Last minute details are being finalized as of December 11.

The workshop schedule is complete

Equipment and room needs at the hotel have been identified.

Waiting for January 1 to secure all the permits necessary for walks in Portsmouth, Albany and the Saratoga National Historic Park.

In kind donations from local businesses are in the process of being obtained.

A grant from the Albany County Convention and Visitors Bureau of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital District in the amount of \$2500 was awarded to AVA on November 15, 2018. Seven ESCV club members were present to accept the award.

Volunteers are being actively recruited with 70 people signed up to date.

ACTIVITIES:

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
REPORT FOR THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE
JANUARY 2019 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

FROM: Chris Mellen Convention Liaison

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The Convention Chairs continue to meet monthly to discuss ideas and logistics. The walk committee has also been meeting monthly as our goal is to present organized, informative and fun walks for the conventioners.

By the time of the NEC meeting registration will have opened. Last minute details were being finalized as of December 11.

ACTIVITIES:

The workshop schedule is complete

Equipment and room needs at the hotel have been met and identified.

Waiting for January 1 to secure all the permits necessary for walks in Portsmouth, Albany and the Saratoga National Historic Park.

All Walk, Swim, and Bike activities are listed on the Events Page in the State of New York and linked to the Convention Website.

Concerns: Minor.

Encourage the use of the buses due to limited parking
Walk on fees will be addressed.

Each region could make a concentrated effort to promote the convention in the next five months.

Accomplishments:

There will be four visiting buses attending convention.

In kind donations from local businesses are in the process of being obtained.

A grant from the Albany County Convention and Visitors Bureau of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital District in the amount of \$2500 was awarded to AVA on November 15, 2018. Seven ESCV club members were present to accept the award.

Volunteers are being actively recruited with 70 people signed up to date.

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

7(a)-2

FOR THE 2021 AVA Biennial Convention Committee **COMMITTEE**

FOR THE January 2019 – Tucson, AZ **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL/BOARD MEETING**

FROM (Name): Jerry Wilson, Chair

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Assisted the Executive Director to re-develop the 2021 Biennial Convention Application. Established and maintained initial contacts with interested proposers that reached out to the Committee.

ACTIVITIES: As needed:

- Reviewed multiple drafts of the 2021 Biennial Convention Application form, submitted edits to the National Office.
- Connected with local clubs, chambers of commerce, sports authorities and individuals that have expressed interest in hosting the 2021 Biennial Convention. Many phone calls and emails ensued.

Future Schedule:

- February 28, 2019 (mailed or emailed by): Applications Due into AVA National Headquarters
- March 2019: Review and Score Applications.
- March 31, 2019: Notify Finalists
- June 12 – 15: Finalists Present to Membership

CONCERNS: None, other than a desire to be kept in the information flow related to the 2019 Biennial Convention and resultant decisions to add to a list of best practices for future conventions.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Determine the best of past conventions, and the 2019 convention, and keep those "best elements" for replicating/adapting for future AVA Biennial Conventions, including 2021.

Future Convention Applications: Suggest changing the receipt deadline to read something to the effect of: "...mailed or emailed to arrive by February 28, 20??". The worded used for the 2021 application deadline could be interpreted that applications could be mailed by midnight on February 28, versus received by a deadline.

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Draft Plan as of 11 Jan 19

12:30-1:30

Room	Topic	Presenter
Stonehenge D 1:00-2:00	Erie Canal History	Brad Utter
Capital Room	Igniting Interest (Tom's laptop/projector)	Barbara Nuss
Stonehenge B-C	Publicity (90 minutes)	AVA HQ
Stonehenge A	AVA's 10 Programs--Boosting Club Activity	Deb Kruep

1:30-3:00

General Assembly at 3:30

Room	Topic	Presenter
Stonehenge D 2:00-3:00	Saratoga Battlefield history (Ranger)	Ranger/BK
Stonehenge B-C	America Walks - Walk Audit (90 minutes)	TBD
Stonehenge A	All things IT (90 minutes)	Chris Zegelin
Capital Room	Keys to Growth (Tom's laptop/projector)	Steve Hughart

Thursday, June 13, 2019

BBQ Sandwiches after morning walk and bus back to hotel

2:00-3:00

Room	Topic	Presenter
Stonehenge D	City of Albany	BK
Stonehenge A	GroupWorks	TBD
Stonehenge B-C	Meet the Candidates (90 minutes)	Candidates
Capital Room	Meetup.com Basics	Kathy Bundy

3:00-4:00

Room	Topic	Presenter
Capital Room	Fitness for All Ages	Dar Parrow
Stonehenge D	Underground Railroad in NYS	Kathryn Sheehan
Stonehenge A	Operations (90 minutes)	AVA HQ
Stonehenge B-C	America Walks - Walk Audit Report (90 minutes)	TBD

4:00-5:00

Room	Topic	Presenter
Capital Room	RD/DRD/State Association Roundtable	John M
Stonehenge A	Volsbiking or Trailmaster (4-6)	Tom Baltes
Stonehenge D	Welcome to Cooperstown	Tim Wiles
State Room	GroupWorks	

Evening entertainment 7:30-9:30ish

Friday, June 14, 2019

General Assembly at 1-3:00, then room setup for banquet

3:30-5:30

Room	Topic	Presenter
Capital Rm	President's new officer reception	David Bonewitz
State Room	Trailmaster Course or Volsbiking	Tom Baltes

Other Possible Topics/Space Needs

First Floor Courtyard
Board Rm

Kiosk for Crazy Horse
IT Kiosk for demos (use registration computers)

Amanda Allcock
Chris Zegelin



American Volkssport Association Agenda Item Form

10(f)

Proposed Motion –

As we move more into an electronic delivery of event information, new problems arise with confusion about the information and the potential misuse of the information.

We move that –

The IT Committee makes the web site changes necessary such that an account with the electronic waiver signed is required before the start box location is visible in the sanction.

Summary of Proposed Action –

This does not impact the Starting Point. If anyone wants to see the start box location without having an account or signing the waiver, buy a Starting Point book.

This does not impact brochures or clubs. Clubs may continue to do what they are currently doing.

The legacy ESR is simply unable to comply with this requirement, however we are months away from being able to implement this motion on the new portal. This is not a new idea, it was important 8 years ago when concerns were first raised. No motion was offered at the time because no implementation was possible. Now that it is actually possible to do this; it is time to reintroduce the idea.

Creating an account is free and easy to set up.

The hope is to mitigate some of the potential issues with people finding and using our routes without the organizations knowledge or control. At least the waiver will be signed.

Submitted by –

Chris Zegelin, IT Committee Chair.

Seconded by –

Chris Mellen, RD Northeast.



American Volkssport Association

Agenda Item Form

10(e)

Proposed Motion –

The language in the new waiver gives AVA ownership of all photos submitted to HQ via any AVA forum. This has several specific problems that will block us from several nice features in the future. The language is:

“such photos or images become the property of AVA and AVA, its legal representatives and assigns, retain the right and permission to publish any such photo or image in any written or electronic publication, including the Checkpoint or TAW, on social media, websites or in audiovisual presentations, promotional literature, advertising or in any similar method.”

We move that –

The Executive Director change the paragraph wording to include the words “non-exclusive license”, “for AVA purposes only”, and “shown in a positive light”, having first removed the word “property”.

Summary of Proposed Action –

The current language means that once submitted, you can no longer legally use any photo for your club or for personal use. You lose complete control over the use of the photo. It's not just AVA, but can include a PR firm or other entity that you have no knowledge of.

What do we want to do in the future?

- Submit photos to a blog.
- Attach photos to an event.
- Help with AVA and club marketing materials.

The problem is not the AVA where we can trust the organization to use photos in an appropriate manner and to allow us to use them for our own personal use. The problem is that the language goes too far, granting rights that most people would not be comfortable with.

It will be important to our success that everyone feels comfortable with this language. This is lawyer language designed to absolve everyone (assigns) from taking responsibility for handling submitted photos in a way that is acceptable to the person submitting them.

The lawyers will argue against this, but damn it, they are my photos.

Submitted by –

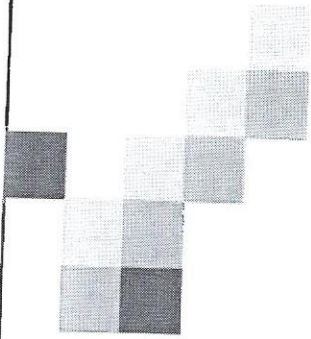
Chris Zegelin, IT Committee Chair.

Seconded by –

Chris Mellen, RD Northeast.

7(b)

NEC – Jan 2019 IT Committee



Mission Statement: The AVA IT committee will provide timely guidance and leadership to the NEC, headquarters, and clubs for information technology and electronic systems used by the association.

The good: Continued major updates to legacy ESR. Strong progress on new portal. New database is firming up.

The bad: It continues to happen slowly. We want it all now!

1

A wit on IT

**THE BEST METHOD FOR
ACCELERATING A COMPUTER
IS THE ONE THAT BOOSTS IT
BY 9.8 m/s^2 .**

2

The legacy ESR is stable

- This was a much needed part of our migration strategy.
 - Plan to be off the legacy server ASAP.
- Upgrading the server software and adding features have allowed us to have a plan instead of a panic.
- ACE support and too many enhancements to list.

3

The legacy ESR additions/changes to

- RD Nav Page
- Club Event Management
- AVA HQ Event Management
- Public Web Pages

4

Legacy ESR Changes - RD Nav Page

- Display YRE/SEs with participation missing for previous quarter
- Added button for RD approval of ACE-WG events on my.ava.org
- RD Designation of ACE-Y, ACE-P, and ACE-T events
- Removed ability to change event type or category after event is RD approved
 - Changes to these should be done by contacting AVA HQ since they could affect billing.)
- Display event details for an unapproved or approved event.

5

Legacy ESR Changes - Club Event Management

- Added start/end date to Special Programs selection list
- Improved entered value validation for YRE/SE renewal, YRE/SE/TE creation and editing
 - Including Start/End date checking and maximum/minimum characters for a field
- Added link to club stamp editing on my.ava.org (without having to login again)
- Created "how to" documentation of Stamp Editing feature
- Added link to ACE-WG page on my.ava.org for approval requests and entering participation for ACE-WG events.
- Created "how to" documentation for ACE features

6

Legacy ESR Changes – HQ Event Management

- Feature to display in a single table RD approved YRE/SE/TEs for the current and following year
- Feature to display participation data for YRE/SEs or TEs for a particular year (2018-2015) with data totals
 - with filtering based on PPSF or Not-PPSF events
- Integration of Legacy ESR Event Sanctioning Billing with Quickbooks
 - Win Powershell script to create Quickbooks data import file from Legacy ESR Sanction Billing report.
- Added support for TGW/GB events to assure
 - Only 1 stamp is sent to club for the first TGW/GB event of the year.
 - Enforcement that a regular TE must be approved before the first TGW is approved
 - Proper sanction billing for TGW/GB events without extra manual tracking by AVA HQ Staff

7

Legacy ESR Changes – Public Web Pages

- Implemented latest Google Analytics tracking for all public facing ESR web pages
- Removed outdated Google Analytics tracking from all club/RD management ESR web pages
- In progress, implement latest Google Analytics tracking for ava.org public web pages
- In progress, fix/improve outdated (no longer supported) interactive map feature for events.

8

The database contents are improving

- The new database on 'my.ava.org' is looking much better and more complete.
- Have copies of the major pieces from the legacy database.
- The overall organization is better.
 - New application is not database driven.
- Fields are renamed and new ones added.

9

Portal "my.ava.org"

- Major functionality exists. Club login, stamp text, ACE-WG.
- Working on the personal login. Most code is there but not yet complete nor tested.
- Online payments via EVO working.
- Moving the Online Start Box is the next highest priority.
 - This impacts much of the development
 - It's a huge job. Lot's of pages.

10

The main AVA web site

- Started to migrate pages to a Wordpress site.
 - Provides better long term supportability
 - Hector is working on this
- Focus is on attracting people to our organization
 - Moving much of the club info and docs to "my.ava.org"
 - Better organization

11

Convention 2019 software...

- This is coming along nicely.
- Pre-registration is complete.
- Onsite registration is the next piece
 - A kiosk for registration and payments
 - Simplify and thus reduce the volunteer work load.
 - No long lines to register.

12

What is next

- Online start box (OSB) moved from CVA web site.
- Replacement for the current “find a club” and “find an event”.
 - Better mapping with more detail
 - Better search
- What to do about specialty stamps?
 - Anniversary stamps.
 - Emergency club stamps.

13

Thank you

- Questions....

14

7(c)

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE Standards and Evaluation COMMITTEE

FOR THE January 2019 Tucson, AZ EXECUTIVE COUNCIL/BOARD MEETING

FROM (Name): Jerry Wilson, Chair

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The Committee acknowledges the many hours of work, and Board presentations by Mike Green, committee member, and IT Committee member. Many policy and procedure improvements and updates have been implemented. These included:

- Policy on ACE Events
- Policy on Cruise Ships Events
- Policy on Permanent PPSF
- Policy on Minor Participant Waivers, New Waiver Form Published – Spearheaded by National Office

Some policy and Procedure improvements are pending:

- On-line Start Box Policies – Maybe linked with Making Maps Available on-line item.
- Submitting Completed Books and Achievement Books On-Line Versus Mailing Actual Books – Revised policy manual change is currently shown on nogreen.com/ava-policy.
- Policy on Cutting and Pasting From Insert Pages – Motion approved, Policy Manual proposed change pending – pending approval.
- New subsection on Event directions Policy on Making Maps Available On-line – Motion approved, Policy Manual proposed change pending.

ACTIVITIES: Mike Green and Jerry Wilson worked with the National Office to implement the changes voted for and endorsed by the NEC. Policy and procedures have been updated. Many system changes have been developed by Mike Green, tested and implemented on the system.

CONCERNS: Maintaining publications so member clubs have the most up-to-date instructions continues to be a struggle. Concentrated work by the Committee has gotten many NEC voted and endorsed changes implemented, some are pending, issues continue to arise. Research into many of these issues has been done by the Executive Director and National Office staff.

During the December 11, 2018 on-line NEC meeting, the volume of work sent to this Committee was recognized and one comment was that this Committee can address items by focusing on specific aspects during different time periods. This focused approach will be able to address important issues at specific times, however, the volume of changes needed may overwhelm the Committee and the entire development and implementation process. We will all press through as changes are needed. The monthly Checkpoint publication from the National Office helps greatly in keeping local clubs up-to-date as changes are endorsed.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It has helped greatly this past year that a key figure of the IT Committee was also a member of the Standards and Evaluation Committee. Future cooperation between this Committee and the IT Committee will be imperative as the future on-line system is developed for members access, and the On-line Start Box (OLSB) is moved to the National Office.

7(f)

AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR THE _____ Bylaws _____ COMMITTEE
FOR THE JAN 2019 _____ EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
FROM (Name): Lucy Yother _____

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

I noticed that Article V, Para 5.7 (2nd sentence, second line) reads in part, "The term of office shall begin on July following ..." (note no date in July)
This should read on July 1 (as confirmed by the corresponding para 6.7.)
This is clearly a typographical/transcription error for which the remedy falls under the stipulations of Article XV, para 15.3, Editorial Changes.
As such it should require no committee action nor membership vote.
Notification to BOD and/or Headquarters Staff should be all that is needed.

ACTIVITIES:

Bob Morrison, National Treasurer, submitted a proposed Bylaws Amendment Form, for the recommended accounting year change approved by NEC. The purpose of this motion is to facilitate a change of AVA's accounting and tax year from a July-June fiscal year to a January-December calendar year beginning in 2020.

A proposal from the Mid America Regional Conference meeting on OCT 27, 2018, to change the Term of Office for AVA Officers, Regional Directors, and Deputy Regional Directors from two (2) years to four (4) years.

President has asked me to draft proposed change to Bylaws to add up to three seats on the Board of Directors to be filled by non-Volkssporters.

CONCERNS:

It could be more difficult to get volunteers to commit to a four year term of office vs. a two year term of office.
There should be an accompanying proposal regarding term limits if the basic term should be changed to four years.
Do we want effectively eight year terms by way of a two-term limit? Or do we want a single four-year term? Or what?

Do the up to three non-Volkssporters added to the BOD have voting power and where do the funds come from to pay for the expenses of these additional Board members. Qualifications of the non-Volkssporters.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None at this time.

Please attach any additional material that is part of your report.

Print Form

Reset Form

Submit AVA Committee Report to AVA Headquarters by Email

8(a)

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE AVA Special Programs **COMMITTEE**

FOR THE January 11-12, 2019 **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

FROM (Name): Bonnie Johnson

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Three (3) Special Programs proposals have been received and if approved by the NEC, will begin on January 1, 2020. The sale of books would end December 31, 2022 and completed books could be redeemed for the award through December 31, 2023. Voting sheets will be handed out at the NEC meeting for individual voting on each proposed program according to AVA Policy Manual 4.05 - Special Programs. The programs being proposed in alphabetical order include:

Airports "Celebrating American Flight"

Mayflower - 400th Anniversary Walks

Rockin' Around the Clock

Attached: Proposed Special Program information

ACTIVITIES:

The Checkpoint and TAW have been provided with articles promoting Special Programs throughout the year noting the deadline date for submissions of November 1, 2018. All were received by that date, reviewed and some corrections/changes were made. Each recipient was to follow the AVA Policy Manual 4.05 for the rules and regulations regarding submission of a Special Program.

New Special Program Proposal for 2020:

Airports "Celebrating American Flight"

The program is proposed by the Seneca Valley Sugarloafers Volksmarch Club, Inc / POC:
Michael Cannon, Germantown, MD

Airports and Airplanes have fascinated people since their beginnings. Participants in this Special Program may recall fond memories of watching planes take off and land. Many have been excited to experience the thrill of flying. Reminisce as you walk by an Airport.

The program includes major Metropolitan and International Airports, and also smaller Regional Airports, small Regional Airfields and Military Airfields if criteria is met. Viewing areas often offer specific points near an airport parking area and on perimeter pathways. Airports are extremely easy to spot. The qualifier is meant to define that the walk must be near enough to see airport operations. The walk needs to be along a roadway or pathway adjacent to, abutting, or such similar terms to the Airport property line.

Qualifier for 12 different sanctioned events (Note: Same walk/Different year = Different walk) . Any sanctioned walk that goes by an Airport and is defined as using a perimeter pathway of an airport, going to a designated viewing area of the airport , or walk on a trail in close viewing proximity to the airfield and runways. Military Airfields do count but not Heliports or Helipads. Program would run from January 1, 2020- December 31, 2022. Books must be redeemed no later than December 31, 2023

Cost of book: \$10

Patch: 3 1/2" X 4 1/2" multicolored embroidered patch

Estimated expense budget: 100 booklets, 100 awards, ink & printing, postage & envelopes, \$300 AVA fee = \$806.34.

Alternate contact: Carolyn Thurber, Derwood, MD



Recommendation: Bonnie Johnson, Committee Chair of Special Programs, moves the Seneca Valley Sugarloafers Volkssport Clubs proposed Special Program, Airports "Celebrating American Flight" be approved.

AVA, America's Walking Club Virtual Online Challenges for 2019



Get ready to stay active and have fun while exploring the country known for its hockey, maple syrup, and polite people. While physically walking in anywhere USA or in the world you can also walk virtually through Canada, the world's second largest country. We have partnered with the Canadian Volkspport Federation to bring you 50 cities and many of the permanent IVV trails in Canada. Most of the cities we visit will have one or more IVV trails. As you pass these milestone cities you will receive information about the local IVV walk, interesting fun facts and history as well! You can post your steps manually, sync with a fitbit or other walking device, most devices work with the program. Don't have a walking pedometer or device, you may also use a smartphone!

This program will run from January 1 to December 31, 2019. To receive your Walkin' Canada T-Shirt, complete 5500 steps per day or a total of 2,007,500 by December 31, 2019.



Regional Team Challenge

In 2019 we bring you not one, but two challenges right out of the gate. When you register for Walkin' Canada you may also join ranks with walkers in your region. Each of the ten AVA regions will have a team. It doesn't matter how many walkers you have, large or small, all teams have an equal chance to win bragging rights by walking towards the elusive Traveling Trophy which will be awarded to the region who acquires the most steps by the AVA Albany convention conclusion and award dinner. Could this be your region? What a terrific way to get some friendly banter about the sport we love! Once enrolled in Walkin' Canada, simply click on the team tab in your walking account. This must be done on a computer, not on the app. Don't worry if you forget or have questions, you may receive an invitation from your regional director or their representative and directions on how to join.

Sounds like a good time, eh? Put on your hat and boots and let's walk!

Register at www.ava.org and click on the Walkin' Canada logo

Program Name	POC	Start	Stop	End	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Border Crossings	Tom Martin	1/1/2014	12/31/2023	12/13/2024	1	1	1	1	1	1
Louisiana Purchase	Butch Spaulding	1/1/2015	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	2					
Water Fountains	Sharon Snyder	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	3					
Bridges	Millie Haupt	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	4					
Lady Liberty	Teresa Arnold	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	5					
National Parks	Diane Hildebrand	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	6					
Reference Points	Lois Head	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	7					
State Street	Lois Head	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	8					
City Parks	Sharon Snyder	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	9					
Treasure Hunt	Lois Head	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	10					
Vice President	Pat Stark	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	11					
US Post Offices	Sharon Snyder	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	12					
Ports of Call	Sharon Streiti	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	13					
Inventions	Sue Connelly	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	14					
Walk the US	Teresa Arnold	1/1/2016	12/31/2018	12/31/2019	15					
Ice Cream Parlors	Mary Frink	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	16	2				
Underground RR	Frances Taylor	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	17	3				
OlympianWalk	Suzi Glass	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	18	4	2			
Appalachian Trail	Susan Medlin	1/1/2018	12/31/2028	12/31/2029	19	5	3	2	2	2
Carousels	Bev Haven	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	20	6	4	3		
Little Free Library	Deb Gaskins	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	21	7	5	4		
Jan 2019 SP 1		1/1/2020	12/31/2022	12/31/2023		8	6	5	3	
Jan 2019 SP 2		1/1/2020	12/31/2022	12/31/2023		9	7	6	4	
Jan 2019 SP 3		1/1/2020	12/31/2022	12/31/2023		10	8	7	5	
Jan 2020 SP 1		1/1/2021	12/31/2023	12/31/2024			9	8	6	3
Jan 2020 SP 2		1/1/2021	12/31/2023	12/31/2024			10	9	7	4
Jan 2020 SP 3		1/1/2021	12/31/2023	12/31/2024			11	10	8	5
Jan 2021 SP 1		1/1/2022	12/31/2024	12/31/2025				11	9	6
Jan 2021 SP 2		1/1/2022	12/31/2024	12/31/2025				12	10	7
Jan 2021 SP 3		1/1/2022	12/31/2024	12/31/2025				13	11	8
Jan 2022 SP 1		1/1/2023	12/31/2025	12/31/2026					12	9
Jan 2022 SP 2		1/1/2023	12/31/2025	12/31/2026					13	10
Jan 2022 SP 3		1/1/2023	12/31/2025	12/31/2026					14	11
Jan 2023 SP 1		1/1/2024	12/31/2026	12/31/2027						12
Jan 2023 SP 2		1/1/2024	12/31/2026	12/31/2027						13
Jan 2023 SP 3		1/1/2024	12/31/2026	12/31/2027						14
# of Programs					21	10	11	13	14	14
Year					2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024

8(a)-5

Books sold Through 12/31/18 and redeemed.

	sold/redeemed
Inventions	89/29
National Parks	236/76
State Street	111/45
Treasure Hunt	116/60
Points of Reference	170/105
Louisiana Purchase	151/61
Bridges - Spanning Across USA	297/270
Lady Liberty	59/18
Street by Street	173/65
City Parks	215/154
Post Offices	215/122
Water Fountains	174/102

Special Programs

8(b)

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE National Programs and IML Committee **COMMITTEE**

FOR THE January 2019 **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

FROM (Name): Susan Medlin, SWRD

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. The Appalachian Trail Special Program opened on January 1, 2018. As of November 10, 2018, we've sold 217 of the first 300 books. I expect to sell more as we get closer to Convention (it is a wonderful opportunity to do the AT walks in the Northeast).
2. Wisconsin's Ice Age Trail Special Program is up and running. All walks use the Online Start Box. If it is popular, we will look at regional programs in Missouri and Ohio.
3. The Pacific Crest Trail Special Program is on hold indefinitely; due to the devastating fires and mudslides along the West Coast that have damaged the trails.
4. The May 2018 briefing to the IML Congress in Sweden was successful. We will be inspected February 23 - 25, 2019 by the IML President and Vice President, so it would be great if everyone made a special effort to be there. The IML President is coming a few days early to meet with the leadership, and I can set up a dinner or meeting with those NEC members present.
4. Reminder: the SNOB Special Program ends on December 31, 2018.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Continue support for the new IML we are creating in San Antonio. Please join us in San Antonio February 23 - 25, 2019.
2. Travel to Blankenberge, Belgium for the IML General Meeting & walks May 1 - 5, 2019. They will receive the inspection report and vote on adding San Antonio as an IML. If accepted, attendance at future IML General Meetings is mandatory. I will be happy to attend as the San Antonio representative. Upcoming meetings are in Indonesia and Norway.
3. Continue promoting & selling the Appalachian Trail Program.

CONCERNS:

I will use the \$5,000 budget (NEC approved in June 2018) in 2019 to cover the cost of hosting the two IML Inspectors at our San Antonio event. The AVA budget beginning in 2020 will cover the annual 350 Euro fee for hosting each one of the two American IML events, Arlington, VA and San Antonio, TX.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please join us in San Antonio February 23 - 25, 2019.

Please attach any additional material that is part of your report.

[Print Form](#)[Reset Form](#)[Submit AVA Committee Report to AVA Headquarters by Email](#)

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE _____ **Program** _____ **COMMITTEE**

FOR THE January 11-13, 2019 **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

FROM (Name): _____ Debbie Kruep

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. May- Sept, worked with Windy City Walkers to partner with Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana Service Unit to develop the "Walk the Plank" Walk Together in Frankfort, IL on Sept 29.
2. March- Nov, worked with Mon Valley Trailblazers to partner with Girl Scouts of Western PA Council for the Moon Walk and Star party on Nov 3.
3. Aug- Nov, worked with Gateway Milers to develop and host the first AVA ACE-Y event with the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Missouri, entitled Mastodon Ice Age Hike, Nov. 11
4. Trained Blake at AVA HQ on #OptOutside and coordinated with Blake, Samanta and Hector on #OptOutside advertising for clubs on the AVA website and FB page.
5. Fielded calls and communications from the Vice President of Canadian Volkssport Federation on VOP Programs.
6. Coordinated with AVA President to promote a collaboration with the Canadian Volkport Federation for a new VOP in 2019.
6. Developed Walkin' Canada VOP Challenge for 2019.
7. Created Sponsor levels and sponsorship letter for headquarters to distribute to the Canadian Volkssport Federation office and clubs.
8. Collaborated with Canadian Representative and Walker Tracker to to develop Walkin' Canada map.
9. Created Walkin' Canada Logo.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Continue to to register, promote, and administer VOP Programs
2. Continue to promote ACE.
3. Developing a Program Workshop for the AVA Albany Convention focusing on the 10 different AVA Programs and how clubs can use them to attract new walkers.
4. Coordinating with Minnesota AVA club and instructing them on how to host the AVA Walk Together patch contest with the Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys (GSRV).

2018 #OptOutside Report

#OptOutside Mission

Unite AVA clubs by having each club host an event on Black Friday focusing on #OptOutside while increasing the visibility of AVA as an organization.

Participation

We had 43 clubs send their #OptOutside information to AVA. These events were for the most part group walks of an existing YRE. We did have a couple of traditional events, the traditional multi-event weekend in Hershey, PA and one #OptOutside Traditional in the Northwest. In compiling participation numbers I had 3 clubs email me that were not included in our original count of 43 because AVA received no information from them prior. I also had one event on Saturday that was included in 2017 and not in 2018 as it was held on the Saturday. For reporting purposes I included it again in this report. **This brings total participating clubs to 47.** This is a decrease of 6 clubs from 2017 to the best of my knowledge. Total number of 2018 participation to date is 573 with approximately 31 people who were first timers. At this writing I have not received numbers from the remaining 7 clubs including the Hershey multi-event weekend.

A Quick Glance

- Clubs who sent their information to AVA to be included on the website and FB promotion: 43
- Clubs who reported participation numbers to Programs@ava.org: 34 and 2 clubs that did not send in promo information to be included on the AVA website of FB page.
- Number of clubs who merged for the day: 2 (that were reported)
- Total number of event cancellations due to snow: 1
- Total number of events with no walkers due to California fire: 1
- Clubs reported extreme cold and torrential rains this year!
- Total number of walkers from the 36 reporting clubs: 573 (about 50% decrease from 2017 but there are no numbers reported from the largest two day event in PA.
- Total number of new walkers: 31+ (Sumner did have some but was unsure how many) this is about a 23% increase from 2017.

2017 Participation Totals (final) 1156 with 24 new walkers

2018 Participation Total (not final) 573 with 31+ new walkers

8(f)

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE **MEMBERSHIP** COMMITTEE

FOR THE **JANUARY 2019** EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

FROM: **HOLLY PELKING, CHAIR**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Brought membership into the forefront through TAW interviews, dedicating an entire page to membership in Dec/Jan issue; highlighting the value of AVA membership through other people's voices.

Developed three levels of Associate member outreach letters to accompany processed IVV books.

ACTIVITIES:

The major ongoing work is as follows:

1. We continue to work on brainstorming benefits for members that are fiscally sound and bring high energy to the organization.
2. Decided that the first level of non-member participant we could directly connect would be walkers turning in IVV record books that are not currently AVA Associate Members. From this came the idea of writing three different letters directly to the walker and include them in the return envelope with processed books. Letters will be made available at meeting.
3. Increasing awareness of the national organization in TAW-Entire page dedicated to membership in Dec/Jan issue including a major contribution from David! We are proposing to call this page going forward, "*Associates in Action*", and continue featuring associate members and families to spread the word.
4. We propose that for clubs to help us with membership drive on a local level, they will possess a value incentive. We propose that for every 10 paid Associate Members/family, the club will have +1 vote on any national election. Grandfathered Lifetime Members will count
5. We are working with the IT committee to identify easy to implement features that will be attractive to the membership.

CONCERNS:

We are concerned that too many walkers are content to walk locally and have little interest in joining AVA in addition to membership in their local club.

We are concerned that for many active local participants, there is no perceived value for joining another "arm" of the organization

Reading through the survey it is clear we have a challenge to bring awareness of the national organization to local club membership.

We are concerned that in many small, but active local clubs, there is no path to leadership development.

We are concerned about the difficulty coordinating in a timely manner with Marketing, Publicity and IT or other committees other than Membership as our work often spills into other committees.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

We recommend Associate Membership categories be defined only as Associate Member and that Lifetime Membership be discontinued and grandfathered effective July 1. Going forward, Associate Membership will not be referred to as "revenue producing". All fund raising will come under Fund Development.

We propose this change be effective next fiscal year, July 1, 2019 so that it can be announced well in advance of the convention and establish a national membership drive to coordinate with the convention.

We recommend the IT portal include a "Membership Tab" on the front page. We recommend we begin coordinating the Associate Membership drive with an announcement at the Albany convention.



Fun, Fitness, Friendship

America's Walking Club

1001 Pat Booker Road, Suite 101
Universal City, Texas 78148.4147
210.659.2112 ▲ 210.659.1212 Fax
avahq@ava.org ▲ www.ava.org

Dear Karen,

Welcome to America's Walking Club!

Congratulations to you on completing your first ten events. Our commitment to Fun, Fitness and Friendship offers many interesting adventures to explore. **AVA.org**, directs you to those adventures in your local community and far beyond to other club's events. You are welcome at any event *across the U.S.A. and around the world* as we are a national organization which belongs to the **International Volkssport Verband (IVV)**. (Roughly translated as "sports for all people"). Read about the history of IVV created by one of our clubs in Cincinnati here:

<http://germaniasociety.com/2016/10/volksmarch-history/>

In addition to membership in your local club, I encourage you to join the national organization, **America's Walking Club**, and become an Associate Member. The national organization's headquarters in Universal City, Texas, is the support to over 200 local clubs and includes a searchable database of over 2,500 events. The national organization provides indispensable administrative guidance for your local club and the **International Achievement Program** where you just earned a pin, a patch and a certificate for completing your first ten events!

The best way to know when and where unique events are about to happen across the country is to read **The American Wanderer (TAW)**, which is another of the wonderful benefits of Associate membership. Facebook is another way clubs can publicize their events and you can share photos and ask questions there:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AmericanVolkssportAssociation/>

I encourage you to ask questions, lots of questions as you hear abbreviations you never heard before. There will be plenty of folks happy to give you information about our organization. Be Healthy, Be Happy, I'll see you on the trail.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'David Bonewitz'.

David Bonewitz, AVA President

8(h)

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE Club Development & Support **COMMITTEE**

FOR THE December 2018 **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

FROM (Name): John McClellan

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- (1) Recruited (2) new Committee members in the PA and NC Regions. Committee now has 7 members.
- (2) Held first full Committee meeting on 4/26/18 utilizing MS Teams
- (3) Updated SP "dashboard" with sub-objectives in the Committee Charter, and current status v. approved metrics
- (4) Drafted and submitted a budget proposal (below.)
- (5) 2 Committee members met with / talked to walkers from several clubs in the Hospitality Room at the Texas Trail Round-up in February - asking about issues that clubs have.

ACTIVITIES:

- (1) Recruiting additional members and setting up Committee to operate on MS Teams
- (2) Review of 2017 event numbers, nationally.
- (3) Review of club event, membership & financial data to identify concerns for RDs
- (4) Attempted outreach to State Organizations
- (5) Proposed FY18 Committee Budget:

Regional Support to club formation or "struggling clubs" @ \$1000.00 / Rgn
\$10,000.00
Travel for Committee Members
Printing
Postage

CONCERNS:

- (1) Lack of engagement by State Org POCs - not answering e-mail inquiries.
- (2) High bank balances in some State Orgs where there are also clearly "struggling" club(s) in those states.
- (3) Event Participation, # of clubs and # of club members continue their broad decline, 2 years into the SP.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) For the NEC to review and approve the policy manual additions on Club Development and Support, to include AVA staff developing the necessary Application Form to be used for struggling clubs who want to apply for grant \$\$s.
- (2) For AVA RDs to provide feedback on the "amber" and "red" clubs per the analysis provided in June 2018.
- (3) For AVA to support the "Club Greeter" idea and refer to the Training Development committee for inclusion in the next edition of the Club Operations manual.

Please attach any additional material that is part of your report.

Print Form

Reset Form

Submit AVA Committee Report to AVA Headquarters by Email

SECTION 6: CLUB DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORT

6.01 AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

The American Volkssport Association (AVA) is committed to working with member clubs to develop, train and support them to achieve the purposes enumerated in the Articles of Incorporation, specifically:

"to promote the public health, physical fitness and well-being of the people of the United States, its possessions, trusts, territories, dependencies and overseas military bases and diplomatic missions, by organizing, promoting and conducting scheduled programs of noncompetitive, family oriented, participatory lifetime sports;

"to assist in the organization of new volkssport clubs within the geographic jurisdiction of the AVA; " and

"to provide understanding of the benefits of participation in organized programs of noncompetitive, family oriented, participatory, lifetime sports."

6.02 CLUB DEVELOPMENT

I. GENERAL

Club development includes the broad topics of launching new clubs from application (AVA Form 201) through full operations to include first event(s); and sustaining existing clubs with necessary training and expertise to continue to grow and improve. Important components of development training include: AVA policy & administrative operations; club officer roles & responsibilities, non-profit incorporation, financial and IRS reporting requirements; event operations and trailmaster training; membership; and marketing/publicity.

II. POLICY

The AVA provides for club development through:

A. AVA Headquarters / Staff:

1. Publishing organizational guidelines such as the Policy Manual, Club Operations Guide and Trailmaster Guide

2. Maintaining a National website and other forms of regular communications to ensure that member clubs and state organizations remain informed on new programs, important issues or changes in policy.

3. Coordinating training workshops on developmental topics at biennial conventions and other appropriate venues.

4. Staff training that ensures that the National staff can answer questions on a wide variety of topics pertaining to the AVA and their operations.

5. Providing for the chartering of new clubs, a new club application process and associated checklist, and training to Regional Directors and their deputies, state organizations and clubs on techniques for starting new clubs.

B. Regional Directors (RD) / Deputies (DRD):

1. Maintain regular communications with their member clubs and state organizations – serving as the first stop for answering questions or resolving issues.

2. Visiting with clubs and meeting with leadership. RDs/DRDs typically have long experience in AVA and are an important source of training and development for new club officers and volunteers. RDs/DRDs assess the needs of clubs and can offer development solutions that meet those needs.

3. RDs/DRD may develop or use existing diagnostic assessment tools to assess clubs and direct assistance or resourcing. Measurable criteria include: participation, membership, leadership, and administrative/financial fitness; along with intangible factors and observations.

4. Regional Conferences. Many regions hold regularly scheduled (annual or bi-annual) regional conferences for area clubs. These forums are another training platform for club development.

C. State Organizations – *See existing guidance for Club Development in Appendix D.*

D. Outside Opportunities. AVA encourages clubs to seek partnerships with outside organizations that can further their development process. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Local government agencies (Parks & Recreation, for example) or Chamber(s)-of-Commerce

2. Non-profit organizations with similar missions / audiences – such as the AARP, YMCA/YWCA, hiking/scouting or other outdoors activity groups.

3. Healthcare providers that emphasize non-competitive sports activities as a vehicle for maintaining health & wellness.

4. Local businesses that can provide advertising, sponsorship (resources) and/or expertise in business operations or other aspects of club operations.

6.03 CLUB SUPPORT

I. GENERAL

AVA Clubs have access to support from neighboring clubs, State Associations, RDs/DRDs, the AVA headquarters staff and local/outside agencies in their communities. Support might consist of administrative assistance / answering questions; technical support with AVA systems or to established website / social media presence; consulting expertise in various aspects of club operations (trailmaster, finance, marketing/publicity); financial support to new or struggling clubs; manpower / volunteers for an event; or other kinds of support.

II. POLICY

A. Requests for support generally start by contacting the Regional Director (RD), or State Organization (for clubs in states containing a State Organization.)

B. State Organizations (*see also existing guidance in Appendix D.*)

1. State Organizations will establish processes to render assistance to their member clubs, to include an approval process for financial support.

2. Clubs requesting financial support will route request through their state organization, if applicable. State organizations will recommend approval/disapproval and forward to the RD, if they are unable to fulfill the request at their level.

C. Regional Directors (RDs) / Deputies (DRDs):

1. RDs/DRDs can answer a wide variety of issues and as needed, engage the headquarters staff on the club's behalf to solve specific problems. They are trained in AVA policy and procedures and usually have years of experience in club operations.

2. RDs/DRDs can connect clubs needing assistance with other clubs, coordinate with existing state organizations or other Regions. Requests for technical expertise or volunteer manpower, or a host of other support can be sourced through your RD.

3. For clubs requesting specific financial support, your RD will evaluate the request and recommend approval/disapproval to the AVA Executive Director.

D. AVA Headquarters.

1. Clubs requests for support from the AVA will be in writing (e-mail is acceptable in most cases), forwarded through the appropriate State Organization (if applicable) and Regional Director for their endorsement.

2. In the case of a request for financial support, complete the AVA application providing a description of what funds are requested and the intended purpose.

3. AVA financial support will be considered in the form of micro-grants, with an eligible dollar range to be determined each term by Executive Director and approved by the Board of Directors. All grants will also be subject to the availability of funds in the current budget year.

4. Requests for AVA financial grants must be tied to services or products intended to meet strategic objectives, such as to support increased awareness, participation or membership, or to start a new club or satellite group. Grants will be approved with stipulations for measurable outcomes, based on established metrics. Direct support services for an event / event(s) like permits, porta potties, food, entertainment, etc. will also be evaluated.

5. AVA grants may not be requested for routine/recurring club expenses (i.e. to "pay bills"); or for club parties or other administrative services. Nor will grants be provided for products or services that the AVA already provide for free like awards, national event patches, etc.

E. Outside Support. Clubs may seek/accept the support of outside individuals or organizations to include donations, loans or grants – provided such assistance is consistent with club and AVA Bylaws and does not impinge the club's or AVA's status as a 501.(c) non-profit organization. Legal questions should be referred to the AVA, through RDs.

8(i)

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE REPORT**

FOR THE Free Walker Study Group **COMMITTEE**

FOR THE January 2019 **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

FROM (Name): Sam Korff

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

See attached

ACTIVITIES:

See Attached

CONCLUSIONS:

1. The NEC has the authority to eliminate free walkers. (See changes required if the NEC makes that decision) (Attachment 5)
2. The AVA needs to fix its revenue so that income and expenses match.
3. Clubs have always had the right to decide whether to allow free walkers (by Policy). If the club is required to pay \$1.25 for ALL participants, the clubs will be stripped of that right.

RECOMMENDATION:

Because the clubs have always had the right to choose whether to allow free walkers, it is recommended that this be referred to the clubs to decide. That is: Let the clubs at convention vote on the issue.

Convention questions:

1. Should AVA continue to permit free walkers?
2. If yes, should AVA require the clubs to pay for those free walkers?

If the clubs at convention decide that AVA should require clubs to pay for free walkers, the amount should be determined by a future study group.

ACTION:

If the NEC votes to eliminate free walkers, the only change is to eliminate the word "paying" in the Sanction Fee portion of the Bylaws in para 3.5(e) (2). The NEC would have to recommend approval to the membership of this Bylaws change.

Policy portions can be adopted by the NEC if the membership votes to eliminate free walkers.

DISCUSSION:

1. AVA could consider a more positive approach to getting people to pay. That is: if a person pays to participate, put their start card in a National Pot and draw names either annually or semi-annually. Make the prizes substantial. This would give participants an incentive to pay.
2. AVA could consider offering prizes to those who turn in books.
3. Consider asking for payment AFTER event completion. It's easier to ask "was the event worth the \$3 fee?"
4. Requiring all to pay is unenforceable. Approximately 1/3 of national participation is at traditional events. 2/3 Of national participation is at YRE/SEA events. If a person does not want to pay at a traditional event, they need only to follow the route markings or follow someone who is already registered. If a person does not want to pay at a YRE/SEA, they need only to pick up the map/directions.
5. At the June 2016 NEC meeting, it was proposed that Free Walkers be permitted but that clubs allowing free walkers would pay \$1.25 for each free walker. This was voted down by only one vote (It was a tie vote and the President voted against the motion). (Technically (RONR), a tie vote means that the motion fails.)
6. A club's purpose is NOT to raise funds but to get people to participate in our noncompetitive events. The clubs share AVA's purpose.
7. Of the three highest income producing regions (participation income to AVA), two allowed large numbers of free walkers - Atlantic Region and Northwest Region. North Central Region doesn't allow free walkers, and has the Crazy Horse event twice a year, producing significant participation income to AVA. Without Crazy Horse, North Central Region would not produce significant income to AVA. (One could make the case that there is a correlation between free walkers and high participation income production).
8. Some free walkers give significant time and energy to club efforts. (They don't want to keep books) If AVA were to mandate "no free walkers," those clubs would be required to pay for volunteers.
9. AVA is currently operating at an annual deficit of approximately \$120,000. This is offset by the Big Give (approximately \$75,000) leaving a deficit of approximately \$45,000. An increase of \$21,000 would still leave a deficit of approximately \$24,000.

"2. Clubs are encouraged to provide for pre-registration of participants. Clubs will establish pre-registration fees and day-of-the-event fees; however, the fee for IVV credit-only will be not more than \$3.00. Clubs may determine the fee for participants who do not want the event award or IVV credit. If the club holds an event in a facility (such as a State park) or with a sponsor charging an entrance, participation, donation, or use fee, the club will note the required fee in the event brochure." (Attachment 2)

Section 4.11 After Action Reporting

Para II Policy

Sub para B1. "Paid participants will include everyone who has paid a fee to participate in the event. Paid participants will be reported as receiving an IVV award which includes IVV credit, IVV credit only, or not receiving either (This category is called non-IVV participant.) Those paying no fee and receiving no award or credit are called Free." (Attachment 3)

Policy Manual page 54 as it deals with support to the State Organization

Para C2 Funding

". . .No charge for free participants...." (Attachment 4)

5. Advantages to barring free walkers:

- a. Helps AVA meet financial obligations by requiring participation fees for ALL participants. Using 2017 participation figures, this would be an increase of \$21,200 to AVA income
- b. Gives the general public the notion that what we are selling has value.

6. Disadvantages to barring free walkers:

- a. Potentially, clubs could lose start venues. (All national parks and some state parks require that participants be allowed to participate for free).
- b. It could affect AVA's ability to get grants
- c. Could affect club/state associations decision to give to the Big Give.

Report for the Free Walker Study Group

1. The committee's purpose is to develop a plan and recommend a course of action for the AVA NEC/BoD. This report satisfies goal 2e below.
2. The committee had five goals:
 - a. Identify the history of free walking by January 2018 (Presented to the NEC January 2018)
 - b. Solicit volkssporter comments from both sides of the issue (Presented to the NEC January 2018)
 - c. Solicit comments from participants who are free walkers by June 2018 (Survey conducted in NW and PA regions (data presented to NEC June 2018)
 - d. Develop statistics bearing on the issue by June 2018 (Statistics presented at June 2018 NEC meeting).
 - e. Presentation of the committee findings/recommendations by January 2019.
3. Of the survey respondents (145) only 4 said they would not have participated if they had to pay.

Survey:

- a. If you had to pay would you still have walked?
141 yes 4 no
 - b. How much do you think is a fair price to pay to participate?
141 \$3
 - c. Should there be a price limit for families to walk? Example: A family comes to a walk; rather than pay for each one, should a family pay no more than a specific price?
Only 24 answered this question. \$5 was considered a fair price.
4. A survey of Bylaws and Policy revealed the following:
 - a. Bylaws
Para 3.5 Fees and Dues
Sub para (e) (2) Participation Fee. "A fee for each paying participant in an AVA sanctioned volkssporting event shall be paid to the AVA."
(Attachment 1)
 - b. Policy
Section 4.06 General Rules for Events
Para II. Policy
Para IIE2

REPORT TO COMMITTEE ON "FREE WALKER STUDY"

I have been doing analyses of participation and free walkers since 2012. In this report to the "Free Walkers Study Committee", I will report my findings and conclusions and give my proposal for changes.

1. It has been well established that there are "Costs" involved in sponsoring each of the AVA's events.

For the AVA: Insurance (required), maintenance of AVA website (Where information regarding the AVA Events are available for free), Staff salaries for processing of events, etc., rental of Headquarters and numerous other miscellaneous expenses.

For the Clubs: Sanction fees, printing of brochures or other advertising, printing of directions and maps, water and snacks, sometimes rental or permits for use start/finish location, port-a-potties, and other miscellaneous expenses.,

There are costs associated with our events and it is not "Free" to make the AVA events available for members or the public to participate in.

2. The AVA is a non-profit organization and the clubs are allowed to operate and offer their events under the AVA's nonprofit status. Therefore, it should not be up to the club to decide what they charge for participation in an AVA event. All participants, (all across the nation) should be charged the same. If the participant wishes to participate in the "Awards or Achievement Program" then they must buy the appropriate records books to get stamped upon completion of each event. This cost to them is in addition to the \$3.00 fee to participate.
3. I have included with this report an analysis "TOTAL PARTICIPATION ANALYSIS BETWEEN YEARS 2013-AND 2017." Percentage of change is based on each region's own numbers between 2013 and 2017. They are not compared to the total participation or to any other region. I have made the following conclusions from this analysis:
 - a. The overall decrease in participation between the years 2013 and 2017 is 17%.
 - b. The Regions with the highest percentage of free walkers also had the highest percentage of decrease in total participation. If the free walkers were becoming regular Volkssport walkers and paying participants then the free walkers would be decreasing and the paying walkers would increase. What is the profile of the free walker? Are they onetime free walkers, or have walked for free for one or more years? This analysis shows me that the free walkers are not increasing our

\$3.00 from all walkers. When the walkers know what we are about, enjoy our events, enjoy our fun, fitness and friendship, will pay and continue to walk with us.

I am not in favor of requiring the clubs to pay the AVA \$1.25 for all free walkers. The AVA cannot provide our fabulous programs without clubs. The Clubs cannot offer our fabulous programs without the AVA. We cannot have one without the other. The clubs need the revenue from the walkers to continue their efforts to support the AVA. I am in favor of requiring all clubs to charge the \$3.00 (or standard fee) for all participants.

Another concern that we all should have is; the AVA management, the NEC, and HDQS Staff, do not know exactly how the organization is doing as far as participation is concerned. For years some RDs, club presidents and POCS have stated they only report the number of walkers for the monies received and that since the free walkers were not taking credit it did not matter to the AVA how many free walkers they had. They don't understand that the AVA is a nonprofit organization whose reason for being granted this status is to establish, plan and promote wellness and fitness through walking activities. Management needs to know if what we are doing is working and how many people we are reaching through our efforts. We cannot know this if we don't know how many people are actually participating in our events. We must instruct our clubs the importance of reporting ALL participants.

MY CONCLUSIONS:

1. Allowing free walkers is not a marketing tool that entices many people to join us as members or regular paying walkers.
2. Allowing free walkers does not show that our programs have value or what our programs are all about.
3. Walkers will pay to participate if from the beginning, all the time and at every event if they are told there is a fee. They will walk for free as long as they are allowed.
4. There is a cost to sponsor the AVA events and all participants should pay to help defray this cost.

MY SUGGESTIONS:

1. The AVA policies need to be changed to reflect that all participants are to pay the set/standard fee for each event and that it is not up to the clubs to determine this fee.
2. If the policies are changed to reflect that there are no free walkers, then I would suggest the standard fee be raised to \$4.00 with \$2.00 being owed to the AVA and the clubs keeping the other \$2.00. I am opposed to raising the fees for the already paying participants if free walkers are still allowed.

memberships or becoming paying participants. **Conclusion:** Allowing free walkers is not working as a recruiting tool to grow our number of paying participants or grow the active memberships of our clubs and organization. Is there or can someone produce a report that shows that the gain of new walkers by allowing free walkers is worth the cost to the AVA and the Clubs that is shown below?

4. I have also included with this report an analysis of the "EFFECT OF FREE WALKERS FINANCIALLY FOR THE AVA AND THE CLUBS FOR 2013, 2015, 2017."

	COST TO AVA	COST TO CLUBS	TOTAL COST
2013	\$30,922.50	\$43,291.50	\$74,214.00
2015	\$26,971.25	\$37,759.75	\$64,731.00
2017	\$21,306.25	\$29,828.75	\$51,135.00

The AVA has for a number of years shown a net loss at the end of the fiscal year. This affects our chances of getting corporate partnerships and sometimes grants. I know they look at how the entity manages their funds and their methods of producing growth. This same analysis shows the percentage of free walkers as: 2013—13.65%, 2015—12.98%, and 2017—11.36%. It is not financially sound business practice to have a net loss year after year and continue to give away 11 to 13 % of your product. It is very hard to get extra funding from anywhere with these management practices.

I know there are a number of areas, such as our Life Time Associate Memberships, the distribution of the TAW, and club dues that are now having an adverse effect on our bottom line and that not allowing free walkers probably will not take care of the annual losses we have been experiencing. However, we must do all we can, wherever we can to whittle away at this annual lost. As time goes by and cost increase, it is essential that revenues also increase. As these analysis indicate, the participation, (our primary source of income) continues to decrease.

As these numbers show it is not only the AVA that has lost the revenue, but the clubs have an even larger loss. I think about how many more walks could have been sponsored, how many free New Walker Packets could have been given away, how many ways could we have added to the Fun, Fitness, and Friendship of our events with that loss of revenue.

The report I just received from Sam Kroff, the chairman of this committee, stated that a survey had been completed among 145 of free walkers in the NW and PA regions. Of the 145 participants completing the survey, 141 said they would pay if the walk was not free. The SW region has experienced that to be true as clubs across the region have gone to collecting

Total Participation analysis between years 2013-2017

	2013 Award	Credit	Non-IVV	Free	% of Free	2013 Total	2017 Award	Credit	Non-IVV	Free	% of Free	2017 Total	% Change
AT	1551	23843	149	3036	11%	28579	1220	19343	54	1816	8%	22433	-22%
MA	765	10186	87	1040	9%	12078	663	9182	601	620	6%	11066	-8%
NC	2151	8679	12294	292	1%	23416	2149	9061	12165	68	0%	23443	0%
NE	199	7470	475	484	6%	8628	147	5944	678	429	6%	7198	-17%
NW	416	29416	51	11235	27%	41118	290	21527	53	8738	29%	30608	-26%
PA	470	14831	17	4537	23%	19855	155	10028	33	2962	22%	13178	-34%
RM	170	5058	9	903	15%	6140	1887	5505	54	583	7%	8029	31%
SC	164	8850	35	506	5%	9555	243	9258	62	270	3%	9833	3%
SE	1293	13874	1076	1641	9%	17884	89	9405	1301	1228	10%	12023	-33%
SW	155	11544	664	1064	8%	13427	17	10250	1655	331	3%	12253	-9%
	7334	133751	14857	24738	14%	180680	6860	109503	16556	17045	11%	150064	-17%

Percentage of change is based on each Regions own numbers between 2013 and 2017. They are not compared to the total participation or to any other region

This analysis shows that the regions with the highest percentage of decrease over the f between 2013 and 2017 also had the highest percent

This would suggest that allowing free walkers is not increasing the number of participants who become active members or paying participants, but adding to the decrease in participation. The free walkers just keep walking for free, event after event.

SE The 33% decrease in 2017 was due to fact that the 2013 convention was held in this region and their starting numbers were unusually high. Also to be noted: Even though the Credit participation decreased sufficiently, the percentage of free walkers increased.

RM The increase of 31% is because the 2017 convention was held in this region and their 2017 numbers were higher than usu er than usu Also, there are no free walkers at the conventions.

NC The only region to hold on to it's participation numbers. The only region with 0% free walkers. The only region with the Crazy Horse event!!!!

SC The only region with normal activity (without convention) to show an increase. One of the regions with the lowest percentage of free walkers.

ANALYSIS OF EFFECT OF FREE WALKERS IN 2013, 2015 and 2017

ANALYSIS OF 2013

All Regions	Total	Free	% of Free	Cost of Free to AVA	Cost of Free to Clubs
Traditional	76,153	12,658	16.62%	\$15,822.59(12,658 X 1.25)	\$22,151.50 (12,658 X 1.75)
YRES	105,137	12,080	11.49%	\$15,100.00(12,080 X 1.25)	\$21,140.00(12,080 X 1.75)
TOTALS	181,290	24,738	13.65%	\$30,922.50	\$43,291.50

ANALYSIS OF 2015

All Regions	Total	Free	% of Free	Cost of Free to AVA	Cost of Free to Clubs
Traditional	68,523	9,397	13.71%	\$11,746.25(9,397 X 1.25)	\$16,444.75 (9397 X 1.75)
YRES	97,692	12,180	12.47%	\$15,225.00(12,180 X 1.25)	\$21,315.00(12,180 X1.75)
TOTALS	166,215	21,577	12.98%	\$26,971.25	\$37,759.75

ANALYSIS OF 2017

All Regions	Total	Free	% of Free	Cost of Free to AVA	Cost of Free to Clubs
Traditional	61,495	7,153	11.63%	\$8,941.25(7,153 X 1.25)	\$12,517.75 (7,153 X 1.75)
YRES	88,569	9,892	11.17%	\$12,365.00(9,892 X 1.25)	\$17,311.00 (9,892 X 1.75)
TOTALS	150,064	17,045	11.36%	\$21,306.25	\$29,828.75

DECREASE IN PARTICIPATION: 2013—181,290 MINUS 2015—166,215 = 15,075 = 8.32%

2015—166,215 MINUS 2017—150,064 = 16,151 =9.72%