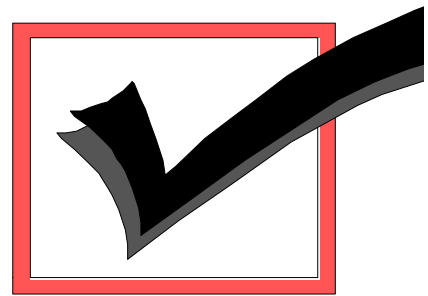


AVA CHECKPOINT



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NEC Meeting August 24-26, 2011 will be held in Schertz, Texas for orientation and training of the recently elected National Executive Council Members.

IVV Congress of Delegates Meeting will take place on October 19, 2011 from 9:00am – noon, and 1:30pm – 4:00pm. Later that day a meeting may be organized by the Confederations. Any questions contact Tanja Muller - IVV Head Office <http://www.ivv-web.org>.

TAW Deadline for the October/November issue of *The American Wanderer* is August 25. All articles and photographs should be submitted directly to Laurel Parrott, Editor taw@bhi.com or mail to 3526 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412. Be sure to include "TAW" in the subject line if emailing.

The 2011- 2012 Walk-Together Patch has been selected and it will be available starting in September 2011. If your club has held Walk-Togethers with Girl Scouts and would like to work with Girl Scouts in your area to design the patch for the 2012-2013 school year, please contact Nancy Wittenberg avayouth@ava.org.

If you're holding a traditional event, the patch can be ordered from AVA on consignment (Confirmation Form is attached). We have ordered significantly less to save unnecessary costs for AVA. Please try to make an informed guess as to how many patches you will need. You return the form with the count of patches sold, and the unused patches along with the stamp for your walk. You can get patches on consignment for a scheduled group walk of a year round or seasonal as well. The AVA will bill the club for patches used. The price has been increased to \$2 each. Email Karen@ava.org to order patches on Consignment and tell us what walk you want them for. If you want to order patches directly, not through Consignment, email Kevin@ava.org. Purchased patches may not be returned.

Unless you are working with a local troop directly, Girl Scout councils need a great deal of lead time to publish events. It is now summer and most troops are not active until the fall. It would be a good time now, to contact your local council about walks you might be planning for winter or spring. Check out the AVA's website under *Special Event Programs/Youth Programs* to see more information about Walk-Togethers. (Brochure is attached.)

Reminders

✚ **Electronic Sanctioning Requests** - ESRs 2012. To all AVA Club Members: Look and see if your Club has renewed their Year Round and Seasonal Events for 2012. Located on the AVA Walking Events Listing following the current 2011 entries. Notify your Club President and Regional Director if they are missing before the August 31 deadline. Regional Director's have until September 15 to look over, approve and note any changes so that these will be printed in the *2012 Starting Point Book* and the *2012 IVV Calendar of Events Book*.

✚ **Extended information on Event Details** - Clubs please limit wording on the *Extended Information* area of your *Event Details* so that it will keep the size of the new *2012 Starting Point Book* reasonable and the cost to AVA low. Your *Club Website* and *Club Brochure* should carry extra details of your events.

✚ **2012 Starting Point Photo Contest – Postmark Deadline August 17.** Walking and Trail related Volkssporting photos are needed in 5" x 7" color and should be mailed to AVA Headquarters, Attn: Candace Purcell. The person(s) submitting the front and back winning cover photos will receive a free copy of the *2012 Starting Point Book*. Remember to include the photo location, brief description of photo and who submitted the photo - name, phone number and email address.

- ✚ **2011 Starting Point Book on Sale** - Reduced to \$14 plus shipping/handling, no discounts apply. (Order Form is attached.) Help support AVA with your purchase while supplies last.
- ✚ **IVV Event Stamp** - A suggestion was made to remind Clubs of the impact of the motion approved that the "IVV Event Stamp shall be placed in the IVV Distance Record Book each time an individual completes the distance of an IVV event. The IVV Event Stamp shall be entered in the Event Record Book once each day an individual completes the distance of an IVV Event." This applies to each one of our events effective July 1, 2011. Remember to change the information sheet in your YRE binders to note event credit is available daily, and possibly tape brightly colored starbursts on each binder cover and inside the lid of each "walk box" with a similar message such as "IVV Credit now may be placed in your IVV event record book *daily!*". The more participation, the more we grow.
- ✚ **Annual Financial Report and Worksheet** - is required by November 15 from all Clubs to Headquarters. Recently the form was revised to include *Name of Other Non-Profit Entity* if not under AVA tax umbrella and *Clubs EIN#*. (Form 102C3F is attached.) Please include both pages of information and both President/Secretary must sign.
- ✚ **October is National Volkssport Month** – Clubs remember that if you are hosting an event in October we have the NVM patch available for purchase. (Order Form is attached.)
- ✚ **E-Postcard Reminder** - must be completed between July 1 and November 15, 2011 if your club comes under the AVA's 501(c)(3) umbrella. All clubs with income under \$50,000 are required to file this postcard. Be sure to use the EIN# for your club and not the AVA's. If you don't know what it is, contact Events@ava.org. Information on how to file are posted to the home AVA web page www.ava.org under the *AVA Clubs Only* area, *E-Postcard Filing Help* link.
- ✚ **Club Officer Email Addresses** - please insure that each Club Officer has a valid email address in the database. When we send the *Checkpoint* or other announcements, it is imperative that we can reach every Club Officer and Point of Contact. Clubs should forward emails to your entire Club Membership. Communication is the key to helping our great organization grow.
- ✚ **AVA Video Link for Club Webmasters** - feel free to embed the "*Off the Beaten Path*" YouTube video directly on your Club website. Simply copy/paste this code into your html coding:

```
<iframe width="560" height="349" src="http://www.youtube.com/embed/-hIScd4v-ng?rel=0" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>
```

 Contact Linda@ava.org if you have any questions.
- ✚ **Submitting late "Traditional" ESRs** - If submitted less than 90 days prior to your Traditional Event, please contact the Headquarters Events Coordinator at Events@ava.org. Reports are run to assign Traditional event stamps and if your event is submitted late and misses the report, your Club will not receive an automatic event stamp. Clubs that do not contact us in time for regular mailing will be charged the UPS fee to get the stamp to them in time.

Cow Race Final Final Standings

Late contributions had the lead changing hands a bit, but the final late contribution put Messy well into the lead. Final standings- 1.Messy (SCRD) \$1,171; 2.Bonnie Belle (NCRD) \$875; 3.(tie) Kolorful Kow (SERD) & Dennis Van Gogh (Pres) \$736; 4.Sammy (NWRD) \$685; 5.The Colonel (SWRD) \$664; 6.Dude (PARD) \$470; 7.Mauvelicious (VP) \$352; 8.(tie) Sarge (ATRD) & Moola (Treasurer) \$255; 9.Mikey (RMRD) \$185; 10.Cora Belle (MARD) \$64; 11.Phil (NERD) \$58; 12.Ghost (Sec) \$0. Thanks to the NEC for their fund raising efforts and to Mikey, Cora Belle, Phil & Ghost for being such good sports at the Barn Dance!!

Post Convention Photos to the Web Site

Share your convention fun and memories. Susan Pinneke has set up a shared album on the *AVA 2011 Convention* web site for you. The instructions for posting your photos are on the web site <http://www.ava.org/clubs/ava2011convention/index.asp>

Attachments:

Girl Scout Patch Consignment Form
 Annual Financial Report and Worksheet Form 102C3F
 National Volkssport Month Patch Club Order Form

Girl Scout Walk-Together Brochure
 2011 Starting Point Book Sales Order Form