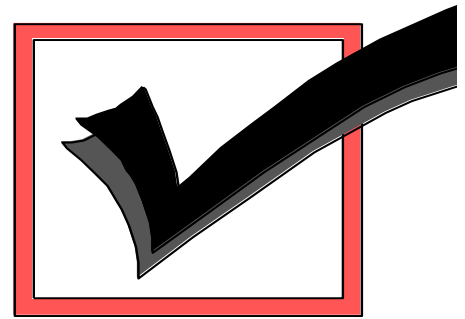


AVA CHECKPOINT



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TAW Deadline 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. Questions on commercial or club advertising please email Linda@ava.org.

Next Meeting of the NEC The next meeting of the NEC will be held in Universal City, Texas at AVA Headquarters in August for training purposes for the new council. Specific date and time will be determined.

NEC XVII Roster AVA's new National Executive Council will be posted to the *AVA Leadership* web page http://www.ava.org/AVA_Leadership/council.htm shortly.

AVA Grabber Cards Remember that AVA has a supply of Grabber cards for your use to place at points of interest to further AVA's growth. Email Kevin@ava.org to order. Shipping and Handling charge applies.

Multi Event Weekends If your club puts on an annual multi event during a specific month and weekend, please let us know. There is a link on the *Find Walking Events* web page, specifically to showcase these multi events for your club <http://www.ava.org/Related%20Links/multievent.htm>. Some information is outdated and I need your help to keep the posting accurate and up to date. Please send detailed email to Linda@ava.org and a general notice will be posted to the website.

Events affected by Weather If you have been one of the unfortunate areas affected by tornadoes and flooding, please remember to note this on your Event listing and also email Linda@ava.org so a notice may be posted to the 2011 Starting Point Changes web page. Once the situation clears, please revise your event listing and notify me. Our participants greatly appreciate the care that we take in alerting them of event changes.

Sanctioning of YRE/Seasonals A motion and second at convention in Des Moines, IA effective July 1, 2011 to permit the IVV stamp to be used in event books each day an event, Traditional, Year-Round or Seasonal, was voted on the floor and passed 117 to 101. (Rules for distance and event books are more aligned each completion of distance for distance credit and each day an event is completed for event credit.) Remember to remove the "+" sign from your YRE/Seasonal stamps.

Second Quarter Report Reminder Second quarter YRE/Seasonal Participation Reports are due by July 30. Please remember when submitting these reports, you must check the second quarter box in order for the reports to take correctly. If you have 0 (zero) walkers, you must physically enter the 0 (zero).

Late ESR Submissions If there are less than 90 days before your event date, you must email the Events Coordinator Marie at Events@ava.org. Reports are run to assign stamps and if your event is submitted late and misses the report, they will not get an automatic event stamp. Clubs that don't contact us in time for regular mailing will be charged the UPS fee to get the stamp to them in time.

Annual Dues Annual dues were billed in May and payment was due to the National Headquarters by July 1. Late fees will be billed if they are not received by September 1.

Starting Point 2011 Edition on Sale August 1st Help support AVA by purchasing a copy of the 2011 Starting Point book at the low price of \$14.00 per copy plus shipping/handling cost (no discounts apply) starting August 1. Email Kevin@ava.org after August 1, OR FAX 1-210-659-1212 OR call 1-210-659-2112 after August 1 to order while supplies last.

FootMatters Promo FootMatters has a link at www.ava.org home web page under *Advertisers* <http://www.footmatters.net/index.htm>. FootMatters is giving AVA a 10% discount on purchases if you use the discount promo code at checkout AVAVALUE on orders over \$10. FootMatters merchandise is not listed in the AVA Merchandise Store. See attached promo sheet.

The 17th Biennial Convention was a Huge Success Thanks to all North Central Region Volunteers and all AVA Members who assisted the 17th Biennial Convention Committee. AVA Staff had an enjoyable and productive time serving AVA attendees. Checkout the ***Cow Tails*** newsletters for each day of the Convention at <http://www.ava.org/clubs/ava2011convention/index.asp>. Click each individual date link from June 18 – June 26 to see details that you may have missed.

2011 Publicity Winners, Biennial and Recognition Awards Reports If you find errors in any of the printed Convention materials please notify Linda@ava.org so that we may update the information before posting the final reports to the AVA website in a few weeks.

European Liaison Hans Dieter Fuhr More folks make plans to travel abroad during the summer months. Hans Dieter Fuhr European Liaison is ready and willing to assist you with guidance. Send an email to Hans at hdf1940@googlemail.com.

Merchandise Store and Club Statements We are encountering some programming issues that will affect the *AVA Club Statement* mailing addresses. Our IT programmers are working on the situation, and at the present time financial addresses are coming across from the database correctly, however, there is always a chance that it could go down before we print the statements. If this happens, all club statements will be addressed and delivered to your *Official Club Address*. The *AVA Merchandise Store* is encountering some intermittent issues that are being worked on at this time. Please feel free to contact Headquarters staff by telephone (210-659-2112), fax (210-659-1212) or email (Kevin@ava.org) to place your orders if needed. We are extremely sorry for this inconvenience and ask for your continued understanding. Our IT programmers are working diligently to find the cause and correct.

AVA Volkswalking “Off the Beaten Path” Marketing Video Share this video at health seminars and on your club website, or any potential new outlet to learn all about “volkswalking” a unique take on non-competitive fitness walking. Many of you have requested use of the beautiful video prepared for AVA friends, by Kaiser Permanente a large health care provider in the Northwest and Colorado area. We have been granted permission to use this video found on *YouTube* at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-hISCd4v-ng> as a marketing aid and opportunity for growth. Many familiar smiling faces are featured on this video, along with a positive message about our wonderful organization, and our AVA family. If you are the web person for your Club website email Linda@ava.org for the HTML coding that you will need to copy/paste the video link to your website.

Starting Point and IVV Calendar Event Submissions for 2012 Book Editions Sanctioning of our Year Round and Seasonal Events occur each year during the summer. Our Starting Point Book is too large and we need your help when you **renew** your information from last year. Some of the clubs have excess information in the *Directions* area and the *Event Info* area. Please assist us in eliminating and cutting down the length (when possible) of repetitive or excess information so that we may have a more condensed book. We strive to keep printing costs down. Help our RD's and State Association Members with accurate information as there are now six new RD's who approve walks. August 31 at exactly midnight is the deadline for all entries for the Starting Point and all events need to be entered by then to appear in the IVV Calendar of Events book. The system is programmed to block all entries at 12:00 a.m. and 1 second on September 1.

Attachments: FootMatters Promo Sheet