



# CHECKPOINT ✓

The official voice of the American Volkssport Association  
*America's premier noncompetitive sports organization*

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[www.ava.org](http://www.ava.org)

June-July 2014

## Loss in the AVA Family

We are deeply saddened to announce the loss of our Atlantic Regional Director David Scull who passed away on June 6, 2014. Our sympathies are with the Scull family and the entire Atlantic Region through this great loss. Dave will be missed by many AVA friends.

### **David L. Scull** Obituary



DAVID L. SCULL of Fredricksburg, Va. Passed away June 6, 2014 in Wilmington. David was born August 29, 1947 and raised in New Jersey. He was one of four boys and is survived by his three brothers, Pete, Tim and Rich. He graduated from New Jersey Institute of Technology and later earned an MS in Computer Science at Clemson University and a MBA at Rider College.

[Click here to view the full obituary online or sign the guest book.](#)

He married Rita Gnecco October, 1969. They have one daughter, Danielle who is married to Abe Burgos and they have two delightful little boys who were the light of his life. David always said he felt a sense of peace whenever he entered the front gate at Porters Neck. After retirement from Bristol-Myers Squibb in 2003, we moved to Porters Neck where we met wonderful people. He resumed playing golf and riding his bike. We always felt fortunate to have the time early retirement afforded us to enjoy Porters Neck Country Club. In 2012 we moved to Fredericksburg, VA to be closer to our daughter and grandsons. Ethan and later Matthew were David's new hobbies. He loved watching them grow, working puzzles with them, and building with Legos, playing in the pool, taking them on walks, exploring and wrestling. He was proud of Danielle's career and admired her as a mother. He was dreaming of taking the boys on many of the same trips we did with Danielle to National Parks and hiking the trails. He already had both Ethan and Matthew signed up as junior walkers with AVA. He will be missed by his family and friends. You will be in our hearts forever. There will be a gathering to celebrate David's life in Porters Neck on Wednesday evening. Memorials can be made to the David Scull Memorial Fund for STEM Education, 25 Battery Point Dr. Fredricksburg, Va. 22406

## **AVA Club Kudos**

By Stephanie S. Sinclair

### **Highlighting creative ideas and achievements of AVA Clubs.**

For this edition of Club Kudos, we are pleased to recognize the work of three clubs. During the AVA national headquarters World Walk Day 2014 traditional event, many participants noted the creative way the Selma Pathfinders club used to keep promotional walk materials in place against the wind. These flyer weights are a simple rectangle of outdoor grade fabric sewn together and can be filled with beans or plastic beads. Pat Roberts used fabric paint to then brand the weights with the club name and fun art. This idea is a simple functional tool that clubs can replicate to both keep info in place while also providing branding for the club. Also a result of World Walk Day 2014 celebrations, Ellen Ott, president of the Randolph Roadrunners, wrote and coordinated a special proclamation which was presented to AVA at the Bexar County Commissioners Court. The presentation was also televised on the court's public access channel.

Major appreciation is extended to RD Linda Neu and the entire Mid-Atlantic Region for hosting the June NEC meeting in Indianapolis. Cliff Terry did a fantastic job of scouting out hotel options for the meeting which was much appreciated by the HQ staff. The Indy "G" Walkers also put together a beautiful traditional walk in Avon that the NEC was able to participate in with local walkers. It was a fantastic opportunity to see the area and connect with local participants. Thanks and kudos to these clubs!

*We love to find ways to celebrate with the Clubs, so help us give shout out kudos to your favorite club by sending a photo and brief summary of the activity to [avahq@ava.org](mailto:avahq@ava.org) with the subject line Club Kudos.*

### **AVA.org Website & ESR Update**

The unfortunate web issues that have plagued both the AVA website and the ESR site, have impacted the functionality of both the website and event search features—in late May, two separate problems occurred on the same day which brought down the AVA website and ESR feature. The problems have been corrected, but kinks are still being worked out, so if you experience problems please email us a description or snip of the error message you are receiving to [avahq@ava.org](mailto:avahq@ava.org). The site migration has caused some additional temporary hiccups as files have been syncing and additional maintenance performed. All links have been set with redirects; however, we have been informed that older operating systems might not automatically update saved links (e.g. to ESR page). If you are still receiving error messages and run a Windows machine, these instructions will allow you to manually refresh DNS settings.

*Refresh DNS settings by pressing and holding the Windows-Key, then pressing the R key before releasing both keys. This will open the Run window.*

*In the run window type: `ipconfig /flushdns` (there is a space between the first word and the slash) and then click OK to run the command.*

Thanks to the IT committee for working with us on plans to implement a complete new database and website. Until the new systems are built we must maintain the current system so please be patient.

## **From HQ account billing**

### **National Physical Fitness & Sports Month-May 2014**

We are completely out of the May 2014 National Physical Fitness & Sports Patches. Please note that Clubs may order the remaining supply of the 2012 and 2013 NPFSSM patches for use as B awards at the discounted price of \$1.50 each. Orders are filled on a first come, first served basis.

### **Store on AVA Website**

There is no online store on the AVA Website that is active at this time. Please e-mail any Merchandise orders to [Theresa@ava.org](mailto:Theresa@ava.org) or you may mail to HQ or call 210-659-2112 to place an order. Make sure you indicate the club name and club account number which starts with the region number. This number shows up on the top right-hand side of invoices and statements. Please include a shipping address to where you want your merchandise shipped.

### **Club Statements**

Club Statements are printed at the end of each month. So if you have a balance due the balance will carry forward to the **next** month's statement and show as a balance forward.

### **Donations to AVA**

AVA is very appreciative of any and all Donations. We want to recognize the correct club or individual so please enclose a note stating the name of the Club the donation is from, and the amount, especially when you include the donation on the same check you are sending to pay your club account. If the donation is made "in memory" of someone, please don't forget to give the name of that person and if you need a letter to someone other than the club.

## **Starting Point 2015 Edition**

**Attached is the Starting Point pre-order form.** Please note that due to problems last year with the USPS and lost books, AVA will be shipping by United Parcel Service, or looking into other methods of shipping. This will provide a speedy way to file a claim for any lost books as the AVA cannot replace lost books for free. We will keep you apprised concerning mailing. Also please note that the price of the book beginning with 2015 is now \$25.00.

## **NVM patch and order form**

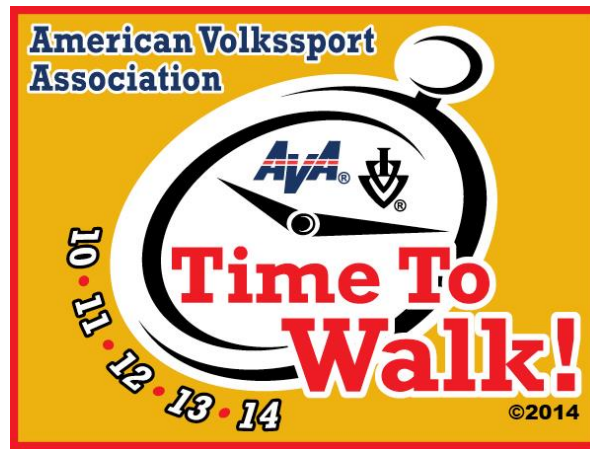
October is National Volkssport Month. **The 2014 order form and patch design is attached.** Thanks to Dorman Batson for the patch design.

## **TIME TO WALK 10-11-12-13-14 National Event**

### **It's Time to Walk – 10.11.12.13.14**

David Bonewitz

In the April/May issue of the TAW, clubs were invited to "save the date" of December 13, 2014, for a special national event. A unique combination of date and time will occur at 10:11 on that day which will not repeat for some 91 years (i.e., March 4, 2105). Given the unique nature of this time/date combination, it was determined that AVA should have a national event that would get as many walkers as possible on the trail at 10:11 (their local time) on December 13. Clubs are encouraged to host a Traditional Event or conduct a group walk of one of their YREs. The unique nature of this event may open up opportunities for publicity for local clubs and AVA. A special slug will be available for the stamp used for this national event, and this A-Award will be available from HQ AVA.



At this time we already have clubs in 25 states planning events as part of It's Time to Walk, and research is being done to see how we might qualify for a Guinness World's Record. Check out the article in the upcoming TAW for more about this event.

It's not too late to join your fellow Volkssporters for what could be a world's record walking event. If your club decides to get involved, send an e-mail to your RD with an info copy to [SE\\_RD@ava.org](mailto:SE_RD@ava.org). After all, we know that It's Time to Walk.

### **Recognition Awards Committee**

"Imagine what miracles we can achieve by giving people honest appreciation"... Dale Carnegie

It is time to start thinking about those people who deserve to be nominated for recognition awards. When you are honoring a fellow volunteer worker, you are letting them know just how much you appreciate them, and how much their work means to you, their club, and our national organization.

Send your nominations to your regional director, with the exception of the President's Award, which should be sent directly to the AVA President. The nomination guide on how to complete the forms can be found on the AVA web site under: [Administrative - General Administration - Publications/Policies - AVA Recognition Awards](#). Please use one form for each person nominated. Be thorough, the award is based on what you have written on the form. The more detailed information you can give will help the committee review each nomination.

The following forms are to be used:

[Form 302](#) Hall of Fame, Distinguished Achievement, Trailblazer, and Ted Ballman Memorial Youth Award.

[Form 303](#) Certificate of Service, Meritorious Service, and Certificate of Appreciation. These forms are to be sent to your regional director.

[Form 303 PA](#) President's Award. This form is to be sent directly to the AVA President. Dennis Michele, 27 Cane Creek Circle, Fairview, NC [President@AVA.Org](mailto:President@AVA.Org)

### **From HQ Awards processing**

The charts for [AVA Processing](#) and [Ten Events](#) comparison are included as attachments.

Please consider gathering-up any books that have not been sent in for awards. When sending in a large amount of books, you run the risk of them being lost in transit, by the USPS. Make sure to copy your books before sending. Be sure you are using the correct

book for events and distances. If you send in a Rose book that contains 50 events instead of a Purple book for 25 events, you will still need to purchase a Purple book for the second 25 events. The same is true for distance if the carryover is more than the total amount needed for the next level. Distance books are designed with 10k being the standard. If Volkssporters do 5k's, let them know they will need to use insert cards to reach the level of achievement. There are times when things just happen, and HQ works with each situation as it occurs to rectify any discrepancies.

At the June 2014 NEC meeting the NEC decided to allow those individuals that have earned distance credit past 22,000km to receive an award certificate for each 1,000km. HQ is working on a way for you to let us know whether you want an award certificate for these in-between 1,000kms.

## **From HQ Events**

### *Items Due Report*

Any club that had not been able to log in because the system was down will not be charged a late fee. All Clubs who were unable to submit participation reports need to contact your RD first for assistance before you contact Marie at [events@ava.org](mailto:events@ava.org). Once the window has closed 30 days after the end of the quarter or stated event end date, a club or RD cannot enter online. After 30 days the participation numbers must be emailed or called in to Marie. Clubs that tried to log in when the system was down and up through Monday, May 5 midnight should not be charged a late fee. Those Clubs who have already reported technical difficulties to Marie have not been included on the attached list.

- ESR Renewals for 2015 is now open; please renew your YRE and Seasonal events.  
**NOTE: Please DO NOT mark your YRE/Seasonal "NO RENEWALS" unless you are definite that event will not be renewed for 2015.** This will prevent you from creating a new ESR.
- New YRE and New Seasonal ESR are also open. Submit your ESR for your RD and State Assn. for approval before September 1.
- Please notify your RD before Marie at [events@ava.org](mailto:events@ava.org) for any ESR related issues. Some of the issue we had in the past was:
  1. duplicated renewal
  2. event disappeared from the renewal list
  3. events not listed in the website, etc.
- If you have not submitted your first or second Quarterly Report, please submit your report to Marie at [events@ava.org](mailto:events@ava.org). A \$10 late fee per report will be applied.
- To avoid late quarterly report, please see attached schedule below.

### Quarterly Report Schedule

	From	To	Report Deadline
1st Qtr	- January 1	March 31	April 30
2nd Qtr	- April 1	June 30	July 31
3rd Qtr	- July 1	September 30	October 30
4th Qtr	- October 1	December 31	January 31

## “STARTING POINT” TIPS AND GUIDELINES

June 2014

The purpose of the attached publication written by Joanne Forinash, Southwest Regional Director is to give comprehensive instruction and clarification to the club representatives who enter the information on the ESR (event sanction request) for the sanctioning and renewing of Year Rounds. If followed, you will be successful in tailoring exactly what you need to say for the event to be noticed. **See attached.**

### The American Volkssport Association

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### Partnerships

