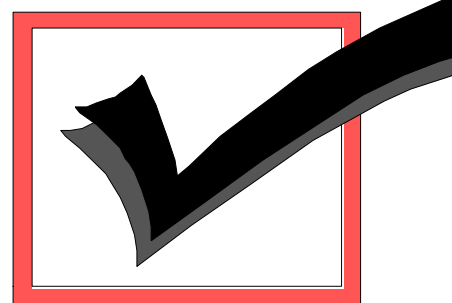


AVA CHECKPOINT



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February 2011

National Executive Council Meeting

The next meeting of the NEC will be held during President's Day Weekend on February 18 – 19, 2011 at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Alabama (Floribama). AVA Motions (attached).

Motions by Curt Myron

Motions can be presented to the National Executive Council three ways:

- (1) By club and their members submitting motions for consideration
- (2) From committee of the NEC
- (3) Members of the NEC themselves

Please note that the #2 and #3 address headquarters operations routine financial issues, and general NEC activities. These are not routinely sent to clubs for consideration as they don't affect policy or bylaws governing AVA.

AVA Treasurer's Handbook by Candy Purcell

For all you hardworking Club Treasurers we have a reference guide posted under the *Publications-Forms* link, *AVA Treasurer's Handbook* link that may help you with some of those items that you are unsure of.

Merchandise Store by Candy Purcell

Here are some areas that are still tripping folks up:

Remember to make sure you are using the correct password, delete cookies, make AVA a trusted site, use Fire Fox as your browser if possible and once you select a quantity remember to place it in the "cart".

IRS Information by Candy Purcell

If you or your Club has received IRS information for AVA, please contact Candy Purcell candy@ava.org immediately. Absolutely no Club should use AVA's Tax ID# for any correspondence filing tax forms to the IRS. Every Club has their own Tax ID# and must use that number. If you do not know your EIN# please contact Kelly Scott kelly@ava.org. To assist Clubs we have created a new link on the AVA Home Page, *AVA Clubs Only* area, *E-Postcard Filing Help* link web page. Helpful information may also be obtained by calling *IRS Technical Assistance* #866-255-0654.

TAW Deadline

The deadline for the April/May 2011 issue of *The American Wanderer* is February 25. All articles and photographs should be submitted directly to *The American Wanderer*, Laurel Parrott, Editor taw@bhi.com or 3526 Humboldt Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412. Be sure to include "TAW" in the subject line of the email. Please send Advertising Agreements and advertisements to Linda Rebmann linda@ava.org or 1001 Pat Booker Rd, Suite 101, Universal City, TX 78148.

Due to postal service cutbacks, changes in mailing service, holidays and weather conditions be aware that the TAW has been reported arriving to members as much as one month beyond normal delivery times. If you have future concerns please contact Linda Rebmann linda@ava.org.

Participation Report Year End Deadline

January 30, 2011 is the deadline for all clubs to report their 4th Quarter 2010 events in the *Club Events Data* area of the AVA Home Page. Review module #12 for helpful information in the *Help for Clubs* link.

Traditional Event Sanctioning

When entering data for *Traditional Events*, please do not enter USA or United States in the *Foreign Country* area. *Club Events Data* area of the AVA Home Page. In the *Club Events Data* area of the AVA Home Page, review module #5, page 5 for helpful information in the *Help for Clubs* link.

2011 Certificate of Liability Insurance Form Acord 25 S

A current form has been posted to our website under *Publications-Forms* link, *AVA Clubs Forms* link web page (attached).

Help Clubs Celebrate 35 Years of American Volkssporting by Susan Pinneke

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

Convention Registration Booklet

Many have been working diligently on organizing and proofing issues. Now approved and will be mailed to members shortly. Also posted to the Convention website <http://www.ava.org/clubs/ava2011convention/index.asp>

Convention Financial and Tax Workshops by Candy Purcell

We urge every Club that has a representative there to attend.

Convention Volunteers by Susan Pinneke

Anyone wanting to volunteer to work at the convention please visit our website <http://www.ava.org/clubs/ava2011convention/index.asp>. Volunteer sign up is available on line, as well as the traditional methods of mail or phone (form attached). All volunteers will get a cow print t-shirt to wear. This will be a unique shirt only available to volunteers.

A Big Shout Out for Silent Auction Donations by Susan Pinneke

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

Publicity Pointers by Joan Lampart

No specific pointers this month, however, need Judges for the Publicity Contest. We could use at least two judges for each category. If you or someone from your club would be interested in judging any one of the following, contact Jmlampart@verizon.net. **Club Newsletters, Regular Event Brochures, YRE/Seasonal Event Brochures, Community Relations Programs, Local Sponsorship program, Single Event Publicity Effort, Annual Publicity Program, or Club Logo/Mascot entries.** The only criteria to be a judge would be that you have not entered into the specific category that you have submitted an entry. Don't forget deadlines for entries into the Publicity contest is March 1, 2011. Send all entries to Publicity Contest, c/o Joan Lampart, 2124 Barley Drive, Quakertown, PA 18951.

Brazos Walking Sticks

Thank you for another great year. 2011 Special Coupon: Buy 3 and Get \$10 off (attached).

The Open Door by Nicole Rogers

We have recently created a new web page called *The Open Door*, posted to the *Publications-Forms* link. If you missed an earlier publication, or would like to see all the publications available, they will be listed there.

Quote submitted by Edwin Everly Mid America Region

"A vigorous five-mile walk will do more good for an unhappy but otherwise healthy adult than all the medicine and psychology in the world." – Paul Dudley White (renowned heart surgeon)

Attachments: AVA Motions for Club Consideration
2011 Certificate of Liability Insurance
Walk A-Maize-Ing Iowa Convention Volunteer Registration
Brazos Walking Sticks – Special Coupon