



We need a volunteer to take minutes at the November meeting. This is a one-time request as Pat will be out of town for that meeting. Please notify Earl.

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From: WILLIS KORFF korffs@wildblue.net (our Regional Director):

1. From: **Heinz Johnson President** <president@ava.org>
Date: Wed, Oct 3, 2012

This is a Special Edition of The AVA Checkpoint to acquaint club presidents and club members with a new initiative called IVV-Americas.

Several years ago the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV), an international organization that is composed of national associations such as the AVA, decided to develop a series of continental associations which would be sub-elements under the IVV. This would then allow the IVV Executive Presidium, the governing body, to focus on truly international issues. Thus, functions related to specific continents would be delegated specifically to the continental associations.

In 2010, revised IVV statutes were passed to allow for the creation of continental associations including a revised IVV structure.

For the past year or so a group of representatives from Canada, Brazil and the United States, worked on creating an organizational structure and bylaws for the creation of a continental association to be called IVV-Americas. The AVA did not have representation or take part with this working group.

The organizing committee submitted a formal motion to the IVV Presidium to create IVV-Americas on 27 July 2012. Action on this motion will take place at the forthcoming IVV Congress of Delegates in Zhaoqing, China on 20-21 October 2012. See Attachment 1. A draft of the approved IVV-Americas Bylaws, as submitted to the IVV, are at Attachment 2.

At the National Executive Council XVII Meeting in Orlando, Florida on 6-7 July 2012, the NEC voted to become an active member in the formation of the IVV Continental Association but...the AVA would join only after the implementation documents had been reviewed and approved by the NEC. Some of the NEC members believed that it was important to find out what the AVA would be getting into before joining IVV-Americas. Background information is available on the AVA web site under AVA Leadership, Draft-NEC Meeting Minutes 7/6-7/7/2012 Orlando, FL.

The NEC will hold a special meeting (conference telephone call) on 8 October 2012 for the purpose of voting on the AVA Joining IVV-Americas.

Sam commented:

It is my intent at this moment to vote FOR the AVA to join IVV-Americas. AVA has 275 clubs, CVF has approximately 30 clubs, and Brazil has approximately 50 clubs. AVA should be leading in the formation of the new IVV-Americas for the simple reason that because of our size, we should dominate the formation of the organization.

Then on 10/9: Last night in a special telephonic meeting, the NEC voted to defer joining IVV-Americas until convention 2013 when the idea can be put before the AVA member clubs. As information on the topic becomes available, it will be forwarded to you.

2. Seasonal Y1921 has to be closed due to construction. The original closing date was November 30, 2012. Construction won't be complete until after the closure date. This is the Grand Coulee Dam, WA seasonal.

3. From: **Jan Breneman**

Date: Wed, Oct 10, 2012

Subject: Washougal YR1968 (AVA 90507) Trail Changes

The Gibbons Creek trail at Steigerwald Lake NWR is closed at this time, affecting the subject YRE 5/10km routes (remote starts only). A large wildfire burned 140 acres last Friday. It started on the east side of the trailhead; winds pushed the fire across the wooden boardwalk near the trailhead entrance, and then spread rapidly to the west. Repairs are currently being assessed and the refuge and trailhead are closed until further notice. The manager "hopes to have a plan for reopening in place by late next week," which is around October 20th. Be aware that is just a plan; it could be weeks or months to finish the reconstruction.

In the meantime, walkers can do the 5k or an 11/13km route beginning directly from Papa's Ice Cream. An 11km route is possible by simply accessing the Columbia River dike trail and walking its length to the fish ladder (Mile Post 2) and back, without taking the turn through the wildlife refuge area.

4. From: **Sharon Streitt** <raneysl@aol.com>

Date: Thu, Oct 18, 2012

Subject: Port Gamble, WA YRE 1685 has reopened

The Port Gamble Historic trail is now open again. We've had enough rain to reduce fire danger.

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From Louise and Tom Baltes: Both of us recently completed a 6 day, 363 mile bike ride along the Oregon coast from Astoria to Brookings as part of a fund raiser for the Arthritis Foundation.

It was really an amazing experience! We probably told you, but the reason we got involved with this ride is because Tom's brother Ken just turned 70 and wanted to mark the occasion with a physical challenge. Since he is the Treasurer for the Arthritis Foundation, he looked around the country for a biking event sponsored by one of the regions of the Foundation and selected the ride in Oregon. Before long the other four of us signed on to accompany him and it was well worth it. Our group of five raised over \$12,000 to help the Foundation's support of research, education and support for arthritis sufferers.

Here's a photo of us and then our family group that rode the event:



Louise and Tom resting somewhere along the Oregon Coast



Louise, Tom, Dorothy Elion (sister in law), Pam (sister) and Ken Baltes (brother and treasurer for the Arthritis Foundation)



President's Corner – Earl Bowen

Pres Sez

Thanks to all the All Weather Walkers that helped out at the Cedar Creek Grist Mill Walk on the stormy and rainy Saturday. It was truly an All Weather Walker's walk, it poured at times, every walker got soaked, as they walked along enjoying the fall color and the grist mill. At the finish late in the day the workers were treated to watching the kids arrive dressed up for the Green Mountain School party. Thanks to Jan and Liz for putting on a great walk. Walkers that got to the grist mill were treated to four kinds of apple baked goodies that were provided by the Friends of Cedar Creek Grist Mill.

The club is in need of a person to step up and take over the TREASURER'S job. Liz is wanting to step down, she just has too much going on in her life to do an

adequate job at the present time. There are several of us in the club that will be willing to help anyone learn to do the job, including Liz. Please contact Earl Bowen or Liz Connors. Thank you.

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Next Meeting: November 13 - ALL ARE WELCOME! Details and map are now [here](#)

Sections that rarely change are also at this link: AWW Challenge information, AWW Challenge results, list of officers/valued associates, and Weekend Walking description.

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Club Events/Weekend/Wednesday Walk Calendar:

2013: July 6, North Bonneville
July 27, Vancouver (ESVA Meeting)
September 7, Camas Three Lakes

[NORTHWEST REGION'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)

Group Walks: [Wednesday Walks](#) – 10:00 am

[Weekend Walking](#)

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November Birthdays: Lang, Nira 11/11 Goodlett, Bonnie 11/26	Achievements: please contact the editor with event and distance milestones Tom Baltes: 1800 events and 22,000 KMs
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Welcome to new members: none reported

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Hello Northwest Volkssporters,
I'm Nancy Wittenberg and I'm running for the position of **Northwest Regional Director.**

I've been an active volkssporter since 2000 and I travel all over to walk. Volkssporting is my recreational, exercise and tourism choice! Whatever the reason we walk, we need to make our sport better known and increase participation. As your Northwest Regional Director I will work to help you make this happen.

I will -

- Continue the great customer service Sam Korff has given our region.
- Be accessible, listen to you, our clubs and walkers, and make sure your concerns are heard and addressed locally and with the AVA Executive Committee.
- Be a voice for positive change with the AVA.
- Support ways to exchange ideas -- what works and what new things can we try? Let's get the dialog and interchange going. Let's think "out of the box".
- Encourage great events and emphasize the social part of volkssporting that makes people want to come back for more.
- Encourage clubs to work together and help each other to put on strong events.
- Local walkers are the key to participation for all our clubs, but especially where we have only one club in an area. How can we enable local walkers to walk with us?
- Highlight the great work done by clubs and individuals. Be positive and encouraging.
- Recognize barriers and find ways to remove or work around them.
- Be at events in all areas of our region. I'm never afraid to travel.

I bring experience and skills to the position:

- Current 1st Vice President of Evergreen State Volkssport Association and web master for the ESVA website.
- Organizer of www.meetup.com/south-sound-walkers.
- Secretary, past president and trail master of many walks for Daffodil Valley Volkssport Association.
- Youth Coordinator for AVA. Recipient of Distinguished Achievement Award.
- Retired Chief Information Officer for a transportation and logistics firm. Project management, analysis, strategic planning and supervisory skills. An idea person across all organizational levels.
- BS in Mathematics.

- Many volunteer positions including board member and board chair of Girl Scouts of Western Washington and officer & board member of the local chapter of the Society for Information Management.

Let's make our sport thrive! Thank you for considering me for Northwest Regional Director.

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Following are the 2013 State Parks "free days":

Jan. 21 In honor of Martin Luther King Day

March 30 In honor of Washington State Parks' 100th birthday on March 19

April 27 and 28 National Parks Week

June 1 National Trails Day

June 8 and 9 National Get Outdoors Day and Department of Fish and Wildlife Free Fishing weekend

Aug. 4 Peak season free day

Sept. 28 National Public Lands Day

Nov. 9 through 11 Veteran's Day weekend

A Discover Pass will still be required on these days to access lands managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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