

Atlantic Region Ramblings #30 (Edited)

1. 2017 Year Round Events – There are two major problems that I am aware of that clubs are having with renewing the 2017 YRES:
 - Some events are disappearing. You think you renewed the event but it is not there.
 - If you sanctioned a new YRE with a trail rating of anything other than 1A or changed the trail rating of a 2016 event, the changed trail rating does not appear. For new events, it defaults to a trail rating of 1A; for old events it defaults the 2016 rating.

By August 22, each club needs to go to the AVA Events web site and look at each of your 2017 YREs for the following:

- Make sure all of your events are there.
- Make sure the trail rating is correct (probably only need to check on new events or events with new trails).
- Make sure the street address is complete (does it have Rd, St, Ave, Ln, etc).
- Make sure the AVA Special Programs are there.

When all of your club's events have been checked and edited if appropriate, please notify your State Association President. Clubs in Delaware and New Jersey should notify me.

2. If your club is under AVA's nonprofit umbrella, you should be working on submitting the Annual Financial Report and submitting the IRS Form 990-N. Confirmation that IRS received the Form 990-N needs to be sent to AVA when the Annual Financial Report is submitted.
3. The Commendable Service Award replaced the Certificate of Service Award effective June 1. That is ten weeks ago and so far, only one club has nominated anyone for a Commendable Service Award. The award has no minimum service requirements or limits on how often it can be submitted.

I want to recognize Mike Quinlan from Bowie, MD. Yesterday, Mike received the first Commendable Service Award presented in the Atlantic Region for his service to Volksbiking in the Atlantic Region.

Recognize your club members who are doing a good job!

4. Pay attention to the what is stated in The American Wanderer (TAW) and Checkpoint about registering for an event using the On Line Start Box (OLSB). These YREs in the Atlantic Region were sanctioned for 2017 using OLSB:

Maryland:

C&O Canal (four walks and one bike)
Frostburg
Grantsville – New Germany State Park

Pennsylvania:

Appalachian Trail
Milford

If there are others, please let me know.

5. The first events for the two newest clubs in the Atlantic Region are coming soon:

- The Antietam Pathfinders (Maryland) have the Hagerstown – Augustoberfest walk scheduled for Sunday, August 28.
- The Canterbury Trails (Virginia) have a walk scheduled in Natural Bridge on Sunday, November 6.

Come out and support our new clubs!

6. As of two weeks ago, 75% of the rooms at the host hotel in Billings, MT for the 2017 AVA Convention have been reserved. Make sure that the people who are going to represent your club at the Convention know that they need to make hotel reservations now. Ask them to contact me and ask to be added to the email list of people going to the Convention.
7. I forgot to mention two events sponsored by the Columbia Volksmarch Club.

Most of you are aware that there was a devastating flood in Columbia, MD on June 30.

- The traditional walk that is scheduled for August 20 is listed as Ellicott City – Columbia Village of Dorseys Search. The start point has an Ellicott City mailing address but for all practical purposes, the walk is in Columbia.
- The YRE that is listed as Ellicott City – Ellicott City/Oella is the one that was affected by the flood. The route has been changed and no longer goes downtown where the flood damage is.