

Atlantic Region Ramblings #40

Just a reminder to please share this information with your club members.

1. I want to thank Yvonne Pennington and the Great Greenbelt Volksmarchers for hosting the Atlantic Region Meeting in Greenbelt, MD on March 17. Mike Green was elected Regional Director and Dolores Grenier was elected Deputy RD. Their terms of office are from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019.
2. Please submit your Quarterly Participation Report for the 1st Qtr by April 20. After this date, I will ask AVA for a participation report and then notify the State Association Presidents and clubs of any missing reports.
3. These are some deadlines approaching:
 - a. April 8: Deadline for submitting Agenda Items to me for the AVA Meeting on June 7.
 - b. April 14: Publicity Contest at the AVA Convention – Submit photos, club newsletters, brochures, and club web sites. Rules are in the February/March TAW. As of several days ago, the Liberty Bell Wanderers were the only club in the Atlantic Region to submit a contest entry.
 - c. April 15: Deadline for submitting the application to host the 2019 AVA Convention.
 - d. April 16 is the deadline for ordering patches for National Physical Fitness & Sports Month Patch. Clubs ordering the patch must be sponsoring a Traditional Event during the month of May.
 - e. April 20: My deadline for submitting the Quarterly Participation Reports.
 - f. April 23: Submit Necrology Report to Karen at AVA. This is a reading of the names of all AVA members who died since the last convention (actually since Spring of 2015 when you submitted names for the Necrology Report read at the 2015 Convention)
 - g. April 25: Deadline for submitting articles for the June/July edition of The American Wanderer.
 - h. April 30 (I previously said May 1): Deadline for registering for the AVA Convention.
 - i. May 8: Complete and return all three copies of the AVA Form 500, “2017 Delegate Selection and Proxy Designation”. Let your State Association President know who is going to be your club’s Delegate/Proxy.
4. Thursday, May 4 is AVA’s Annual Fundraiser – the Big Give. Information on donating is in the TAW, Checkpoint, periodically on Facebook, and will be on the AVA Facebook page. Consider making a donation as a club and encourage your club members to donate as individuals.
5. In July and August you will be sanctioning your 2018 Year Round and Seasonal Events. I encourage you to start thinking about them now. We have a lot of YREs that have been there for a long time and do not have very high participation. Consider not renewing some of them and replacing them instead with a new event. If nothing else, change the trail. From the statistics that I see, the new events generally have very good participation.

6. These are some changes to Pennsylvania Seasonal Events starting in April .
 - a. Sigel – Cook Forest State Park – Walk – start date was delayed until April 17 due to trail closures. Note: there is no change to the Volksbike event.
 - b. Bird in Hand – The name of the start point was changed from the Plain & Fancy Restaurant to the Smokehouse BBQ and Brew. It is the same building – just a different name (and menu).
7. There are a lot of seasonal events that started on April 1. Please review what is on the AVA Events Web Site and in Starting Point to make sure both say the same thing and ensure they match with what is really there. The chances of what you thought in July or August when the events were sanctioned matching what you really did nine months later is not very high.
8. The Washington DC Area Volksmarch Club has cancelled the Volkswalks scheduled for May 6-7 at Great Falls, VA and Great Falls, MD.

Thanks,
Tom Jackson
Atlantic Region Director