

Atlantic Region Ramblings #43

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

1. June 25 is the deadline for submitting articles for the August – September edition of The American Wanderer (TAW). Publicize your upcoming traditional events! If you have an event in October or November that requires the participants to make hotel reservations or dinner reservations, you should have an article in this edition of the TAW.
2. The 2017 AVA Convention in Billings was scheduled so that participants could do the Volksmarch at the Crazy Horse Memorial near Custer, SD enroute to the first Pre-Convention walk in Buffalo, WY. The walk at Crazy Horse was sponsored by the Black Hills Volkssport Association (BHVA) which sponsors most of the walks in South Dakota, many of the walks in Wyoming, a walk in Nebraska, and a walk in North Dakota. Between what we did before the convention and after, Lorraine and I did ten of their events. Except for the Pacific and Northwest Regions, almost everyone who drove to the convention and did walks on the way, participated in one of the BHVA events. The BHVA YRE and Seasonal events had a lot of participants between late May and mid-June!

The 2019 AVA Convention is going to be in Albany, NY with the first Pre-Convention walk in Portsmouth, NH on June 1. Unless someone drives through Canada, they cannot drive to Albany or Portsmouth without going through the Atlantic Region. Even someone from the West or Midwest, trying to drive the quickest route possible, goes past Erie, PA where the KSVA has a Volkswalk at Presque Isle State Park.

I highly encourage you to look at a map and determine how someone from Missouri, Texas, Florida, Wisconsin, or Tennessee would drive to Portsmouth and home from Hyde Park, NY (the last Post-Convention walk). They are going to be looking for walks on the I-95, I-70, I-76, and I-81 corridors. Use the next fifteen months to publicize that Metro is the best way to get to the walks in Washington, DC. Taking US-301 avoids the worst of the DC traffic and is how to get to the state capital walks at Annapolis, MD and Dover, DE. However, the Bay Bridge going east on the afternoon of Memorial Day really needs to be avoided.

What walks do you think people will try to do? Going to and from Billings, people were trying to do walks in states and state capitals that they had not been to. That will still be the same in 2019. I think there will still be people looking for walks that qualify for the AVA Appalachian Trail, Border Crossing, and Underground Railroad Special Programs. After the NEC (renamed July 1 as the Board of Directors) meeting in January, the AVA Special Programs that will start on January 1, 2019 will be determined. Events that will qualify for those special programs will attract some Volkssporters. People were looking for walks with unusual scenery – Devils Tower, WY and Badlands, SD for example.

3. Upcoming deadlines (Note that I have identified the official deadlines. Mike Green will probably move the deadline up by about 10-15 days in order to give him and the State Association Presidents time to work with the clubs who have not yet submitted).

- a. June 25 – Submit articles for the Aug-Sep edition of the TAW.
- b. July 1 – July 31 – Submit the Participation Report for the 2nd Quarter.
- c. July 1 – Aug 30 – Renew the YREs and Seasonal events for 2018.
- d. July 1 – Nov 15 – Submit annual financial report to AVA for those clubs whose fiscal year ends on June 30 and are under the AVA 503c(1) umbrella.
- e. July 1 – Nov 15 – Submit to AVA confirmation that the IRS received the E-post card for those clubs whose fiscal year ends on June 30 and are under the AVA 503c(1) umbrella.
- f. July 1 – Nov 15 – Update your Club Officers in the ESR System to include updating the club membership.

4. Helen Garamone is the new President of the Northern Virginia Volksmarchers. Helen secedes Pat Hyland.

Thanks,
Tom Jackson
Atlantic Region Director