

**American Volkssport Association
XIX Biennial Convention
Grand Hotel and Convention Center
Salem, Oregon
June 17, 2015 – June 19, 2015**

Opening Ceremony:

Color Guard Presentation – North Salem High School JROTC

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order:

President Dennis Michele called the Nineteenth Regular Membership Meeting of the American Volkssport Association to order at 3:18 p.m., June 17, 2015, at the Grand Hotel and Convention Center in Salem, OR.

Credentialing Report: Bonnie Johnson, Secretary

243 Clubs eligible to vote
186 Credentialed club delegates and proxies

14 NEC members eligible to vote
14 NEC members are credentialed

200 Credentialed total as of 6/17/2015

We have a quorum.

Welcome and Introductions: President Dennis Michele

Welcome to the 19th Biennial Convention in beautiful downtown Salem. We have three interesting days ahead of us and many interesting walks.

Introduction of the National Executive Council Members:

Holly Pelking (Vice-President); Bonnie Johnson (Secretary); Bob Morrison (Treasurer), Tom Jackson (Atlantic RD), Linda Neu (Mid-America RD), Phyllis Olson (North Central RD), Doug Reynolds (Northeast RD), Nancy Wittenberg (Northwest RD); Wayne Holloway (Pacific RD); Frank Sayers (Rocky Mountain RD); Glen Conyers (South Central RD); David Bonewitz (Southeast RD); Joanne Forinash (Southwest RD); Paul Lamb (Parliamentarian), Henry Rosales (Executive Director); Dennis Michele (President).

Introduction of Guests and Presentations:

Mr Mitsumasa Miyashita: IVV Asia and President of the Japan Volkssport Association. Mr Miyashita held an informative course on pole walking, how it is done in Japan and recommended we should do more pole walking in this country.

President Dennis Michele presented Mr Miyashita with a Convention polo shirt, t-shirt and patch.

Brenda Dudfield: Director of Canadian Volkssport Federation and Representative of the Canadian Volkssport Federation, on behalf of President Ethel Hansen. Brenda invited everyone to the Canadian Convention at Langley, BC in 2016. President Dennis Michele presented a display case of the Convention Award Medals to Brenda.

Approval of Meeting Rules:

The Meeting Rules are located in the back of the Official Program, page 30.

President Dennis Michele made a change in Section 3 Motions; 3.3, by adding into the sentence, "President or", and therefore reads: " The President or Secretary shall read the motion before the final vote on any motion".

No other changes reported.

With no further changes to the Rules, the Rules stand as presented.

Approval of Agenda:

No changes to the Agenda.

There being no changes, the Agenda is approved as presented.

Attachment #1: Agenda

Announcement of Official Slate of Officer Candidates: Doug Reynolds

Doug Reynolds, 2015 Nominating Committee Chair, announced the slate of candidates.

President: Dennis Michele and Chris Mellen

Vice President: Holly Pelking

Secretary: Sam Korff

Treasurer: Lawrence Lehman

Doug Reynolds concluded his report of the Official Slate of Officer Candidates..

President Dennis Michele asked for any nominations from the floor:

Treasurer: There were no other nominations from the floor for Treasurer. Being none, the nominations for Treasurer were declared closed.

Secretary: There were no other nominations from the floor for Secretary. Being none, the nominations for Secretary were declared closed.

Vice President: There were no other nominations from the floor for Vice President. Being none, the nominations for Vice President were declared closed.

President: There were no other nominations from the floor for President. Being none, the nominations for President were declared closed.

Presentations of Candidates for Office:

Each candidate was given two minutes to present their qualifications for the position sought. Lawrence Lehman, candidate for Treasurer, was unable to be here due to travel issues and will give his presentation Thursday.

Elections for Officers will be held Friday, June 19, 2015.

Presentations and Voting on Bylaw Amendments: Phyllis Olson, Bylaws Chair

Six Amendments made by the Committee will be introduced. A second to the motion is not needed when the motion is made by the Committee.

1. Affiliating with Other Organizations

Motion: Amend Articles II and III to permit the AVA to affiliate with organizations consistent with the AVA's purpose.

Current 2(k) (new):

2(k) to affiliate with other organizations similarly devoted to noncompetitive, family-oriented, participatory lifetime sports.

Current 3.7 (new)

3.7 Affiliation with other organizations.

(a). The AVA may affiliate with nonprofit organizations that share its commitment to noncompetitive, family-oriented, participatory lifetime sports.

(b). The National Executive Council shall make a recommendation with regards to affiliation with organizations to be voted on at a regular or special membership meeting. A two-thirds vote is required to affiliate with each organization.

(c) The AVA Executive Director will develop and maintain a policy on affiliating with other-nonprofit organizations that addresses, among other topics, preserving the AVA's IRC 501.c (3) status

Motion to Amend the Motion made by Phil Jones, CA, Club #0941: I move to strike out (delete) Article 3.7 (b) from the proposed amendment to the Bylaws. Seconded

Vote taken by count of ballots Yes-(in favor): 71 No (not in favor) 121

Motion to Amend Failed

Back to original Proposed Motion to Amend:

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(c) The AVA Executive Director will develop and maintain a policy on affiliating with other-nonprofit organizations that addresses, among other topics, preserving the AVA's IRC 501©(3) status

Vote taken by count of ballots Yes (in favor) 78 No (not in favor) 112

Motion for Proposed Amendment Failed

2. Call for Voice Vote

Motion: Amend Article V to change who can call for a voice vote

Current: 5.6(f) Where only one candidate for a National Office has been nominated, no ballots shall be cast by the Members and the Secretary shall call for a voice vote of the members.

Changes: 5.6(f) The Secretary-President shall call for a voice vote of the members

If Adopted: 5.6(f) Where only one candidate for a National Office has been nominated, no ballots shall be cast by the Members and the President shall call for a voice vote of the members.

Motion: Amend Article V to change who can call for a voice vote

5.6(f) Where only one candidate for a National Office has been nominated, no ballots shall be cast by the Members and the President shall call for a voice vote of the members.

Vote by show of ballot: Yes (in favor of) Unanimous

Motion passed

3. Deputy Regional Directors

Motion: Amend Article VI “Regional Directors” of the Bylaws to allow Deputy Regional Directors

6.1

Current:6.1: At least six, but not more than ten geographic Regions shall be created from the jurisdiction of the AVA. The number of Regions and the area of each shall be established by the National Executive Council and recorded in the corporate records of the AVA. Each Region shall be represented on the National Executive Council by a Regional Director.

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6.4

Current 6.4 Removal: Failure or refusal to perform the prescribed duties shall constitute grounds for removal from office. Any Regional Director of the AVA may be removed from office in the represented Region and from membership on the National Executive Council by a recall motion instituted by a Member in the represented Region, provided said motion is submitted in writing to the National Executive Council and endorsed by at least twenty-five percent of the Members in the Region.

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6.6

Current 6.6 Election Procedures: New 6.6(h)

If Adopted 6.6(h): For those regions that choose to elect a Deputy Regional Director, it may be done by one of two methods:

1. A Regional Nominating Committee makes (a) recommendation(s) to the Members in the region for their selection;
2. The RD makes a nomination to the Members in the region for their approval.

6.8

Current 6.8 Deputy Regional Director (Optional): New

If Adopted 6.8 Deputy Regional Director: Each Region is authorized to establish a single position of Deputy Regional Director (DRD) who will act in cooperation with and under the direction of the Regional Director to assist in carrying out tasks outlined in Duties (6.3). Qualifications specified for the Deputy RD are the same as those of the RD. Any Deputy RD must be able to assume the role of RD at any time in the two year term, and not be in conflict with any provisions in the Bylaws, such as term limits for previous service. When a Region has a DRD, a vacancy in the office of RD will be immediately be filled by the DRD. A vacancy in the office of DRD during the term can be filled in accordance with 6.6(h).

Motion: Amend Article VI “Regional Directors” of the Bylaws to allow Deputy Regional Directors

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6.4 Removal: Failure or refusal to perform the prescribed duties shall constitute grounds for removal from office. Any Regional Director or Deputy Regional Director of the AVA may be removed from office in the represented Region and from membership on the National Executive Council by a recall motion instituted by a Member in the represented Region, provided said motion is submitted in writing to the National Executive Council and endorsed by at least twenty-five percent of the Members in the Region.

6.6 (h): For those regions that choose to elect a Deputy Regional Director, it may be done by one of two methods:

- 1. A Regional Nominating Committee makes (a) recommendation(s) to the Members in the region for their selection;**
- 2. The RD makes a nomination to the Members in the region for their approval.**

6.8 Deputy Regional Director: Each Region is authorized to establish a single position of Deputy Regional Director (DRD) who will act in cooperation with and under the direction of the Regional Director to assist in carrying out tasks outlined in Duties (6.3).

Qualifications specified for the Deputy RD are the same as those of the RD. Any Deputy RD must be able to assume the role of RD at any time in the two year term, and not be in conflict with any provisions in the Bylaws, such as term limits for previous service. When a Region has a DRD, a vacancy in the office of RD will be immediately filled by the DRD. A vacancy in the office of DRD during the term can be filled in accordance with 6.6(h).

Vote by show of ballot for proposed amendment – Yes (to accept) by majority vote

Motion Passed

4. RD Election Procedures

Motion: Amend Article VI to Clarify RD election procedures

6.6 (c)

Current 6.6(c): The Regional Nominating Committee shall report to the Members in its Region by letter at least thirty days prior to the membership meeting where the election will be conducted.

Changes 6.6 (c): The Regional Nominating Committee shall report to the Members in its Region by letter at least thirty days prior to the membership meeting where the election will be conducted. Nominations from the floor shall be permitted.

If Adopted 6.6 (c): The Regional Nominating Committee shall report to the Members in its Region by letter at least thirty days prior to the membership meeting where the election will be conducted. Nominations from the floor shall be permitted,

6.6(d)

Current 6.6(d): The election may take place at a regular or special regional meeting or by mail ballot.

Change 6.6(d): The election may take place at a ~~regular or special~~ regional meeting or by mail ballot.

If Adopted 6.6(d): The election may take place at a regional meeting or by mail ballot.

6.6(f)

Current 6.6(f): The results of such election shall be delivered to the National Secretary at the regular membership meeting of the AVA. The Secretary shall announce the results of the election to the meeting and shall report the results in the minutes of that meeting.

Changes 6.6(f): The results of such election shall be delivered by the Regional Director to the National Secretary within 10 days ~~at the regular membership meeting of the AVA~~. The Secretary shall announce the results of the election at a regular membership meeting and shall report the results in the minutes of the meeting.

If Adopted 6.6(f): The results of such election shall be delivered by the Regional Director to the National Secretary within 10 days. The Secretary shall announce the results of the election at a regular membership meeting and shall report the results in the minutes of the meeting.

Motion: Amend Article VI to Clarify RD election procedures

6.6 (c)The Regional Nominating Committee shall report to the Members in its Region by letter at least thirty days prior to the membership meeting where the election will be conducted. Nominations from the floor shall be permitted,

6.6(d); The election may take place at a regional meeting or by mail ballot.

6.6(f): The results of such election shall be delivered by the Regional Director to the National Secretary within 10 days. The Secretary shall announce the results of the election at a regular membership meeting and shall report the results in the minutes of the meeting.

Vote by show of ballot. Majority – Yes (to accept Proposed Amendment)

Motion passed

5. Modify Vote Required for Amendment of the AVA Bylaws

**Motion: Amend Article XIII Amendments of the Bylaws.
13.1**

Current 13.1 Amendments: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the AVA by a majority vote of the eligible delegates represented in person or by proxy, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the National Executive Council and submitted in writing, to all member clubs at least sixty days prior to the regular or special membership meeting at which vote shall be taken.

Changes 13.1 Amendments: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the AVA by a majority two-thirds vote of the eligible delegates represented in person or by proxy.

If Adopted 13.1 Amendments: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the AVA by a two-thirds vote of the eligible delegates represented in person or by proxy.

Motion: Amend Article XIII Amendments of the Bylaws.

13.1 Amendments: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the AVA by a two-thirds vote of the eligible delegates represented in person or by proxy.

Vote taken by count of ballots: Yes (to accept the Amendment) 83, No (not to accept) 113

Motion Failed

6. Mail Definition

Motion: Amend Article XV by renumbering the current 15.4 to 15.4(a) and adding new 15.4(b)

Current 15.4(b) New

If Adopted 15.4(b) Unless otherwise specified the term “mail” is interpreted as any item delivered by US Postal Service, other nationally recognized delivery service such as, but not limited to; Fedex or UPS and electronic media such as email and FAX.

Motion: Amend Article XV by renumbering the current 15.4 to 15.4(a) and adding new 15.4(b)

15.4(b) Unless otherwise specified the term “mail” is interpreted as any item delivered by US Postal Service, other nationally recognized delivery service such as, but not limited to; Fedex or UPS, and electronic media such as email and FAX.

Vote taken by show of ballots Yes (Majority)

Motion Passed

Necrology Joan Lampart

In remembrance and honor of our deceased members, the AVA along with the entire Volkssport Family has come together to remember our friends who have departed since the 2013 Convention.

Ronald Ackerman	Larry Gilchrist	Wayne Opheim
Charlene Agne-Traub	Phyllis Girard	Joyce O'Rear
Marvin Albert	Joe Girouard	Jack Parle
Herb Alpinger	Barbara Green	Alice Parle
Mary Angeline	Sinna Gregory	Marianna Peckmann
Steve Arnett	Bernie Hayden	Harold Persson
Gene Averkin	Irene Hayden	Virginia Peters
Dean Bailey	Al Heberlein	Robert Peterson
Helen Bechtold	Norma Heberlein	Robert Pigeon
Gordon Bell	Pauly Herrbach	Robert Pugh
Beverly Bennyhoff	Jack Hickey	Bill Radigan
Diane Berard	John Hotchin	Carolyn Rayborn
Marge Bergeron	Robert Hren	James Regan
Aloma Blaylock	Shirley Huigens	Richard Retin
Marvin Blevins	Bob Jenson	Dorothy Ann Reynolds
Chuck Boeder	Roger Johnson	Harold Riley
Jim Bohanon	Robert Johnson	Patricia Russell
Ron Bowers	Claudia Johnston	Barry Sartori
Betty Butler	Bettie Jones	Sally Saxen
Everett Britt	Mark Kerrigan	Robert Schlareth
Jean Britt	Heinz Kloth	David Scull
Alice Carroll	Kenneth Knopp	Herschel Self
Jim Carroll	John Kostelny	Ruth Shank
Ron Cartelone	Pat Landis	Marge Shanley
Henry Chang	Hester Lehnert	Joseph Shaw
Larry Charneski	Joe LaPire	Al Simon
John Clifton	Mary LaPire	Sharon Smetzer
Skip Coburn	Lynn Longshore	Charlie Smith
Miriam Craig	Bob Lowden	Frank Sober
John Daegling	Dennis Lynch	Tiny Steiner
Ron Daniel	Jeffrey Marcec	Nancy Stephens
Frank Demolli	Pat Martinez	Bill Stockman
Melody Desmarais	John Massimillian	Bob Talaga
Jim Dillinger	Gaylord Matti	Josephine Taylor
Sunnie Dillinger	Bill Mayorga	Colleen Theusch
Nell Doyel	John McCarron	Ty Troyer
Art Dreigar	Jerry McCormick	Mildred Tyler
Lew Dudman	Robert McElroy	Wayne Ubrich
Tom Dzakowic	Christine McFall	Robert Utley, Jr
Terry Earle	Joyce McNair	Don Vartanian
Ralph Edwards	David McWhirter	Pauline Vincent
Norm Ehrgott	Don Meltzer	Wayne Wadnizak
Allan Fagley	Vernon Meyer	Catherine Waller
Noel Fields	Arlene Miller	Jack Weber
Melody Fite	Bill Missfeldt	Kaye Widger
Glenn Fordyce	Robert Moffit	Jack Wierman
George Fries	Virginia Money Penny	Jackie Wilson
Carl Frock	Winifred Moore	Alvin Wipplinger, Jr
Chuck Fullerton	Sharon Mullen	Bill Wittenberg
Robert Gast	Elaine Mummey	Barbara Wolf
Eva Geiser	Milo Naranjo	James Yakas
Margaret Gentis	Ruth Newton	
Lolly Gibbs	Robert Nicholson	
	Thea (Dorothea) Oesterreic	<i>As of May 26, 2015</i>

There was a moment of silence to honor our colleagues and friends. May they rest in peace.

Recess: 4:47 P.M.

19th AVA Biennial Membership Meeting: Reconvened 3:15 P.M., June 18, 2015

Second Session

Credentialing Report: Bonnie Johnson, Secretary

243 Clubs eligible to vote
197 Credentialed club delegates and proxies

14 NEC members eligible to vote
14 NEC members are credentialed

211 Credentialed total as of 6/18/2015

We have a quorum.

President Dennis Michele: Based on the adoption of Bylaw Amendment to Article V, Paragraph 5.6(f), we need to adjust our standing rules. Standing rule 6.1.4 needs to be changed by striking out "Secretary" and inserting "President". If there is no objection, this change will be made.

There being no objection, the standing rule 6.1.4 is amended.

Call for a change to the Agenda by President Dennis Michele. Since the candidate for Treasurer was unable to be here yesterday and with no objections, Lawrence Lehman will give his two minute presentation on his candidacy for Treasurer.

No objections voiced

Lawrence Lehman gave a two minute presentation on his qualifications for the Treasurer position.

Treasurer's Report : Bob Morrison

The Treasurer reported the financial condition of AVA is sound in comparison to two years ago when the organization did not have a permanent Executive Director and had a series of continuing financial losses. Two years ago I felt compelled to illustrate some of the detailed financial impact of continuing deficits nibbling away at our financial reserve. This year, I am very pleased to provide an upbeat Treasurer's report.

There have been a couple changes that I believe will drive our financial success. We now have a full time Executive Director providing leadership for our organization. Second, this past year the NEC passed a resolution authorizing and requiring the Executive Director and President, to take all necessary steps to make sure they do not spend more money than AVA earns in any fiscal year without specific approval by the NEC.

What has happened in the past is the NEC approves a budget and the staff goes ahead and spends at that level, irrespective of whether the income that was also planned, measures up to that level. Hopefully with this mandate, years of spending more than we earned are in the past. Now turning to the current year, the fiscal year for 2015 which ends this month, I have good news. The last report I looked at was April 30th and it showed a small level of expenses over revenues.. However that does not include the nearly \$70,000.00 we received from the “Big Give” campaign or any profits that will come from this Convention. AVA assuredly will finish this fiscal year of 2015 with more revenues than expenses; or in the ‘black’.

Looking at our overall financial health, I am happy to report AVA has cash and near cash investments and is operating in reserve accounts of more than \$800,000.00, comparing our cash and near cash investments, with our usual operating budget for a year of \$500,000.00 budget operations. This offers a very healthy financial position and it means NEC XIX will have the freedom to make pretty much any financial decisions they believe will make AVA prosper. This concludes my report. I want to thank you for allowing me to serve you for the past four years and I wish AVA great success in the future.

Introduction of 19th AVA Convention Committee: Sam Korff, Chair

Sam Korff, Committee Chair of the 19th AVA Convention presented the Committee Members:

Reggie Blake	Sales table
Dar Parrow	Publicity
Karen Highfield	Hospitality and Publicity
Rosy Weatherby	Bus Coordinator
Elisabeth Wittenberg	Bus Coordinator
Margaret Pinkley	Assistant Treasurer and Secretary
Nancy Wittenberg	Workshops
Dick Baker	Assistant Trailmaster and Maps
Annette St-Pierre	Assistant Trailmaster (Safety)
Joe and Karen Kelly	Trail Markers
Tom and Dorothy Baltes	Trail Markers
Maryann Brown	Vice Chair and Volunteer Coordinator
Ed Hainline	Trailmaster
Sharon Moats	Registrar
Bettie Lou Cline	Event Equipment
Julie Groth	Assistant Event Equipment
Jan Hagemeister	Treasurer
Karen Wusstig	Website Coordinator, Silent Auction
Martha Korff	Silent Auction

Acknowledgment and presentation of the Clubs involved in putting on the walks:

Columbia River Volkssports
Eugene-Springfield Mossbacks
All Weather Walkers – WA
Albany Fitwalkers
Vancouver USA
Rose City Roamers
Yachats Coastal Gems

IVV Awards – Graham Fawcett, IVV Vice President

President Dennis Michele introduced Graham Fawcett, IVV Vice President

Graham Fawcett spoke on the IVV's System of Awards which is meant to be shared by National Associations. It does not replace any awards you may receive but be an adjunct to it. Service Awards for leadership roles and roles of responsibility can be given to individuals with 8, 15, and 25 years of service. This service can be at any level: local, state, regional, national, or international but does not have to include international service.

Who can nominate candidates for these awards? Anyone at those previous levels can but the National Association must verify the service being counted. Once verified, the application must be made to the application office in Germany, in English, for the award concerned. The award consists of a certificate, pin, and other memento regarding the length of service.

IVV Service Awards presented by Graham Fawcett

Wayne Holloway

Ginny Drumm

Don Vartanian (posthumous)

AVA Award Presentations:

Presented by President Dennis Michele and Linda Neu, Chair of Awards Committee

Distinguished Achievement Awards:

Martha L Korff

William Radigan, Jr. (posthumous)

Judy L Michele

Douglas S Reynolds

Robert Morrison

Karen Seay

Holly Pelking

Leonard Wojtysiak

Hall of Fame Award

Virginia K Drumm

Ellen Ott

Willis "Sam" Korff

Robert C Wright

Paul A Lamb

Wayne Holloway

Dennis Michele

2015 President's Award President Dennis Michele

David Bonewitz

Alice Lawrence

Joanne Forinash

Larry Middleton

Mike Lanpher

Bonnie Johnson

Special Awards – These Special Awards were provided by the AVA Staff to recognize the special people who have supported and assisted the individual NEC members.

Chris Zegelin

Jackie Reynolds

Jesse Johnson

Elisabeth Wittenberg

Sheila Morrison

Grace Holloway

Lorraine Jackson

Sherry Sayers

Judy Michele

Carlin Forinash

Stanley Neu

Doris Conyers

Norma Wessel

Mindy Bonewitz

President Dennis Michele, in referring back to the Necrology, requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Kenneth Knopp, founder of the American Volkssport Association in the United States. This man got us going and put us on the right trail as we are here today. Please stand for a special moment of silence for Ken Knopp.

Recess: 4:06 P.M.

19th AVA Biennial Membership Meeting reconvened 3:16 P.M., June 19, 2015

Final Session

Credentialing Report: Bonnie Johnson, Secretary

243 Clubs eligible to vote
198 Credentialed club delegates and proxies

14 NEC members eligible to vote
14 NEC members are credentialed

212 Credentialed total as of 6/19/2015

We have a quorum

Sam Korff announced proceeds on the Silent Auction, which ended at 9:00 A.M. this morning. The bids from the auction have brought in \$9332.00.

Sam also announced an email link for a Convention Survey will be emailed out and you will need to respond back by July 6, 2015.

Change to the Agenda:

President Dennis Michele, with no objections, would like to make the following changes to the Agenda in the following order:

Publicity Awards
Convention Reports of Montana and New York
Allow 10 minutes for clubs to discuss 2017 Convention site among members
Election of National Officers
Guest Speaker
Arthritis Foundation
Donation to Local Non-Profit
Election results for Convention Site and Officers.

Hearing no objections, the Agenda is so changed.

Publicity Awards: Linda Neu, Awards Committee Chair

Photography:

People:	3 rd Place	Jan weeks	Asheville Amblers
	2 nd Place	Jerry Michell	East Tennessee Walkers
	1 st Place	Joan Lanpher	Mid-Florida Milers

Things:	3 rd Place	Norma Wessel	Greater Des Moines Volkssport Asso
	2 nd Place	Sharon Streitt	Kitsap Volkssporters Club
	1 st Place	Mike Lanpher	Mid- Florida Milers
Places	3 rd Place	Mike Lanpher	Mid- Florida Milers
	2 nd Place	Jan Weeks	Asheville Amblers
	1 st Place	Sharon Streitt	Kitsap Volkssporters Club

Traditional Event Brochure:

3 rd Place	Liberty Bell Wanderers
2 nd Place	Upstate Pathfinders
1 st Place	Madison Area Volkssport Asso

YRE/Seasonal Event Brochure:

3 rd Place	Mid- Florida Milers
2 nd Place	Eugene-Springfield Mossback Volkssport Club
1 st Place	Walk-n-Mass Volkssport Club

Club Newsletter:

3 rd Place	Vaca Valley Volks
2 nd Place	Green Valley Gators
1 st Place	Mid-Florida Milers

Club Websites:

3 rd Place	Dogwood Trailblazers
2 nd Place	Empire State Capital Volkssporters
1 st Place	East Tennessee Wanderers

Club Logo

1 st Place	Black Hills Volkssport Association
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Events Community and Publicity

1 st Place	Randolph Road Runners
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Selection of 20th AVA Biennial Convention Site

Bid for Billings, Montana

Promotion and presentation made by Frank Sayers, Rocky Mountain Region Director and Co-Chair of the 20th AVA Biennial Convention Committee with Charlie Gentile (General Custer) for Billings, Montana as the 20th AVA Biennial Convention site in 2017.

Bid for Albany, New York

Promotion and presentation made by Gina Mintzer for Albany, New York and surrounding area in the Northeast Region for the 20th AVA Biennial Convention site in 2017.

3:57 P.M.- Call for a 10 minute break-out for clubs

Club members can discuss their voting preference for the 2017 Convention site.

4:07 P.M – The Convention will be in order.

Ballots will be collected by the tellers for the vote count on the Convention site.

Election of National Officers

The President will call for a voice vote since there is only one candidate per position.

Treasurer:

Larry Lehmann has been nominated for Office of Treasurer. Are there any other nominations at this time?

Nominations are closed. Call for a voice vote in favor of Lawrence Lehman for Treasurer, signify by saying Aye.

Congratulations to Lawrence Lehman, newly elected Treasurer.

Secretary:

Sam Korff has been nominated for Office of Secretary. Are there any other nominations at this time?

Nominations are closed. Call for a voice vote in favor of Sam Korff for Secretary, signify by saying Aye.

Congratulations to Sam Korff, newly elected Secretary.

Vice President:

Holly Pelking has been nominated for Office of Vice President. Are there any other nominations at this time?

Nominations are closed. Call for a voice vote in favor of Holly Pelking for Vice President, signify by saying Aye.

Congratulations to Holly Pelking, re-elected as Vice President.

President:

Candidates: Chris Mellen

Dennis Michele

Are there any other nominations at this time?

Nominations for President are closed.

Vote by ballot, circling one of the names. After voting, fold the ballot in half and pass to the tellers for collection.

Ballots collected by the tellers for a vote count on election of the AVA President.

Featured Speaker: Libra Forde

Libra Forde adlibbed the 3 F's logo for AVA: "Fun, Fitness, and Friendship" by accepting Food as the number four "F" and adding the fifth "F" as Finance. Discover the new currency by how you spend your time. By walking and exercising and yet many people do not equate spending time with money; but time is money. Walking is an amazing way to spend your time while you are walking through history, seeing our country, and building a sense of pride with each other which is better than any money. That is why "F" for Finance should be added to your list. You are not wasting time by walking but it is a 2 for 1 - exercising while educating, building a bridge between health and wealth. Share your currency with the young ones so it lasts forever.

Libra made a call to action with a challenge of making a bridge to currency. Make this a healthy bridge to wealth by going to your community and tell someone about AVA. Tell them what you do. You must bridge the gap and spend your currency wisely.

Presentation to Arthritis Foundation – Tom Baltes

Tom Baltes spoke about his upcoming 4,000 – 4,200 mile bike ride from Seaside, OR to South Portland, ME, in the support of Volkssporting and the Arthritis Foundation, beginning August 16, 2015. Information on awareness and funding the upcoming ride will be forthcoming in the Checkpoint and TAW. The Arthritis Foundation National and Regional offices have been extra helpful by building a donation website, printing motivational literature and will also do some interviewing as Tom goes across the country.

Allison Bailey, Events Director of the Arthritis Foundation, spoke on her activities with the Foundation. Allison conducts a bike ride each year from Astoria to Brookings - 364 miles of pedaling and fundraising for the Arthritis Foundation.

Tom Baltes presented Henry Rosales with a generous donation by check to AVA on behalf of his wife, Louise Baltes, in the amount of \$1,000.00. A donation was also presented to Allison Bailey for the Arthritis Foundation for \$1,000.00 on behalf of Louise Baltes.

Donation to Local Nonprofit – The Friends of Two Bridges – Sam Korff

Sam Korff, on behalf of the Biennial Convention Committee, presented Hazel Patton with a check for \$1000.00 from the American Volkssport Association for “The Friends of Two Bridges”. A brick will be installed on the new bridge in honor of AVA’s donation.

Voting Results for the 19th Biennial Convention Site:

19th Biennial Convention: Albany, NY	68 votes
Billings, MT	144 votes

Based on the results of the vote, Billings, MT will host the 2017 AVA Convention

Election Results:

Report by Head Teller-Paul Stachour

President: Chris Mellen	71 votes
Dennis Michele	141 votes

Based on the results of the vote, Dennis Michele has been re-elected President

A thank you was expressed to Paul Stachour and the Tellers for an excellent job.

Presentation of NEC XIX: July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017

President	Dennis Michele
Vice President	Holly Pelking
Secretary	Sam Korff
Treasurer	Lawrence Lehman
Atlantic Region	Tom Jackson
Mid-America Region	Linda Neu
North Central Region	Jerry Wilson
Northeast Region	Betty Green
Northwest Region	Nancy Wittenberg
Pacific Region	Suzie Glass
Rocky Mountain Region	Frank Sayers
South Central Region	Glen Conyers
Southeast Region	David Bonewitz
Southwest Region	Susan Medlin

Audience Comments

Closing Remarks

Standing ovation given to the Salem Convention Committee for a great Convention.

Closing Ceremony – Color Guard

Meeting adjourned 5:13 P.M.

**Bonnie Johnson
AVA Secretary**

Attachments:

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