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AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION, Inc
CEO Report
Tuesday, February 18, 2025/6:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. Central Time
Electronic Meeting on Teams Platform

I. ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS/PROGRAMS

AVA Mobile Walk Application Update

The AVA's Request for Quotes and Requirements Document for the walk application was released to the following companies on January 6, 2025.

- Majestyk – New York, NY
- Kwanso – San Ramon, CA
- Code District – Washington, DC
- Broadminded – San Antonio, TX

Proposals are due to the AVA by February 28, 2025. The Walk App committee will review proposals and make a recommendation to the Board at the March 25, 2025, Special Call meeting.

There are other areas of planning that need to be completed prior to the launch of the walk application like club approval to use their maps and directions, legal review of contracts, walk application fees, integration with the AVA's OSB, privacy regulations, funding, and payment systems.

For more information refer to the AVA Application Committee report on page 20.

2025 Biennial Convention Update

Thanks to the support of the Committee Chair, Jerry Wilson and his committee, the convention planning is on schedule, but registration numbers are low. The projected number of attendees is 300 and we are currently at 110. We are a national organization with 2,408 Lifetime, Associate, and Family members and approximately 7, 500 club members. Our current registration count for convention is **less than two percent** of our total membership. This is not a suitable number for a national convention. I encourage Board Members and Deputy Directors to help us get the word out to their regions to support our convention.

During the convention there is a scheduled international walk on Wednesday, April 30, 2025. This walk will cross the border between El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico and extend into Juarez for approximately one mile (2 miles total with an out and back route). Be advised the AVA's General Liability insurance does not extend into Mexico or any other country. I will investigate insurance options for those who may want to purchase additional insurance coverage in Mexico. Within the next few weeks Jerry Wilson, Susan Pinneke, and myself will be meeting with Visit El Paso, Visit Las Cruces, and the Mexican Consulate to access activity on the border and in Mexico given the current situation with the new Administration's America First Priorities. We will report our findings to the board during the March Special Call meeting. At this time, I will ask the Board for their recommendation on how to move forward with this convention walk. An alternate route is currently being planned just in case this walk is cancelled.

IML Texas Trail Roundup 2025

Special thanks the TTR planning committee, chaired by Kathy Schwencke and John Ives, and all AVA members and friends who visited San Antonio in support of our beloved Susan Medlin. This will be a very memorable and successful event. As of today, we have 152 registrants from nine countries!

Club Incident Reports – 3rd Quarter 2024

Two incident reports have been filed during the period of November 2024 – February 2025. One was in the Pacific Region and the other was in the Northwest Region. No claims were filed.

New, Inactive, Reactivated, Deactivated Clubs

New Clubs = 1

AVA – 0995 Smith Mountain Lake Walking Club AT Region 12/19/24

Reactivated Clubs = 0

Inactive Clubs = 0

Deactivated Clubs = 0

Total AVA Clubs = 174

AVA’s 50th Anniversary Alert!

Our 50th Anniversary is right around the corner! While there have been informal discussions about regional events, the AVA has not received any proposals for a coordinated national celebration. We also do not have a Chair for this event. If interested in helping us plan our anniversary, please contact henry@ava.org

II. FINANCE

Unaudited Year End Preliminary Financial Statements for January – December 2024

Prepared by Erin Grosso, Finance Director

Income:

- Both Year-Round/Seasonal and Traditional Participation Income increased in 2024 largely due to the increase in the walk fees.
- Lifetime Membership shows an increase due to new 2024 Lifetime Memberships and the accrual of past Lifetime Memberships deferred income. The AVA is “sunsetting” new Lifetime Memberships as of March 31, 2025.
- The Big Give brought in more than budgeted. With a lot of hard work, reaching out to friends, family and business partners, America’s Walking Club received \$96,123!
- A private donor gifted the AVA \$8000 towards the development of an AVA Walking APP.
- Investment Income also showed an increase over budget of \$12,100.

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Expenses:

- IT Services shows an increase due to expenses incurred due to AVA Walk APP research & development. The Restricted Donation covered these expenses.
- Financial Services was over budget due to amended 990 Tax Returns as a result of AVA receiving 2 IRS Employee Retention Credits in 2023.
- Utilities increased a bit due to the National Office's move and deposits required to set up at the new location.

For more information, please refer to the Year End financials on pages 8-12.

AVA Cash Account Balances 9.20.24

General Operating Account = \$6,905

Savings Account = \$466

Credit Card Account = \$980

Convention Account = \$38,805

OSB = \$15,090

Restricted Account = \$0

Total Cash in Bank = \$62,246

AVA Investments Account = \$375,683.49

III. FUND DEVELOPMENT

• **Status of the AVA's Inaugural 2025 Fundraising Cruise**

120+ walkers are headed to New Orleans!

\$6,200+ raised to support AVA so far!

Special Veteran's Day activities planned in New Orleans!

Hotels secured – all we need is YOU to join us!

Special thanks to Robert McDaniel, former AVA Deputy Director, for his ongoing efforts to support the AVA by organizing this fundraising event!

- **2025 Fall Festival Community Walk** – This fundraising event in partnership with Family Service is scheduled for October 2025. Details to follow.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Henry J. Rosales

President & CEO

AVA: America's Walking Club

February 12, 2025

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AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION INC
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

January through December 2024

PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS

	TOTAL			
	Jan - Dec 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
40000 · OPERATIONS REVENUE				
40100 · PROGRAM INCOME				
40110 · PARTICIPATION FEES				
40111 · YRE/SEASONAL EVENTS	142,772.50	136,884.00	5,888.50	104.3%
40112 · TRADITIONAL EVENTS	57,518.25	70,000.00	-12,481.75	82.17%
40114 · PPSF EVENTS	6,668.00	14,301.00	-7,633.00	46.63%
40115 · ACE EVENTS	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
40117 · ELEMENT 3 HEALTH	17,084.50	4,125.00	12,959.50	414.17%
Total 40110 · PARTICIPATION FEES	224,043.25	225,810.00	-1,766.75	99.22%
40210 · SANCTION FEES				
40211 · IVV YRE/SEASONAL EVENTS	49,434.00	47,385.00	2,049.00	104.32%
40212 · IVV TRADITIONAL EVENTS	9,140.00	12,070.00	-2,930.00	75.73%
40213 · AVA GUIDED EVENTS	1,710.00			
40215 · AVA ACE WEEKDAY GUIDED EVENTS	285.00			
Total 40210 · SANCTION FEES	60,569.00	59,455.00	1,114.00	101.87%
40250 · NATIONAL PROGRAM INCOME	1,905.00	2,500.00	-595.00	76.2%
40260 · SPECIAL PROGRAM INCOME	600.00	1,000.00	-400.00	60.0%
Total 40100 · PROGRAM INCOME	287,117.25	288,765.00	-1,647.75	99.43%
40300 · MEMBERSHIP INCOME				
40310 · LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP	24,435.00	8,000.00	16,435.00	305.44%
40320 · ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	8,160.00	7,575.00	585.00	107.72%
40330 · ASSOCIATE FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	5,520.00	5,890.00	-370.00	93.72%
40335 · GROUPEE SPONSORED WALKERS	-22.00			
Total 40300 · MEMBERSHIP INCOME	38,093.00	21,465.00	16,628.00	177.47%
40340 · CHARTER INCOME - NEW CLUB	225.00	200.00	25.00	112.5%
40345 · ANNUAL CLUB DUES	12,793.75	13,500.00	-706.25	94.77%
40350 · MERCHANDISE INCOME	19,202.45	15,000.00	4,202.45	128.02%
40360 · ADVERTISING INCOME	2,060.50	2,000.00	60.50	103.03%
40500 · FUND DEVELOPMENT REVENUE				
40510 · DONATIONS - UNRESTRICTED				
40511 · SUSTAINED GIVING DONATIONS	6,236.16			
40540 · BIG GIVE - DONATIONS	96,213.09			
40510 · DONATIONS - UNRESTRICTED - Other	4,859.18	90,000.00	-85,140.82	5.4%
Total 40510 · DONATIONS - UNRESTRICTED	107,308.43	90,000.00	17,308.43	119.23%
40520 · DONATIONS - RESTRICTED	8,000.00	1,000.00	7,000.00	800.0%
40550 · GRANTS	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	100.0%
40560 · SPONSORSHIPS	6,020.00	10,000.00	-3,980.00	60.2%
Total 40500 · FUND DEVELOPMENT REVENUE	126,328.43	106,000.00	20,328.43	119.18%
Total 40000 · OPERATIONS REVENUE	485,820.38	446,930.00	38,890.38	108.7%
40600 · SALES RETURNS & ALLOWANCES	0.00	-50.00	50.00	0.0%
40700 · CLUB / MEMBER DISCOUNTS	-2,729.43	-4,000.00	1,270.57	68.24%
40750 · CONVENTION 2025 INCOME	-30.00			
40756 · ANNUAL FUNDRAISER	3,333.00	5,000.00	-1,667.00	66.66%
40760 · LICENSING INCOME	7,030.00	7,000.00	30.00	100.43%
40770 · LEASE INCOME	1,012.00	2,000.00	-988.00	50.6%
40800 · INCOME-OTHER	3,009.00	6,000.00	-2,991.00	50.15%
40900 · INCOME-INTEREST & INVESTMENT	17,688.11	5,570.00	12,118.11	317.56%
Total Income	515,133.06	468,450.00	46,683.06	109.97%

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PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS

	TOTAL			
	Jan - Dec 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Cost of Goods Sold				
50000 · COST OF GOODS SOLD	6,955.75	13,500.00	-6,544.25	51.52%
Total COGS	6,955.75	13,500.00	-6,544.25	51.52%
Gross Profit	508,177.31	454,950.00	53,227.31	111.7%
Expense				
60000 · EXPENSES				
60500 · BANK/CREDIT CARD/ SERVICE CHGS	9,203.14	6,000.00	3,203.14	153.39%
60600 · CLUB DEVELOPMENT/SUPPORT	1,488.12	1,000.00	488.12	148.81%
60770 · CONVENTION 2025 EXPENSE	339.96	1,500.00	-1,160.04	22.66%
60780 · ANNUAL FUNDRAISER EXPENSE	3,008.59	3,000.00	8.59	100.29%
61000 · COMPUTER-SOFTWARE-WEBSITE EXP	3,767.57	2,500.00	1,267.57	150.7%
61500 · DEPRECIATION EXPENSE	362.14	3,000.00	-2,637.86	12.07%
62000 · EQUIPMENT				
62010 · EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	899.99	1,000.00	-100.01	90.0%
62020 · EQUIPMENT RENTAL	14,916.61	14,500.00	416.61	102.87%
Total 62000 · EQUIPMENT	15,816.60	15,500.00	316.60	102.04%
62500 · FUND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSE				
62570 · BIG GIVE EXPENSE	6,215.51			
62500 · FUND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSE - Other	1,529.00	3,500.00	-1,971.00	43.69%
Total 62500 · FUND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSE	7,744.51	3,500.00	4,244.51	221.27%
63200 · INSURANCE				
63210 · INSURANCE - GENERAL LIABILITY	23,973.18	24,000.00	-26.82	99.89%
63220 · INSURANCE - PROP/OFFICER LIAB.	6,850.92	3,700.00	3,150.92	185.16%
Total 63200 · INSURANCE	30,824.10	27,700.00	3,124.10	111.28%
63600 · IVV EXPENSE	2,476.24	2,800.00	-323.76	88.44%
64000 · MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS	5,956.96	6,000.00	-43.04	99.28%
64500 · MEMBERSHIP / PUBLICATIONS DUES	195.00	1,500.00	-1,305.00	13.0%
64800 · MISC. OPERATIONS EXPENSE	2,290.28	2,000.00	290.28	114.51%
65000 · BOD - TRAVEL & MEETING EXPENSES				
65210 · BOD - TRAVEL EXPENSE	913.49	3,000.00	-2,086.51	30.45%
65220 · BOD - REIMBURSEABLE EXPENSES	720.30	2,000.00	-1,279.70	36.02%
Total 65000 · BOD - TRAVEL & MEETING EXPENSES	1,633.79	5,000.00	-3,366.21	32.68%
65200 · NATIONAL OFFICE TRAVEL/ MGT EXP	1,628.67	2,000.00	-371.33	81.43%
65300 · NON-DEPREC ASSET PURCHASES	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
65600 · OFFICE REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	1,962.97	4,131.00	-2,168.03	47.52%
66000 · PAYROLL BENEFITS & WAGES				
66010 · PAYROLL BENEFITS	31,765.70	27,738.00	4,027.70	114.52%
66020 · WAGES - NATIONAL HQ STAFF	256,034.43	264,145.00	-8,110.57	96.93%
66030 · PAYROLL TAX	22,456.78	19,939.00	2,517.78	112.63%
Total 66000 · PAYROLL BENEFITS & WAGES	317,359.50	311,822.00	5,537.50	101.78%
66100 · POSTAGE				
66110 · POSTAGE - NATIONAL OFFICE	1,070.57	1,000.00	70.57	107.06%
66120 · POSTAGE - BOARD OF DIRECTORS	17.56			
66100 · POSTAGE - Other	58.90			
Total 66100 · POSTAGE	1,147.03	1,000.00	147.03	114.7%
66200 · PROFESSIONAL FEES				
66210 · IT SERVICE FEES	9,105.00	6,500.00	2,605.00	140.08%
66220 · LEGAL SERVICES	7,232.00	4,500.00	2,732.00	160.71%
66230 · FINANCIAL SERVICES	7,205.45	3,500.00	3,705.45	205.87%
66240 · STRATEGIC PLANNING SERVICES	1,500.00	2,500.00	-1,000.00	60.0%
Total 66200 · PROFESSIONAL FEES	25,042.45	17,000.00	8,042.45	147.31%
66300 · PROGRAM EXPENSE				
66310 · AWARD PROGRAM EXPENSE	6,618.68	5,000.00	1,618.68	132.37%

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PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS

TOTAL

	Jan - Dec 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
66320 · MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM EXPENSE	1,091.93	1,500.00	-408.07	72.8%
66330 · EVENT PROGRAM EXPENSE	2,139.24	1,000.00	1,139.24	213.92%
66380 · NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
66390 · SPECIAL PROGRAM EXPENSE	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Total 66300 · PROGRAM EXPENSE	9,849.85	8,600.00	1,249.85	114.53%
66700 · RENT	67,582.16	67,680.00	-97.84	99.86%
67000 · STAFF TRAINING	675.67	2,500.00	-1,824.33	27.03%
67100 · SUPPLIES - NATIONAL OFFICE	1,530.56	2,000.00	-469.44	76.53%
68100 · TAW EXPENSES	1,352.82	2,000.00	-647.18	67.64%
68150 · TAXES	153.25			
68200 · TELEPHONE & UTILITY	8,639.03	7,500.00	1,139.03	115.19%
Total 60000 · EXPENSES	522,030.96	507,483.00	14,547.96	102.87%
Total Expense	514,928.37	507,483.00	7,445.37	101.47%
Net Ordinary Income	-6,751.06	-52,533.00	45,781.94	12.85%
Net Income	-6,751.06	-52,533.00	45,781.94	12.85%

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	<u>Dec 31, 24</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · CASH ACCOUNTS	
10010 · CASH OPERATIONS TEXSTAR BANK	19,369.47
10020 · CREDIT CARD ACCT TEXSTAR BANK	8,438.02
10030 · SAVINGS ACCOUNT TEXSTAR	470.23
10040 · CONVENTION ACCOUNT TEXSTAR	1,417.17
10060 · PETTY CASH FUND	200.00
10070 · CASH REGISTER FUND	400.00
10090 · OSB ACCOUNT TEXSTAR	20,955.33
Total 10000 · CASH ACCOUNTS	<u>51,250.22</u>
10100 · INVESTMENTS - EDWARD JONES & CO	
10110 · MONEY MARKET EDWARD JONES & CO	375,683.49
Total 10100 · INVESTMENTS - EDWARD JONES & CO	<u>375,683.49</u>
Total Checking/Savings	426,933.71
Accounts Receivable	
10200 · ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	
10210 · ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE TRADE	5,834.87
10200 · ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - Other	-24.00
Total 10200 · ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	<u>5,810.87</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	5,810.87
Other Current Assets	
10300 · PRE PAID EXPENSES	
10320 · PRE PAID INSURANCE WORKMAN COMP	-308.90
10340 · PREPAID POSTAGE	929.30
10350 · PREPAID EQUIPMENT RENTAL	3,795.47
10355 · PREPAID CONVENTION 2025 EXPENSE	496.01
Total 10300 · PRE PAID EXPENSES	<u>4,911.88</u>
10380 · ACCRUED PARTICIPATION	
10381 · ACCRUED PARTICIPATION YRE	54,864.00
Total 10380 · ACCRUED PARTICIPATION	<u>54,864.00</u>
12000 · Undeposited Funds	4,296.75
12100 · Inventory Asset	-804.03
13000 · Security Deposit	3,500.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>66,768.60</u>
Total Current Assets	499,513.18
Fixed Assets	
10500 · FIXED ASSETS	
10510 · FURNITURE, FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT	67,607.85
10520 · ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION F,F&E	-67,969.99
Total 10500 · FIXED ASSETS	<u>-362.14</u>
Total Fixed Assets	-362.14
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>499,151.04</u>

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	Dec 31, 24
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20100 · ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	
20110 · ACCOUNTS PAYABLE - TRADE	5,612.96
Total 20100 · ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	5,612.96
Total Accounts Payable	5,612.96
Credit Cards	
20125 · TEXSTAR CREDIT CARD PAYABLE	4,445.04
Total Credit Cards	4,445.04
Other Current Liabilities	
20200 · PAYROLL LIABILITIES	
20210 · FICA WITHHOLDING PAYABLE	1,667.07
20220 · FIT WITHHOLDING PAYABLE	1,276.18
20230 · TEC PAYABLE	140.52
20200 · PAYROLL LIABILITIES - Other	-1,036.10
Total 20200 · PAYROLL LIABILITIES	2,047.67
20300 · OTHER LIABILITIES	
20330 · ACCRUED WAGES PAYABLE	16,486.91
20340 · ACCRUED VACATION & SICK PAY	15,273.35
20375 · DEFERRED OSB PARTICIPATION FEE	54,345.23
Total 20300 · OTHER LIABILITIES	86,105.49
25500 · SALES TAX PAYABLE	42.70
Total Other Current Liabilities	88,195.86
Total Current Liabilities	98,253.86
Long Term Liabilities	
20500 · LONG TERM LIABILITIES	
20510 · DEFERRED LIFE VAM MEMBERSHIP	-59,125.00
Total 20500 · LONG TERM LIABILITIES	-59,125.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	-59,125.00
Total Liabilities	39,128.86
Equity	
30000 · EQUITY	
30020 · PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS	66,401.50
30030 · RETAINED EARNINGS-CURRENT YEAR	1,447,128.28
30040 · RETAINED EARNINGS-PRIOR YEAR	-738,705.00
30000 · EQUITY - Other	227.80
Total 30000 · EQUITY	775,052.58
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	-300,845.09
Net Income	-14,185.31
Total Equity	460,022.18
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	499,151.04

This is the Governance Committee report and supplemental documents on recommended bylaws changes. This information will be sent in a separate email.

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AVA IT Committee Report

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Accomplishments

Strider Program No Longer Supported

1. Henry has announced and will indicate in the upcoming Checkpoint that the Strider program has been cancelled. However, the Grouper RSVP program will continue.
2. The TE participation data entry form has been changed to disable the entry of Strider participants for events occurring in 2025 and following years.
 - a. Note: Clubs who have already entered their TE participation for 2025 New Years Day events did **not** enter any Strider participants.
3. Below is an example of the top of the TE data entry form showing the changes to the descriptive text and the grayed-out **Strider** box with a value of "0" indicating it cannot be changed:

AVA-0776 Traditional Event Participation reporting

[Back to Participation Home](#)

* Each participant should be counted once as either Award, Credit/Paid, NonIVV, Guest, or ChildNoStamp. For further information on participation types and their use, including ChildNoStamp please click [HERE](#).
 Note: The Strider program has been discontinued for 2025 and following years.
 * A ChildNoStamp participant should be age 12 or less and not stamping.
 * Enter the number of AVA New Walker Packet (NWP) Coupons received.
 * A participant submitting an AVA NWP Coupon should also be counted as Award, Credit/Paid, NonIVV, or Guest. (Not a ChildNoStamp)
 * A zero or greater numeric value is required in each box before clicking Save.

Princeton, NJ - Welcome the New Year with two PAW walks SN: 127312 1/2/2025 - 1/2/2025 Traveling Guided Walk - Submitted: 2025-01-02	Award	Credit/Paid	NonIVV	Guest	Coupons
	0	3	0	0	0
	ChildNoStamp	Strider			
	0	0			Edit

Stockton, NJ - Bull's Island to Stockton Loop	Award	Credit/Paid	NonIVV	Guest	Coupons

4. After the 2024 YRE/SE Q4 Quarterly Participation data has been entered by all clubs, The YRE/SE data entry form will be changed to disable Strider data entry in a manner similar to that done for TE data entry form.

Resources and Special Programs Tabs

5. As per Henry's request, two tabs on **Find a...** page have renamed
 - a. The **Sp. Prog** tab has been renamed **Special Programs** and the **Documents** tab has been renamed **Resources**.
 - b. The **Graphics** tab has been removed to make room for the longer **Special Programs** tab. The page associated with the Graphics tab was never used. since it was never used.
6. Below is an image of the top of the revised **Find a...** page, <https://my.ava.org/find-an-event.php>:

Find an event

7. This "simple" renaming turned out to require some additional effort.
 - c. Various graphical elements (including tabs, section heads, etc.) in the form of .png files that are used by the my.ava.org website.

- d. These elements (.png files) are created using a PHP script that employs app/utility named, Inkscape.
- e. The .png files created by the PHP script are copied into specific directories on the my.ava.org website where they are accessed as needed for display on my.ava.org webpages.
- f. The PHP script was set up to run in a Linux environment on Chris Zegelin's PC.
- g. To create the new **Resources** and **Special Programs** graphical elements (png files), a new PHP script was created starting from a copy of the original script that was modified to
 - i. Run in a Windows environment,
 - ii. Using MS Visual Studio Code, and
 - iii. Using a Windows version of the Inkscape app.

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Proper Attribution for Event Direction Maps

1. An article was submitted for the upcoming Checkpoint titled. "Proper Attribution for Event Direction Maps".
 - a. The motivation for this article was due to the SE DRD pointing out the AVA Policy requirement for proper attribution of Copyrighted materials (typically maps) in event direction PDFs was not being followed in several updated OSB direction PDFs.
 - b. At the next AVA Board meeting I will point out that RD/DRDs, reviewing updated OSB event PDFs, need to check that the maps contain the proper attribution before approval.
2. Here is a link to this article:
<https://my.ava.org/files/tutorials/ProperAttributionForEventDirectionMaps.pdf>

OSB Stamp Stickers option instead of Insert Cards (Chris Z.)

1. A new feature is nearly completed to allow OSB users to generate stamp images on special label paper. (The same label paper as supported on the Club Stamps Cut and Paste page.)
2. The Stamp Stickers feature:
 - a. Supports printing insert card OSB stamp in a format appropriate for a label paper instead of the standard Insert Card format.
 - b. Supports printing stamp images starting at an entered label row and column. This allows for printing stamp images on partially used label paper.
3. This feature is in the final stages of testing and should be available in the near future.

2025 AVA Convention Online Registration (Jeff G.)

1. Online registration for the 2025 AVA Connection is up and running.
2. Users may pay by credit card or by mailing in a check.
3. The Full Convention package includes the 3 pre/post-convention walks that have been sanctioned as OSB Seasonal Walks.
4. Those who registered for the Full Convention package
 - a. will be sent an email on April 14th containing 3 links to direction PDFs for all pre/post-convention walks as well as links to 3 PDFs containing cut and paste stamps.
 - b. Should NOT use the OSB to register for these events, since their walking fees (\$12, 3 x \$4) were included in their Full Convention package,
 - c. No refunds will be given to those who choose to use the OSB to download event directions.

1,068 “Support” Emails Sent/Received in 2024

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1. During 2024, Mike G has sent/received 1,068 “Support” emails to AVA National Office staff, AVA Board Members, my.ava.org members and others.
2. Support emails are typically related to
 - a. How to use a current or new my.ava.org feature.
 - b. Approval of new/initial OSB direction PDFs.
 - c. Providing a remedy for a my.ava.org database issue that is not supported by an my.ava.org web interface.
 - d. Responding to my.ava.org “Contact Us emails
 - e. Sometimes forwarding emails to the AVA National Office Staff for resolution.
3. Support emails do **not** include:
 - a. Emails sent/received to/from Grouper and Henry in support of the RSVP and Strider programs.
 - b. Emails sent/received to/from Chris Z. related to my.ava.org SW bugs, feature improvements, and new features.
 - c. Emails related to IT Committee reports
 - d. Emails related to Special Programs or Club Challenges.
 - e. Emails related to my position as KSVVA Vice President
 - f. Emails in support of my local club and other clubs (typically converting PSB directions into OSB directions)

Ongoing Projects

Transfer of my.ava.org website from GoDaddy to Dreamhost

1. The completed initial steps to prepare for the move and the detailed plan to complete the move can be found at <https://nodegreen.com/ava-it/move.pdf>. (See previous IT Committee Report.)
2. Preliminary testing of **my.ava.org** PHP code using PHP V8.3 on **mx.ava.org** (in place of PHP V7.3) has revealed at least one major issue.
 - a. In PHP V8.3 fundamental string functions no longer accept “NULL” as a string input argument. Instead of in place of NULL, an empty strings, “” must be used.
 - b. All prior PHP versions allowed string functions to accept NULL or an empty string and it was common practice use NULL in place of empty strings for string initialization.
 - c. There are currently 1,290 instances of NULL in 170 PHP files
 - d. It is not a simple matter replace all instances of NULL with “” in the PHP code because NULL is often returned by other function in which case it is appropriate to check/test explicitly for NULL.
 - e. At this time, it seems each instance of NULL has to be individually assessed as to whether it is appropriate to change that instance to “”.
3. It was originally planned to shut down the my.ava.org server for 2 days in Mid-November to move the my.ava.org website (code and database) from GoDaddy to Dreamhost.
4. At this time, it appears that this shutdown and move will need to be delayed until **Late-February 2025**,

Using Event Bank to Pay for New or Renewed AVA Associate Memberships

1. At this time, a different approach is being considered.
2. This new approach would make use of the code developed for Convention registration to provide an entry form and credit card payment for new or renewal of AVA Memberships.

Uploading AVA Events to the IVV Online System

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1. The issues mentioned in previous IT Committee reports still exist.
2. This project is on hold until these issues have been addressed by the IVV SW team.
3. Once the issues have been addressed and final approval by Henry has been obtained, 2025 AVA YRE/SE/TE event information will be uploaded to the IVV online site.

Import of TE stamp data for Years Prior to 2018

1. To support looking up TE event information for the years prior to 2018 requires stamp number data to be imported into my.ava.org database.
2. The stamp number (not the year) on TE stamps prior to 2018 were assigned and tracked in an EXCEL spreadsheet separate from the event database.
3. Unfortunately, not every year's stamp data was entered using the same format.
4. An AVA IT member has been assigned to re-format this data into a single consistent format so that the information can be easily imported into a my.ava.org database table.
5. No progress to report.

Import of Event data for Years Prior to 2005

1. The MS Access database tables (in MDB format) for events (TE/YRE/SEs) in the years 1981 through 1999 have been located. Some effort is still required to archive this data into a MySQL database table on my.ava.org.
2. At this time, database files for the years 2000 through 2004 have yet to be located and are assumed to be lost.
3. With some significant manual effort, the event data from 2000 through 2004 Starting Point books could be extracted into EXCEL spreadsheets that could then be uploaded and archived on my.ava.org.
4. No progress to report.

Escalations

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RD/DRDs - Help Keep Our Sanctions Policy Compliant and Up-to-date

1. Map Attributions:
 - a. RD/DRD, when approving updated OSB PDFs, need to check maps for the proper attributions as described in a recent checkpoint article:
<https://my.ava.org/files/tutorials/ProperAttributionForEventDirectionMaps.pdf>
 - b. Feel free to send the above link to clubs who have maps with no attribution.
2. Aged Event Changes but not published (nor submitted for State/RD approval)
 - a. Every Friday, background task inspects the my.ava.org event buffer for approved sanctions actively being “Edited”,
 - i. Edited is case means changed and saved.
 - ii. When an edited sanction is “Published” by clicking on “Public (make public)” button on the event’s review page, causes
 1. All changes are applied to the active, publicly viewable sanction and
 2. The sanction in question to be removed from the event buffer.
 - b. The weekly Friday event buffer inspection collects a list of events that have saved changes (but unpublished) that are older than 6 days.
 - c. Then the club POC is determined for each event and an email is sent to each club POC (not event POC) listing those events sponsored by his club that are unpublished and aged (older than 6 days). The RDs, for these events, are also sent a copy of each POC email. Below is for example the title from a recently sent out email.

AVA-0015 Events with Unpublished Changes (Sent to hhhpresident@houstonhappyhikers.com)
 - d. RD’s should inspect these emails and in particular follow up with clubs that have unpublished changes that are more than 12 days old

Tutorials and Videos Needed

3. At this time, there is **no** online tutorial or video available on ava.org or my.ava.org that describes for a new walker how to use an AVA club’s physical walk boxes nor how to obtain, stamp, and send in IVV Event and Distance books.
 - a. On the legacy ava.org website there is an old, outdated page that is not available to the public:
https://cb.ava.org/Lets_Get_Started.php
 - b. A volunteer is needed to provide an updated version of this page that would be posted on the ava.org website as well as possibly create a video of how Volkssporters use a Physical Start Box.
4. A volunteer is needed to create a video of how Volkssporters use the OSB that would, more or less, follow the tutorial, https://my.ava.org/find-a-tutorial.php?OSB_register_complete



**AMERICA'S
WALKING CLUB**
— ESTABLISHED 1978 —

Agenda Item _____

**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FOR THE: AVA App Committee

FOR THE: February 18, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

FROM: Jeffrey Giddings AVA App Committee Chair

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 1. Request For Quote, Non Disclosure Agreements, and Requirements Document sent out to multiple app developers; Majestyk, Kwanso, Code District, and Broad Minded Media.
- 2. Have held a telecon with Majestyk to answer questions with regards to the RFQ/

ACTIVITIES:

- 1. Telecons and emails to answer questions.

CONCERNS:

- 1. The schedule for app development is moving to the right.
- 2. Indications of the quoted price for development will be in the seven figure range for the full development. This can be mitigated by doing development in phases, with subsequent phase development being funded from proceeds of previous releases.
- 3. Very little work has been done to garner support from clubs.
- 4. Very little work has been done to convert written trail instructions into map format for the app.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None

Additional Material:

None



**AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

FOR THE Programs Committee

FOR THE (Date): February 5, 2025 _____ BOARD MEETING

FROM (Name): Diane Howell Evans

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The new 2025 Special Programs “Walking With the Wild Things” and “Grain Elevators: Monarchs of the Plains” began January 1, 2025.

ACTIVITIES:

The Committee accepted a Special Program proposal from the Falcon Wanderers Volkssport Club of Colorado Springs, CO, offering to host a special program celebrating two 2026 major anniversaries: America’s 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776, and AVA’s Golden 50th Anniversary of our organization’s first walk on June 12-13, 1976. Fact: the first AVA walking event held in Fredericksburg, TX, also celebrated America’s Bicentennial Anniversary. The Committee is currently assisting the Falcon Wanderers with updated proposal details for final approval.

Several articles were submitted for the January and February 2025 Checkpoints:

- January 2025 Checkpoint
 - Multi-Day Events (Fests) – summary article on how clubs can create entries in the calendar for their upcoming Fests.
 - Special Program Deadlines of 12/31/25 for purchasing “Rails-to-Trails”, “Lighthouses II” and “Par for the Course” challenge books; and redeeming “Border Crossings” and “City Hall/Town Hall” challenge books.
 - Search for Special Programs beginning in 2027.
- February 2025 Checkpoint
 - Sighting of qualifiers on annual road trip for new 2025 “Grain Elevators: Monarchs of the Plains” and “Walking With the Wild Things.”
 - Repeat of January articles for Special Program Deadlines of 12/31/2025 and search for 2027 special program proposals.

Participated in the January 15th AVA Monthly Webinar with Jerry Wilson. Committee Chair described the new 2025 Special Programs as well as the other current Special Programs, the search for new 2027 special programs and the reasoning behind the strict timeline due to interaction between the Programs, IT and Publicity Committees and their associated task deadlines.

Committee is still developing a final timeline for various deadlines such as special program proposals, Checkpoint and TAW articles, Starting Point entries/updates, OSB updates to events for inclusion of new special programs, etc. Final timeline will be submitted to the other Operation Committees for review.

Committee is still developing and re-organizing special programs into specific categories such as challenge books managed by Headquarters, challenge books offered by IVV Americas and Oceania, long-term challenges, etc.

Committee is still finalizing a list of Regional and State Association challenges for addition to the AVA website for those walkers interested in additional challenges.

CONCERNS:

Possibility of the lack of proposals for new 2027 Special Programs due to aging population, loss of club members/manpower, member health issues, and financial stability of clubs to sponsor a Special Program.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None at this time.

Please attach any additional documents that are part of your report.