



Tour de las Misiones Walk - The vanguard of the Volkssporters at the beginning of the walk. - Photo submitted by Martin Callahan

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CHECKPOINT

WWW.AVA.ORG

\$95,109.85 RAISED! THANKS AND THANKS AGAIN!

You deserve every thank you for your generosity and kindness. The Big Give 2021 has officially come to an end, and thanks to you, this year's annual fundraiser was another BIG success. With your help, the AVA raised a total of **\$95,109.85**, meeting and surpassing our \$90,000 goal. **521** donors opened their hearts and left their footprint during this year's campaign; **107** alone were first-time Big Give donors! We couldn't have done it without you. Thank you for your support and your desire to help the AVA succeed. Your gift will change lives!

Below is a donor breakdown of our Big Give 2021 fundraising campaign. Stay tuned for more Big Give updates to come! We will be announcing this year's Regional Challenge winner and our Big Giveaway prize winners. And don't forget to MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The Big Give 2022 will be changing the format. The dates will be **6 PM on Thursday, September 22 through 6 PM on Friday, September 23.**

\$95, 109.85 RAISED

Thank You!

Donor Break Down	2021	
	Number of Donors	Amount Raised
Online Individual Donors	259	\$26,954.21
Online Club Donors	21	\$5,200
Peer-to-Peer Donors	68	\$6,085
Mailed Individual Donations	78	\$7,247
Mailed Club Donations	54	\$8,170.50
Big Give Prize Money	1	\$2,625
Total	481	\$56,281.71
Match Breakdown		
Individual Match	2	\$10,500
Current Board of Directors & Deputy Directors	16	\$16,073
Former Board of Directors & Deputy Directors	18	\$9,705.44
Private Sector/Businesses	4	\$2,550
Grand Total	521	\$95,109.85

New Donors
2021 - 107 New Donors (2 New Club Donor; 21 Peer-to-Peer; 84 Individuals)

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AVA BOARD MEETING NOTICE

The AVA Board of Directors will convene for their quarterly meeting on

Wednesday, November 10, at 7:00 p.m. Central Time.

To view the meeting Agenda [click here](#).

This will be an electronic Teams meeting.

To join the meeting please [click here](#) or in the link in the Club help pdf. [Click here for Club help pdf](#). If you would like a calendar invite with link please email Hector.

AVA PRIVACY POLICY AND COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

Protecting the information of our members is a priority at the AVA. Please note we do not save any credit card information when merchandise is purchased. We also do not collect the following personal information. Clubs should not be collecting this information either.

DO NOT COLLECT:
Date of Birth
Social Security Number
Driver's License Number

If your club has collected this information, destroy it immediately and do not collect it anymore.

Any other personally identifiable information you collect on club members must be kept in a secure place and cannot be shared without approval of the individual whose information you want to share.

The AVA will never solicit personal or credit card information via an email or social media. For more information on the AVA's Privacy Policy, information we do collect, and Opting Out of sharing your information please [click here](#).

2023 IVV OLYMPIAD UPDATES

If you would like to share a story with us about your Olympiad experience, we would love to publish it on Facebook and in the TAW. Please send your stories to scoutpjwriter@gmail.com and put Olympiad Story on the subject line.

Olympiad Facebook Page!

Please go to www.facebook.com/2023IVVOlympiadUSA and "like" us! Invite your volkssporting friends and fellow club members to like us. Help us build awareness and excitement as we move towards 2023! Look for the latest on the joint Olympiad/IML events and answers to questions you may have.

Olympiad Planning Volunteers Are Still Needed! We are continuing to recruit volunteers for our planning team(s) – with sub-committees being formed now in areas such as large-event planning, logistics, transportation, finance, opening/closing ceremonies, marketing & publicity, social media, and cultural/language skills.

Some of the work can only be done locally in San Antonio, but there are many tasks already being worked on by volunteering across the AVA through the magic of online/distributed work processes. We are using e-mail, Zoom, MS Teams and Dropbox.

If you want to be a part of it, please contact us at olympiad2023@ava.org



Upcoming AVA/IML/IVV Events. We need clubs, State Organizations and Regional Directors, to keep us informed about upcoming multi-event weekends, State or Regional Conferences where you'd like to have information about the Olympiad. Our committee can provide the STD cards and (in future) other products; and we can send a team or "zoom" in with a short presentation on the event.

To order STD cards for your organization or event – contact us at olympiad2023@ava.org

ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST - MARIAN DEVAUL

2022 CENTURION ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE

The 2022 program begins January 1, 2022. You must be an AVA Associate Member (annual or lifetime) to participate in the Challenge. Eligible participants may register for the 2022 Challenge between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022 using the official registration form. Please mail forms to AVA, 1008 S. Alamo St, San Antonio, TX 78210, or e-mail to marian@ava.org.

[Click here for instructions.](#)

[Click here for form.](#)

FINANCIAL AND CLUB OFFICER UPDATES

If your club's fiscal year ends on June 30th, the following updates and financial documents are due to the National Office by November 15th, 2020:

- E-post card must be filed with the IRS and a copy provided to AVA HQ.
- Club's Annual Financial Report is due to the AVA HQ.
- Update of Officers Information in the ESR must be completed by each club.

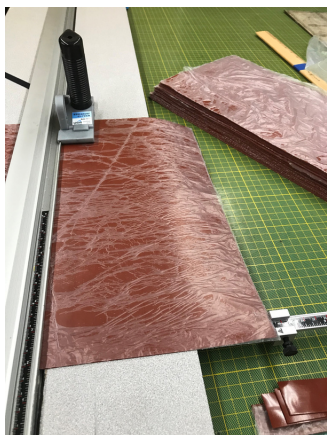
If you club's fiscal year ends on December 31st, the required updates and financial documents are due to the National Office by May 15th, 2021

IT SPECIALIST - HECTOR HERNANDEZ

CLUB BANNER UPDATE

The second batch has been ordered. We have 40 banners currently in the making. I am working on Club logos to get them up to printing standards so that you can get a fresh looking banner. I hope to have them ready and ordered soon.

"The Tahoe Trail Trekkers love our new flag! Thanks AVA!" - Photo submitted by Judy Gordon



STAMPS AND BOOKS

The 2022 stamp process has begun and the Starting Point Books have been ordered. Please make sure your mailing addresses are up to date so there are no packages getting lost. Stamps and handles for 2022 YRE's and Seasonal events will be mailed by the first week of December. If you need an extra handle in addition to the one handle that comes with a new sanctioned event, please email Hector at hector@ava.org with the name of your club and the number of extra handles you require. Please remember, free handles go out for new Year Round and Seasonal events. Extra handles cost \$9. If you have further questions email hector@ava.org.

STARTING POINT PHOTO CONTEST

Thank you, everyone, for your submissions to the Starting Point Photo Contest this year. We had a fair amount of submissions this year. The Publicity Committee carefully reviewed all submissions and a final decision has been made. Congratulations to Joanne Izbicki a member of Walk'n Mass Volkssport Club from Lexington, MA for winning 1st place and the front cover position with her submission. Her photo features the "East Bay Bike Path Seasonal Walk on the Bristol RI that gives walkers views of Narragansett Bay and stunning skylines". Our 2nd place winner is Jane Holmes a member of the Keystone State Volkssport Assn. and Four Plus Foolhardy Folks Club from Port Ludlow, WA. Her "Mt. Rainier Naches Peak Loop trail (seasonal YRE), group walk with the Four Plus Foolhardy Folk AVA club" photo will be displayed on the back cover of the issue. The National Office would like to thank all who submitted their amazing photos for consideration.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE - CARL CORDES, CHAIR

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

I am in search of a couple volunteers from different regions that would like to serve. We are responsible for coordinating and implementing procedures that facilitate the nomination and distribution of awards for clubs, individuals and organizations through the National Executive Council and Executive Director. The committee works in partnership using email and electronic meeting sessions, if needed. Please email me at pa_rd@ava.org if interested and include a brief summary of positions you may have held at club, state or national level. Current committee members are from the Atlantic, Pacific and Northwest regions.

IT COMMITTEE - CHRIS ZEGELIN, MY.AVA.ORG DEVELOPER

A NEW RAW SANCTION TEXT CAPABILITY ON MY.AVA.ORG.

As I add features to 'my.ava.org', some of the legacy system features will disappear. Unfortunately I have no way to know if those features were in fact used, or were simply artifacts that can be ignored. I need to hear from you about these features. How do you use them and for what purpose. I can't promise to restore all requests, and I certainly can't spend endless hours trying to make something work that is incompatible with the new system.



Photo submitted by Sarah Garcia.



Cheryl Thompson, Maria Ruff, JoAnn and Johnie Laredo stop for a picture in front of the Confederate Monument to the soldiers killed during the Civil War.-Photo submitted by Martin Callahan

One such feature was the ability to 'select and paste' the sanction into an email or a document. The new PDF files and web pages make 'select and paste' more complex and beyond the comfort level of many users. This feature has been restored, but in a way that works on the new design. Security concerns require that this raw sanction text be available only to those who have access to the club account.

Login to 'my.ava.org', then click to go to your club account. Click on 'Sanctions', then 'Sanctions' again. This will give you a list of all approved sanctions for your club. The new 'select and paste' feature is the 'Text' button. Click it and the sanction text will be copied into your systems clipboard. You can then paste it where you need it, and edit as necessary.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE CHAIR - TIM MINER

MONTHLY WEBINARS CONTINUE THIS MONTH WITH AMERICA WALKS!

Join us for a conversation with Ian Thomas, State and Local Program Director, America Walks, as we continue planning for a closer partnership between America Walks and the AVA. Explore how America Walks Advocacy groups can match up with local clubs to help volunteer and build capacity of organizations.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: November 17, 2021 08:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/joining/register/tZlkcemhpjItHtyX8ZUL_NyRkYbnRvNWpyV4

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

WALKING ON THE CLOUDS



One of our long-distance club members, Dannie Peters, passed away on October 25, 2021. Our club extends its condolences and heart-felt wishes of support to his wife, Ellen. Dan's home club was the Prairie Wanderers of South Dakota. He was a past Regional Director and president of the Prairie Wanderers for many years. He was a strong Volkswalk advocate and attended many of our walks.

The obituary can be found here: <https://www.dkfuneralhome.com/obituary/dannie-peters>

SUPPORT OUR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS

NATIONAL EVENTS

MAC 2022 CHAIR - DAWN GRUBER

2022 MID-AMERICA REGIONAL CONFERENCE

I am happy to announce that we finally have all our ducks in a row and can begin taking reservations for the 2022 Mid-America Regional Conference at any time! Attached is the Event Brochure, including Registration Form (paper copies are available - please send an email request with your mailing address and one will be put in the mail). Luckily, we have not had to increase our prices from the original date in 2020. The award will be a 4" embroidered patch; but we still have the 2020 two-sided colored commemorative coins available for purchase.

Below is the link for the Marriott and the MAC2022 Room Block, to ensure you receive the correct room rates. We will be having an activity Thursday evening, which is why the start date says Thursday. You do not have to register for Thursday night, if you are not planning to attend that activity.



Mid-America Regional Conference

MAC2022

June 17 - 19, 2022

Dayton, Ohio

Click image to see brochure.

The MAC2022 Committee is excited to finally get to share our fun and interesting walks and activities with everyone! We hope to have a great turn out.

Any other questions, please send them to this email address and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

For those people needing KOA/RV accommodations, we have a list available that can be sent, but please request that by sending a message to this email address.

Book your group rate for MAC 2022 Room Block <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1634129603299&key=GRP>

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Click on image to go to the official website.



Penticton, British Columbia, Canada May 27-29, 2022
We hope you will “Come Walk with Us, Visit with Us, Eat with Us and Enjoy a Fantastic Weekend of Fun, Fitness and Friendship”
Register now and see you soon.

Checkpoint Available Via Email to All Club Members Who Request It

To receive an electronic copy of the Checkpoint send your request to Hector at hector@ava.org. Please note on the subject line: Request for Checkpoint.



The American Volkssport Association

The Mission of AVA is to promote and organize noncompetitive physical fitness activities that encourage lifelong fun, fitness, and friendship for all ages and abilities.



1008 S Alamo St · San Antonio, TX 78210, Phone 210.659.2112 · Fax 210.659.1212 [Message US](#).