

ESVA Board of Directors Annual Meeting
April 26, 2025
WA. Assoc. for Sheriffs and Police Chiefs conference room
3060 Willamette Drive NE #200
Lacey, Washington

1. **Call to Order** – President Todd Oberlander called the meeting to order at 2:03pm PST. In attendance in addition to the President, were: Pam Greig-Davis, Vice President; Chase Davis, Treasurer; Dennis Standridge, Eastern AC and LCV rep; Joe Blazek, Central AC; Sandi Severtsen, NW AC, NWTT rep, SSVC rep (and ESVA substitute secretary); Mike Nagan, Central Puget Sound AC and ECW Pres; Bonnie Tucker, South Puget Sound AC; Burt Paynter, SW AC; Sharon Moats, NW Regional Director; Ed Hainline, NW Deputy Regional Director; David Black (CVC rep); Joe Blazek (CWSS rep); Cheryl Patterson (DVVA Alt. Rep); Rosemarie Hirsch (EW Pres); Lisa Robertson (FSFW rep); Pat Campbell (4+ Foolhardy Folks rep); Irene Stanford (ITVC Pres); Diane Wagner (NWPC rep); Todd Oberlander (OPE rep); Burt Paynter (VUSAV rep); Guest include Pat Jewett, incoming Deputy Director; Sandy Dunterman, DVVA. Absent were Sherry Ogur, Challenge Committee Chair; Diane Howell Evans, ESVA secretary; International Wanderers, and Sea-Tac VC.
2. **Attendance Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum** – Sandi Severtsen
A quorum established for the meeting.
3. **Welcome to Members and Guests** – Todd welcomed all in attendance for the meeting. He thanked Sharon Moats and Ed Hainline for their four years of dedication as Regional and Deputy Directors. He also welcomed Sandi Severtsen and Pat Jewett as the incoming Regional and Deputy Directors. Applause followed.
4. **Vote on Acceptance of January 21st EC Meeting Minutes** – Joe Blazek moved to accept the January 21st EC meeting minutes and Burt Paynter seconded the motion. Approved.
5. **Treasurer's Report/Update of Current Budget** – Chase Davis made note that an error was made and reversed when a charge for patches that was ordered by Capitol Volkssport Club had been debited to ESVA Treasurer credit card. He reported a FY Balance of \$11,569.75.
6. **VP's Report/Update on Walk Review Program** – Pam Greig-Davis reported that the Walk Review Program is up and running. When clicking into the "ESVA YRE Review form – FILL OUT ONLINE!", users are directed to a page that is link to Olympic Peninsula Explorers webpage. This is a temporary location, until such time that ESVA website link is fixed. In the meantime, this is a valid form for ESVA. The 2024 Walk Review Challenge have 82 walks review, with 12 people submitting reviews. The qualifying winners were Chase Davis (\$100) and Joe Blazek (\$75). The 2025 Walk Review contest started April 1st, and ends September 30th. The two highest submissions can win \$75 and \$50. After that, even if you submit 1 review, your name can be pulled out of a drawing for one of two \$25 prizes.
7. **Challenge Committee Report** – Pam Greig-Davis reported that 5 walkers have completed "Tell Me a Story" challenge. Typically, 100 books are purchased for ESVA challenges. This challenge has already met its costs and is in the black. Discussion included the Challenge Committee selecting new ESVA challenges prior to the renewal of YREs for 2026 and were patches something walkers were still interested in receiving.
8. **Area Coordinator Reports** –
 - a. Eastern Region #1 – Dennis Standridge reported that Lilac City Volkssport Association invites you to the Bloomsday Event in Spokane on May 5th. Registration is available at Aunties' Bookstore. Virtual registration is available at their OSB. LCVA is celebrating it's 40th!
 - b. Central Region #2 – Joe Blazek reported that the Kalaloch Beach Walk Y3321 has an alternate start, due to trail washout. Also, the Tree of Life was damaged due to King Tides, and will be removed. Ohanapecosh YRE is closed due to major construction. Mark your calendars for

October 2nd-8th for Autumn in Leavenworth and Beyond, sponsored by Central Washington Sunstriders and Interlaken Trailblazers VC. Three bike rides will be available.

c. NW Area Coordinator #3 – Sandi Severtsen

- i. Sound Steppers has been working on their traditional event for Saturday, June 14th, starting at the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center, 6001 236th St SW #1, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043, USA. The start table will be open from 9:00-10:30am. For those driving, parking is available at the park and ride lot. Weekly walks every Thursday at 9:00am, when they support their walks and other clubs' walks. Starting in August, lunch/meetings will be held in person, every other month, at various locations after walks. The club is excited about starting this new process.
- ii. Olympic Peninsula Explorers are busy wrapping up the groundwork for three walks of the Triangle of Fire events for Memorial Day weekend, May 23-26th. Starting Point for all walks on all days, is at Haines Place Park & Ride in Pt. Townsend. Group walks for 5k and 10K are available at 10:00am on Friday, May 23rd for Ft. Flagler; Saturday, May 24 for Ft. Worden; and Sunday, May 25 for Ft. Casey. Also, someone will be at Ft. Flagler and at Keystone Ferry each day from 8:30am-1:00pm. The Sequim John Wayne Marina Walk is being updated to something more scenic and interesting. Hurricane Ridge is still open for snowshoeing before it switches over to walking (probably June) - the park is now open daily. OPE will be hosting their sister club from Victoria on Labor Day on a weekend exchange - More info later. Mark your calendar for October 11th, for Port Angeles Dungeness Crab Fest Walk and the October ESVA meeting.
- iii. On Saturday, September 13th, NW Tulip Trekkers will host an historical and beautiful walk in Sedro Woolley. You'll be walking on 800 acres of the former grounds of the once Northern State Mental Hospital, which closed in 1976. The walk will take walkers past the abandoned mental institution, the barns that once held cattle, a cannery, community church, an unmarked graveyard, a gathering social place and so much more. NWTT uses Facebook and Meetup for information on walks which are posted every Saturday, starting at 10:00am. May walks include Lynden, Chanterelle Trail, Fairhaven, and Lake Padden. They will cancel walks if there are less than 5 walkers. Please consider signing up on Meetup so they will know numbers.

d. Central Puget Sound Region #4 - Mike Nagan thanked Sharon Moats and Ed Hainline for all they have done for Volkssporting. Heavy applause followed! He also welcomed incoming Regional Director Sandi Severtsen and Deputy Director Pat Jewett. Mike reported that weekly club walks are very popular in this area, and becoming a crucial part of volkswalking.

- i. Interlaken Trailblazers along with the Sun Striders are working on their October 2-5 event for the Autumn Walks in Leavenworth, Wellington, and Lake Wenatchee. Four new walks, bike rides, and a lunch social will be a part of the event. These events will be open until the 8th.
- ii. FS Family Wanderers next big event is September 20th at Redmond, Wandering in the Watershed. Registration is 9-11:00am. Early arrival is recommended due to limited parking. FSFW downtown walk has been modified to start at the YMCA, and is a must walk for everyone. They are continuing their Thursday morning club walks.
- iii. Emerald City Wanderers next event is the Bee Festival in Seattle's High Point on May 17. After that comes the July 4 Independence Day event – at Discovery Park this year. And – route will not require going down to the beach and the long grind back up! Continuing their weekend club walks, generally alternating Saturdays and Sundays.
- iv. Four Plus Foolhardy Folks big event next Saturday, May 2nd on beautiful Samish Island. Enjoy a scenic walk, and then stop at Bow for a sandwich!!! Their Tuesday Trekkers group continues.

v. Sea-Tac President Fran Carsen is at the convention.

e. South Sound Region #5 - Bonnie Tucker

i. Capitol Volkspoint Club challenge books are now writing in walks, instead of using stickers (current book is "Colorful Doors"). They have successfully sold 131 Wild Things which is an AVA program. A second person is now trained to produce stickers. Upcoming walks: Starting 15 April-2 Sept—Tuesday Night Walks—twice a month; registration 5:45, walk at 6:00, Sat, 26 Apr—Hawks Prairie Walk; Staircase hike sanctioned as Seasonal Event for July-Sept. Group Hike scheduled for August.

ii. Evergreen Wanderers is considering a traditional event August 2nd, possibly at Farrell's Marsh. Tacoma-Ruston event had about 71 walkers—beautiful day, but lots of road construction and Daffodil parade to conflict

f. Southwest Region #6 - Burt Paynter reported that Vancouver USA VC is a healthy club with Wednesday group walks well attended with the help of Meetup. July 4th is the next traditional walk. At one time, they had 1,000 walkers, now they have 100.

9. **RD Report** – Sharon Moats presented guidelines for approval for the 2026 download of new walks on ava.org:

- a. All maps must have attributes listed
- b. Please review each PDF before uploading
- c. 5k should be on one sheet
- d. Check the Trailmaster Guide for parameters

10. **Ongoing and Unfinished Business**

- a. Scam/Spam Emails – Todd Oberlander addresses issues with false emails that look like they are from him. He would never ask for money. Please check the email address or call him to confirm if you have questions.
- b. 2025 Winter Walk Challenge Contest Drawing – Ed Hainline reported 27 participants (two of whom were first timers), and participated in a total of 719 walks. The draw revealed the following winners: \$100 Jane Clark, \$75 Rosemary Hirsch, \$50 Jim Elder, and \$25 Mike Nagan. Congratulations to these winners, and thank you to all who have participated in this event. Thank you, Ed, for coordinating this wonderful event!

11. **New Business**

- a. Correspondence – none
- b. Announcements – none
- c. NW Pathfinder – Chase Davis reported that the Pathfinder Club will be closing by June 30th. This means that volume 10, Issue 6 of The Northwest Pathfinder newsletter has issued its' last walking guide. A special notice on page 3 of The Pathfinder May/June issue, explains that declining membership and increased cost have made this happen. Cost for \$14.00 membership needed to be increased to \$66.00 yearly, which would have been a 371% increase. A generous donation in previous years, helped to support publishing, which has been in the red for several years. A question was brought up regarding any reimbursement for those who paid in. Chase explained that to avoid complication of taxes in both Washington and in Oregon, the Pathfinder Club was created to support this publishing. In the future, ESVA will continue to post accomplishments. AVA accepts Meetups and Facebook for advertisements of walks. Brochures can be created via my.ava.org for walks (see Events then Traditional or Seasonal or YRE then D'load info on PDF). Also, ESVA online has listing of all sanctioned events (see esva.online, walking events, upcoming traditional events, then calendar so event can be listed on your personal calendar.)

- d. **Schedule of EC and BOD Meeting Locations, Dates, and Times** – Todd scheduled the following:
- i. July 2025 Executive Board Meeting on July 15th at 7:00pm, Board Meeting on July 17th at 7:00pm
 - ii. October 2025 Executive Board Meeting with Board Meeting following, at the Crab Fest in Port Angeles, sponsored by OPE, on October 11th at 1:00pm
 - iii. January 2026 will be a zoom
 - iv. April 2026 will be in Lacey

12. **Adjournment** – meeting adjourned at 3:06pm

Respectfully submitted by Sandi Severtsen
(substitute for Diane Howell Evans)

Reviewed,
Todd Oberlander
ESVA President