



# NW Regional AVA News and Information for

## Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, & Washington

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*(picture on the State Capitol steps with Pat and Sandi)*



#5 NW Regional News 1/2/2026

Hello Northwest Walkers!

It's the start of a new year, full of promises, hopes, and dreams, and lots of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Many clubs have already been scheduling weekend events on the Future Events List (FEL). Check it out and make plans to attend!

### CELEBRATING 50 YEARS IN ASTORIA, OREGON:

If you haven't heard already, 2026 is AVA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. They are celebrating throughout the United States with 17 walking events. All the Regional/Deputy directors are busy, making these travel adventures worth your while. Mark your calendar for September 24-27, 2026 when the NorthWest will celebrate in Astoria, OR at the Regional Conference; "Walking in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark." The Oregon Trails State Volkssport Association will feature daily walks, meet and greets, and a dinner. Located at the mouth of the Columbia River at the Pacific Ocean, Astoria is Oregon's oldest city, and the first permanent U.S. settlement west of the Rockies. More information in future newsletters regarding the walks and socials.

### JANUARY 21st, AVA WEBINAR at 5:00PM PST:

AVA will host a webinar on "How to get New Members and Retain Them". The panel will present how each reached out to potential members and how they kept them interested in their clubs. Although this webinar is open to all, the intended audience is club leadership and those interested and/or willing to help grow their club and retain members. Look for zoom information in the January 2026 CheckPoint.

### CHALLENGES FOR 2026: (see attached sheet)

Sometimes, taking a walk on the same trails can be a little repetitive. How about making it more interesting, by looking for a challenge along the way? Information and ordering can be done with these links: [AVA challenge books](#) , [ESVA challenge books](#), and [OTSVA challenge books](#).

**MEET-UP CONTACTS:** Are you looking for a group to enjoy your volkssport activities with? Check out these meet-up groups for their schedules. If you are traveling to another area of our state(s) you may want to join in with a group:

### **Washington**

North Puget Sound: <http://www.meetup.com/walkers-574/>

South Puget Sound: <http://www.meetup.com/south-sound-walkers/>

NW WA, Olympic Peninsula, Kitsap Peninsula: <https://www.meetup.com/nw-washington-and-olympic-and-kitsap-peninsula-walkers/>

### **Oregon**

Portland and SW Washington: <http://www.meetup.com/Walking-Oregon-and-SW-Washington/>

Willamette Valley and Mid-Coast Walkers: <http://www.meetup.com/Willamette-Valley-and-Mid-Coast-Walkers/>

### **GOOD NEWS:**

- For traditional walks, you can easily find them with this link, and then click on "update": <https://my.ava.org/Regional-Te-List.php?time=month&rsel=NW>
- All walks are listed on the attached Future Events Calendar.

Until next time, see you on the trail!

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