

**CALIFORNIA VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 11, 2013  
Dana Point, California**

**Draft**

**Draft**

**Call to Order:** President Jay LaCroix called the annual meeting of the California Volkssport Association to order at 1:10. He thanked the host clubs, Low Desert Roadrunners and Green Valley Gaiters and particularly their convention committee, for putting on a wonderful event.

**Introduction of Officers:** President LaCroix introduced the officers: Vice President-North Wayne Holloway, Vice President-Central Phil Jones, Vice President-South John Cappello, Treasurer Jan Simmons and Secretary Georgie Reed. Two national officers from California were introduced as well: AVA Vice President Holly Pelking and Pacific Area Regional Director Wayne Holloway.

**Report on Members Present/Absent; Quorum:** 14 clubs and 6 officers are represented, constituting a quorum.

**Approval of May 5, 2012 Minutes:** There were no corrections to the minutes, which had been distributed previously via email to all officers and CVA clubs. The minutes were approved as presented.

**REPORTS**

**President's Report:** Jay LaCroix  
Current count of CVA clubs remains 18, however, AVA lost 30 clubs this year. Several clubs attaining anniversaries of note were mentioned, including CVA and LDRR having reached the 30-year mark.  
Because of some difficulty in obtaining a quorum, changing the CVA meeting dates was mentioned. No action taken.  
Jay urged expansion of information on event publicity. Elaborate on the AVA template requirements. Also place brochures in public locations. Be sure to thank your volunteers who plan meetings and events.

**Vice President-North Report:** Wayne Holloway  
Don Ratliff had 180 participants in his bike events. They bring in international bikers as well as some bikers from other states.

**Vice President-Central Report:** Phil Jones  
Five clubs covering 22 counties constitute the Central Region.

- 1 -

He was responsible for the coordination of the 2013 North and Central California regions' event calendar. Check the AVA and CVA web sites and Wayne Holloway's Friendship Walk schedule for current information.

Central Region is home of Holly Pelking, the AVA Vice President and Wayne Holloway, Pacific Area Regional Director through his membership in a Central California regional club. Both were re-elected to full two-year terms effective July 1, 2013. Central Region will host the 2015 Annual Meeting in Tuolumne City (details in a later section). See attachment #1.

**Vice President-South Report:** John Cappello

The VP welcomed everyone to Southern California.

There are currently six clubs in the region, two active and four semi-active due to member and officer problems.

The LDRR has a goal of sponsoring a monthly Traditional Event and bi-weekly Friendship Walks.

The region has 33 YRE's and four sponsored by a Washington state club via the Internet. At last May's Girl Scouts 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, 160 were pre-registered for a combined walk with 245 total participants. One hundred seventy 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary patches were sold.

John hopes to co-sponsor an event with walkers in the Apple Valley area to get a new club established.

LDRR is planning a walk in Wildomar memorializing longtime walker, Rich Bundy.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jill Simmons

The waiving of sanction fees for the year may account for some of the net loss. See attachment #2 for full financial report.

**Compass Editor's Report:** Suzi Glass

Suzi complimented clubs for sending her mostly early and complete submissions .

Via a power point presentation, she reviewed the points of information needed for each published article. They included trail rating, special programs and accommodations for pets, bathrooms and water.

Use the pre-registration form inside the Compass cover if one is needed.

Mention the type of event early in the column.

Be mindful of publication deadlines: 5/10, 8/10, 11/10 and 2/10.

Photos are now being added to the Compass pages listing the YRE's. Send location shots to the editor to spark interest and highlight a location. Show people in action in pictures.

**CVA Webmaster's Report;** Chris Zegelin

Chris clarified his position as that of being a programmer and Mike Woodworth as the webmaster.

- 2 -

There are now about 25,000 code lines on the CVA website. It has all the AVA sanctioned information verbatim reformatted.

Clubs are encouraged to enhance their events' descriptions and to include pictures.

Clubs will be able to manage their own sites.

Current AVA focus of being mainly paper oriented was compared to geocaching, which is done entirely via computer. Using the web is important to younger generations.

Feedback was sought from and given by attendees for clubs producing brochures and Compass submissions from information already on the web by using a basic template.

## **A LOOK AT THE FUTURE OF THE AVA**

### **AVA Vice President Holly Pelking**

Holly reported about a motion that passed overwhelmingly to change the ITT status from ad hoc to standing committee. It was her focus since first being elected PARD. Her committee's national ESR survey had a great response, which is now being analyzed. A clean up in the ESR process will be seen this next year. A pilot project is underway in California to develop virtual enrollments via the Internet for a few events in remote areas. A liability insurance approval, needed for acceptance of an electronic signature, is being worked on. She gave special thanks to Chris Zegelin, Ralph d'Adolf and Bev Jones for their help. There have been some difficulties with AVA over their new web site being developed without input from the ITT committee.

### **PARD Wayne Holloway**

He expressed pride in the Pacific Region. We have contradicted the trend of losses of clubs nationally. The amendment requiring a 2/3 vote to change AVA Bylaws failed. Simple majority remains in effect. Other amendment motions mostly passed. There was no vote taken to join IVV-Americas. Instead, the decision was to continue to work on the issue. The 2015 AVA convention will be in Salem, OR during the second week of June. See attachment #3 for full Pacific regional report.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Territorial Committee Resolution - Jay LaCroix**

The president thanked his committee for their work. The issues involve clubs communicating with each other when first beginning to plan and schedule events. There have been club boundary questions in a few instances. Jay's statement, "Guidelines to Establishment of Club Territories and Communications to Host an Event in Another Club's Territory", will be published on the CVA web site under "CVA Documents". Please read it and respond to Jay for possible future discussion. See attachment #4.

- 3 -

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Nominating Committee for 2014 Elections - Jay LaCroix**

John Cappello volunteered to chair the committee. The committee members are Suzi Glass (Central); Cathy Bundy (South) and Don Deal (North).

### **AVA Member Walking Across America - Judy Gordon**

Judy reported on John Brown's plans for his cancer awareness walk in memory of his late wife, Joan. It began February 28, 2013 in Atlantic City, NJ and follows the Lincoln Highway, the route they had taken several years ago and he wants to replicate. It ends in San Francisco on or about October 13 where he wants to do the 2007 AVA convention walk. Brown's needs along the way are overnight accommodations and transportation to

start points. He would welcome Volkssporter company along the way. His progress can followed at [www.ocjoan.blogspot.com](http://www.ocjoan.blogspot.com). The SFBB needs support to sponsor the last walk in San Francisco. A motion was passed that CVA cover whatever costs SFBB incurs to put on the San Francisco convention walk to support Dave Brown. (Phil Jones/Wayne Holloway) See attachment #5.

**ESR Deadline Definition - Jay LaCroix**

AVA's deadline for re-sanctioning YRE's is August 31. The CVA president needs time to review all California renewals prior to that date. He will send a notice by July 1 to all clubs of his own deadline prior to AVA's.

**Format for Event Name to Include County - Wayne Holloway**

Wayne will send instructions to all clubs on how to include the county location in the name portion of the ESR. He also referred volkssporters to the web for international walks as the IVV is no longer printing calendars.

**Start Cards - Wayne Holloway/Phil Jones**

CVA ordered 102 packets (100 cards/pack) of start cards. They were distributed to all clubs based upon the percentage of participation at their prior year's events.

**3:00 - THE MEETING WAS RECESSED FOR 15 MINUTES.**

**Working with a Charity for Exposure and Help - Wayne Holloway**

Qeldas Pickett had suggested to Jay and him that CVA become involved with a charity, perhaps around the holidays. Local clubs are encouraged to pursue teaming with a charity for some local event, but that AVA can't sponsor such an activity on a national level or permanent basis.

**CVA Website Additions/Modifications/Cost - Chris Zegelin**

Chris talked about expanding the area of club activities covered on the CVA web site. A motion was made to place information of other clubs on the web site if their location was within 100 miles of California or if they promote walks in California. An

- 4 -

amendment to the motion to expand the area to include the whole Pacific Region passed. (John Cappello/Howard Dean). The amended motion passed unanimously. (Chris Zegelin/Bev Jones). Chris will be increasing the number of applications available on the web site. An example: allowing volkssporters to vote on favorite National Park walks. Chris claimed costs for expanded private server use may increase. He requested authorization to increase expenditures when necessary. A motion passed with no opposition approving expenditure for the hosting bill up to \$360/year. (Chris Zegelin/John Cappello)

**2014 CVA Annual Meeting Location - Wayne Holloway**

Shasta Sundial Strollers will host the 2014 annual meeting in Redding May 2 - 4, 2014 headquartered at La Quinta Inn. Three walks are planned. Saturday dinner will be at Cattleman's Restaurant. Friday's dinner will be Mexican food. The theme is Western. See attachment # 6.

**2015 CVA Annual Meeting Location - Phil Jones**

Sierra Gold Striders will host the 2015 meeting in Tuolumne City at Black Oak Casino May 1 - 3. Four planned walks are within a few miles' drive to start points. A meal package will be available. The casino required a deposit of 25% to hold a block of 40 rooms at current discount price of \$109/night. The CVA board previously approved the deposit. Registrations will be encouraged at the 2014 general meeting and more information will be distributed then. Phil distributed copies of the Tuolumne County 2013 vacation planners. See attachment #7.

**Award Presentations - Wayne Holloway/Jay LaCroix**

Wayne completed "Certificates of Appreciation" for business hosts of all clubs' YRE start point locations and for POC's. Wayne read names of all recipients of meritorious service awards and of trailmaster certificates.

**Demonstration of Registering/Entering a New Event - Chris Zegelin**

A demonstration was offered to attendees who wished to stay following the meeting.

**Brochure - Jay LaCroix**

Jay presented a tri-fold brochure developed by Qeldas Pickett describing in detail AVA policies and activities. The goal for such a document would be to publicize AVA in various public locations such as hotels, chambers of commerce and such. The brochure was available for review following the meeting. Jay mentioned organizing a committee to refine the document for overall extended general use so that clubs could use it and insert specific information about their own club's activities.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Georgie requested return of the ballots and reminded attendees about ordering California Walks t-shirts and polos.

- 5 -

**ADJOURNMENT - Jay LaCroix**

Jay adjourned the meeting at 4:20 following the reading of an essay titled "How do I show love for my country?" written by Jim and Diane Morrison's grandson, Aidan Morrison.

Georgie Reed  
Secretary

