

ADVENTURE
Awaits



AVA: AMERICA'S WALKING CLUB



AMERICA'S
WALKING CLUB
ESTABLISHED 1976

AWARDS BOOK
JUNE 2023

ALWAYS
take the
SCENIC ROUTE

AND SO THE
Adventure
BEGINS!



ADVENTURE
IS OUT
There



Go
WHERE
you feel
MOST ALIVE



AMERICA'S
WALKING CLUB
ESTABLISHED 1976

say yes
TO NEW
Adventures

THANK YOU!

The people, clubs, and organizations recognized and honored on the following pages have given time, talent and effort to help AVA: America’s Walking Club achieve its Vision and Mission.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL RECIPIENTS!

Special thanks to those who took the time to nominate these Outstanding Volkssport Volunteers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Content	Page
Table of Contents, thank you to nominators	1
AVA Recognition Awards Program - awards described	2
Hall of Fame - prior recipients	2
Presidents Awards	3
Trailblazer Awards, Distinguished Achievement Awards	4
Regional Awards (Meritorious, Commendable, Trailmaster, Certificates of Appreciation)	
Atlantic Region - MD, PA, WV, VA, NJ, DE, D.C.	5
Mid-America Region - MI, IL, IN, OH, KY	5
North Central Region - WI, MN, IA, NE, ND, SD	7
Northeast Region - ME, NH, VT, NY, MA, RI, CT	7
Northwest Region - AK, WA, OR, ID	9
Pacific Region - CA, HI, NV, AZ	10
Rocky Mountain Region - MT, WY, UT, CO	10
South Central Region - LA, AR, MO, OK, KS	11
Southeast Region - NC, SC, TN, MS, AL, GA, FL	11
Southwest region - TX, NM	11
Necrology List 2022 – 2023	12

★ The AVA Recognition Awards Program ★

Recognition awards are presented to honor individuals, clubs and organizations for Services which have supported or advanced the ideals and aspirations of Volkssporting. Recognition Awards presented at the AVA Biennial Convention include the following:

AVA President's Award

The AVA President bestows this award upon individuals, clubs, or groups, who through their exemplary display of volkssporting spirit are worthy of national recognition.

Trailblazer Award

The AVA Trailblazer Award recognizes AVA Member clubs that have made significant contributions to the development, maintenance or improvement of walking trails, or to the support of trail related issues.

Distinguished Achievement Award

The Distinguished Achievement Award recognizes individuals who have given at least eight years of extraordinary, unequalled, and exemplary service to the AVA. Personal contributions must have been made at an exemplary level at several stages of service, including the national level.

The Meritorious Service Award

The Meritorious Service Award recognizes individuals who have given at least five years of outstanding service to the AVA.

Commendable Service

The Commendable Service Award recognizes individuals who have given a significant amount of service, regardless of the amount of time they have been a member.

Certificate of Appreciation

Certificate of Appreciation Award recognizes individuals, organizations and businesses for service to AVA on a regional, state, or club level.

Thank you to those who took the time to recognize and nominate these outstanding volkssport volunteers. Congratulations to each recipient.

★ Hall of Fame ★

This is the highest award presented by the American Volkssport Association. It recognizes exceptional contributions to the AVA and the promotion of volkssporting in the United States.

	Member	Inducted
No. 1	Rev Mr. Kenn Knopp	1985
No. 2	Carol Coffee, Ph.D.	1989
No. 3	Col. Thomas D. Boyde	1995
No. 4	Wendy A. Baumgardner	2005
No. 5	Lynn F. Clark	2005
No. 6	Nancy Stenger	2007
No. 7	John H. Ferguson	2007
No. 8	Col. Heinz H. Johnson	2009
No. 9	Shirley A. Lindberg	2009
No. 10	Dr. David N. Toth, MD	2009
No. 11	Ben F. Wilkes	2009
No. 12	Preston L. Johnson, JD	2011
No. 13	Joan M. Lampart	2011
No. 14	Curtis D. Myron	2011
No. 15	Donald N. Vartanian	2013
No. 16	Virginia K. Drumm	2015
No. 17	Wayne Holloway	2015
No. 18	Willis "Sam" Korff	2015

No. 19	Paul Lamb	2015
No. 20	Dennis Michele	2015
No. 21	Ellen Ott	2015
No. 22	Robert C. Wright	2015
No. 23	Phyllis Olson	2017
No. 24	Donna Seline	2017
No. 25	Annette H. Tollett	2017
No. 26	Joanne Forinash	2019
No. 27	Bonita (Bonnie) R. Johnson	2019
No. 28	Holly Pelking	2019
No. 29	Lynette Reagan	2019
No. 30	Frederick S. Sheets	2019
No. 31	Duncan Brantley	2021



2023 AVA President's Award Recipients



The President's Award presentations were made at the AVA Special Meeting in San Antonio after the 18th IVV Olympiad by Chair Nancy Wittenberg. It seemed appropriate that the final presentations of President's Awards should honor the surviving Presidents in recognition of their many years of visionary guidance, exceptional leadership, and unconditional commitment shown while serving as president of the American Volkssport Association.

It is a distinct pleasure for me to recognize these very special people for service which I consider to be "above and beyond" the norm. They richly deserve this recognition.

Carol Coffee

AVA President 1981 – 1983

Magnolia, TX

Max Martin

AVA President 1983 – 1987

Castle Pines, CO

Julian Bauer

AVA President 1991 – 1993

Catonsville, MD

Lynn Clark

AVA President 1993 – 1997

Santa Fe, NM

Nancy Stenger

AVA President 2000 – 2003

Hastings, NE

Shirley Lindberg

AVA President 2003 – 2007

Post Falls, ID

Curt Myron

AVA President 2007 – 2011

Oak Harbor, WA

Heinz Johnson

AVA President 2011 – 2013

San Antonio, TX

Dennis A. Michele


AVA President 2013 – 2017

Fairview, NC

David Bonewitz, Ph.D.

AVA President 2017 – 2021

Louisville, TN



Trailblazer Award

Columbia Volksmarch Club

Columbia, MD

The Columbia Volksmarch Club has been a leader in establishing and maintaining volkssport walking trails throughout the "walkable" communities of Columbia, Maryland for 37 years. Their YRE trails have survived floods, fallen trees, and disappearing businesses that required quick relocations. Traditional weekend events have introduced many walkers to parks and lakes in the communities.

Texas County Walkers

Mesquite, TX

Since their formation in 2010, the Texas County Walkers have explored the state and created walks in over 100 counties from the Rio Grande to the Panhandle and from El Paso to the Sabine River in the many counties not served by existing clubs, an area of almost 270,000 square miles.



Distinguished Achievement Awards

Tom Baltes

Camas, WA

Tom has served and promoted AVA for over 42 years. His enthusiastic leadership has attracted many people to volkssporting and his encouragement for others to volunteer has been outstanding. Tom is forward thinking as our organization changes. His demonstrated traits have been of great value as a leader in AVA.

David Bonewitz

Louisville, TN

For distinguished service as AVA President for two terms (2017-2021) and Southeast Regional Director for two terms (2013-2017), completing eight consecutive years of service on the National Board of Directors. David led AVA into the 21st century with a steady hand in the present and strategic vision for the future. He remains an unparalleled ambassador for American volkssporting.

Russ Crane

Madison, WI

For his outstanding contributions to the American Volkssport Association while serving as Treasurer, Webmaster, and Stores Manager of the Madison Area Volkssport Association, as Co-Chairperson of the 2014 North Central Regional Conference and outstanding work developing walking routes for the 2011 and 2021 National AVA Conventions.

Loralie Cruz

Surprise, AZ

For distinguished service as Saguaro Sun Striders President with dedication, energy and humor for more than 16 years. Loralie served on multiple AVA committees, supported local clubs in Washington, Oregon and Arizona and attended most national conventions, always volunteering and donating her time. She personifies the mission of AVA.

Suzi Glass

San Jose, CA

In recognition of tireless dedication to the California Volkssport Association as editor of the quarterly publication, "The Compass". Your selfless service for 14 years is truly an inspiration to all those on "The Compass" committee and your fellow Volkssporters who receive this professional product. Your efforts and endless hours have been of tremendous value to CVA.

Dawn Gruber

Fairborn, OH

Dawn, a staunch advocate for Volkssporting, has served with distinction at the local, state, regional and national levels. She recognizes all volunteers, publishes a newsletter and email communication, organizes regular group walks and is always ready to lend a helping hand to all state clubs.

Kristina Kenyon

Cross Plains, WI

For her on-going commitment to the American Volkssport Association while serving as Treasurer, Store Manager and Director at Large of the Madison Area Volkssport Association. And outstanding work acting as the Treasurer for the 2021 AVA National Convention.

Karen Reger

Madison, WI

For her outstanding contributions to the American Volkssport Association while serving as Secretary, and Publicity Director of the Madison Area Volkssport Association, as Co-Chairperson of the 2014 North Central Regional Conference and outstanding work writing walking route directions for the 2011 and 2021 National AVA Conventions.

Angier (Butch) Spaulding

Council Bluffs, IA

In recognition of over 20 years of service to AVA and Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers as Trailmaster, VP, President, Deputy RD and RD. Served on the AVA Governance Committee two terms working on the AVA Restated and Amended Certificate of Formation and Bylaws and the Board of Directors Handbook.

Don Suloff

Middleton, WI

For his ongoing commitment to the American Volkssport Association while serving as Trailmaster of the Madison Area Volkssport Association. And for outstanding work planning the walking routes for the 2021 AVA National Convention.

Joan Sykes

Stockton, CA

In recognition of dedicated service to the Delta Tule Trekkers and California Volkssport Association. Joan sends out all walk alerts, submits sanctions and renewals and greets walkers at 95% of our events. Her enthusiasm for every walk is contagious and she has been the face of our club for more than 20 years.

Jerry Wilson

Madison, WI

For outstanding contributions to the American Volkssport Association while serving as National Convention Committee Chair, AVA Olympiad Committee, and North Central Regional Director. Locally, he served as President and Newsletter Editor of the Madison Area Volkssport Association.



ATLANTIC REGION



Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D. C., West Virginia

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Betty Canoles

Chester, VA

For Meritorious Service as Secretary for the Lee Lupus Volksverband for over 20 years. In addition to being Secretary, Betty has served as Point-of-Contact (POC) for several Year-Round Events as well as POC for Traditional Events.

Monica Gowin

Prince George, VA

For Meritorious Service as Treasurer of Lee Lepus Volksverband for over 19 years. In addition to being Treasurer, Monica has been Point of Contact for several year-round and traditional events.

Dee Schrum

Chesterfield, VA

For Meritorious Service to the Lee Lepus Volksverband as an original member, Secretary for 5 years, and then President for 37 years. In addition to her service to Lee Lepus, Dee has also served as Virginia Volkssport Association Vice President and Nominating Committee Chair for several years. She also conducted the first Volkssport marathon in the USA.

COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARDS

David Brown
Pamela Copenhaver
Anne Doerffel
David Doerffel
Patricia Eby

Collegeville, PA
York, PA
Warminster, PA
Warminster, PA
Camp Hill, PA

Louise Fair
Patricia Graeber
Betty Green
Mike Green
Lorraine Jackson

Wyoming, DE
Schwenksville, PA
Souderton, PA
Souderton, PA
Biglerville, PA



MID-AMERICA REGION



Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Susan Budd

Fort Wayne, IN

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted in Northeast Indiana by the Three Rivers Strollers as the Club Treasurer and throughout the State of Indiana as the Secretary for the Indiana Volkssport Association during her many years of membership and service.

Shane Conley

Dayton, OH

For your dedication and exceptional leadership and in the planning, coordination, publicizing, and successful execution of the 2022 Mid-America Conference and as a member of the Ohio Wander Freunde and President of the Ohio Volkssport Association.

Cheryl Elser

New Haven, IN

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssport activities hosted by the Three Rivers Strollers in Northeast Indiana and the Indiana Volkssport Association throughout the State of Indiana as a past officer and current event coordinator. Served the Mid-America Region as past Deputy Regional Director and Chairperson of the Mid-America Conference.

Terry Elser

New Haven, IN

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted by the Indiana Volkssport Association throughout the State of Indiana as an Event Coordinator for the Association during his many years of service.

Dennis Fritz

Painesville, OH

For ten years of exceptional service as President of the Whitewater Valley Walkers and for service to Volkssporting in the AVA's Mid-America Region.

Wilma Fueling

Fort Wayne, IN

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted by the Three Rivers Strollers in Northeast Indiana as the Club Vice President during her many years of membership.

Dawn Gruber**Fairborn, OH**

For your dedication and exceptional leadership and in the planning, coordination, publicizing, and successful execution of the 2022 Mid-America Conference and as the President of the Ohio Wander Freunde; and Chairperson of the Mid-America Conference.

Joyce Gruber**Enon, OH**

For dedication and exceptional leadership and in the planning, coordination, publicizing, and successful execution of the 2022 Mid-America Conference and as a member of the Ohio Wander Freunde.

Mary Lou Hertel**Brookville, IN**

For ten years of exceptional service as an event volunteer for the Whitewater Valley Walkers and for service to Volkssporting in the AVA's Mid-America Region.

Steve Hess**Belleville, OH**

For your dedication and exceptional leadership and in the planning, coordination, publicizing, and successful execution of the 2022 Mid-America Conference and as a member of the Ohio Wander Freunde.

Shirley Lamb**Brookville, OH**

For ten years of exceptional service as an event volunteer for the Whitewater Valley Walkers and service to Volkssporting in the AVA's Mid-America Region.

Tom Martin**Indianapolis, IN**

For exemplary, Dedicated, and outstanding support of Volkssport activities hosted throughout the State of Indiana by the Goodtime Trailblazers, Indy "G" Walkers and the Indianan Volkssport Association as the long time President of the Trailblazers and as a past officer of the Association.

Marty Mullen**Olmsted, OH**

For ten years of exceptional service as event volunteer coordinator for the Whitewater Valley Walkers and for service to Volkssporting in the AVA's Mid-America Region.

Cliff Terry**Noblesville, IN**

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted throughout the State of Indiana by the Indy "G" Walkers and the Indiana Volkssport Association as the Club President and as a past and the current President of the Association.

Willa Thompson**Spencerville, IN**

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted by the Three Rivers Strollers in Northeast Indiana as an Event Coordinator for the Club during her many years of membership.

William Thorne**Fort Wayne, IN**

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted by the Three Rivers Strollers in Northeast Indiana as the Club Vice President during her many years of membership.

Rob Weaver**South Lyon, MI**

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted by the Washtenaw Wanderers Volkssporting Club throughout the State of Michigan as the Club President during his many years of membership.

Roxie Weaver**South Lyon, MI**

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted by the Washtenaw Wanderers Volkssporting Club as an event and special program coordinator and the Club's media specialist during her many years of membership.

Liz Winsley**Auburn, IN**

For exemplary, dedicated and outstanding support of Volkssporting activities hosted in Northeast Indiana by the Three Rivers Strollers as the Club President and throughout the State of Indiana as a past Secretary of the Indiana Volkssport Association during her many years of membership and service.

COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARDS

Sherry Barker
 Eunice Bottorff
 Dean Burch
 Susie Burch
 Ron Cramer
 Liz Cramer
 Thelma Goris
 Robyn Gruber
 Deb Heidt
 Cindy Hilling

South Bend, IN
 Ann Arbor, MI
 Piqua, OH
 Piqua, OH
 Dayton, OH
 Dayton, OH
 Richmond, IN
 Dayton, OH
 Dayton, OH
 Columbus, OH

Tom Jacobson
 Kim Jacobson
 Clark Jones
 David Miltenberger
 Vicky Rydzynski
 Helga Slade
 Melanie Trowbridge
 Georgia Washington-Reum
 Carol Yegerlehner

Saline, MI
 Saline, MI
 Dayton, OH
 Dayton, OH
 South Bend, IN
 Dayton, OH
 South Bend, IN
 Ann Arbor, MI
 Xenia, OH

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

American Legion Post 73
Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park
Dayton Convention & Visitors Bureau
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Jay Dishman and the Whitewater Canal State Historic Site
Marriott at the University of Dayton

Sturgis, MI
Dayton, OH
Dayton, OH
Indianapolis, IN
Metamora, IN
Dayton, OH

Ohio Volkssport Association
Ohio Wander Freunde
Potato Creek State Park
Potawatomi Wildlife Park
Revolution Health PC
Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce

Dayton, OH
Dayton, OH
North Liberty, IN
Tippecanoe, IN
Sturgis, MI
Sturgis, MI

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Mary Liebig

De Forest, WI

For her ongoing commitment to the American Volkssport Association while serving as Secretary, Membership Coordinator and Nominating Committee of the Madison Area Volkssport Association, and outstanding volunteerism in planning traditional events and assisting in the 2021 AVA National Convention.

Jeanne Miller

Omaha, NE

For her outstanding contributions to the growth of Volkssport in Nebraska in multiple disciplines and to AVA while serving on the AVA Strategic Planning Committee.

Joanne Reuter

De Forest, WI

For her outstanding contributions to make walking more interesting in Madison, Wisconsin, while serving as Sanctioned Walk Box Coordinator and Board Member at Large of the Madison Area Volkssport Association.

Diane Thornbery

Madison, WI

For her outstanding contributions to make walking more interesting in Madison, Wisconsin, while serving as Treasure and Board Member at Large of the Madison Area Volkssport Association.

Terry Wendt

Waukegan, WI

For his outstanding contributions to make walking more interesting in Madison, Wisconsin, while serving as Vice President of the Madison Area Volkssport Association.

Douglas Wiest

Madison, WI

For his outstanding contributions to make walking more interesting in Madison, Wisconsin, while serving as President of the Madison Area Volkssport Association.

NORTHEAST REGION

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Margo Craven

Attleboro, MA

Margo helps ensure people stay active as long as possible by bringing them to meetings and events. In addition, her leadership and execution of responsibilities are exceptional whether as an officer of Walk 'n Mass, chairman of seasonal or traditional events, or volunteer at Club events.

Patricia Damiani

Sagamore Beach, MA

Pat's timely reminders and attention to dates and activities ensure a well-run group walk schedule for the Walk 'n Mass Volkssport Club. A weekend without a walk scheduled is becoming very rare. Also, as chairman for seasonal walks/bikes in Hyannis, Sandwich, and Provincetown, she makes Cape Cod a favorite destination.

Verna DeVine

Attleboro, MA

Thirteen years of writing timely and informative articles for The American Wanderer prove that Verna kept her finger on the pulse of Walk 'n Mass events. In addition to writing about the activities, she was and continues to be invariably volunteering at events with an ever-ready smile of welcome to all.

Larry Godshalk

Scotia, NY

In recognition of dedicated service to the Empire State Capital Volkssporters as Vice President, Traditional Walk Chair, Online Start Box mentor and liaison as well as providing countless hours recreating walk directions with the organization's POCs. Your continued support of the club's activities is greatly appreciated.

Joanne Izbicki**Lexington, MA**

Joanne takes ownership of her seasonal walks--updates routes as needed or for changes of pace--and rarely misses an opportunity to volunteer at Club events. In addition, her attention to her surroundings and skill with a camera led to her photograph being selected for Starting Point 2022.

Agnes Laviolette**Hudson, MA**

Agnes is one of the first to volunteer whether as Club Secretary, Chairman of her own event, support in whatever capacity needed for a fellow member's event, newsletter distribution, or Online start box. Walk 'n Mass can count on Agnes for jobs well done!

Ernest Laviolette**Hudson, MA**

No question about it--Ernie gets the job done well. In addition to being Walk 'n Mass' Co-President from 2002-2004, Ernie has developed and co-chaired multiple seasonal walk events, led group walks, and served in many various capacities at events since joining Walk 'n Mass in 1999. Thank you, Ernie.

Kathleen Mack**Schenectady, NY**

In recognition for your dedicated service to the Empire State Capital Volkssporters as Publicity Chair. Your countless personal discussions with prospective members, notifications of walk and bike events, and entries and posting of pictures through Meetup and Facebook have been invaluable in growing our membership. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Linda Morzillo**Saratoga Springs, NY**

In recognition for many years of service to the Empire State Capital Volkssporters as club Trail Master, most recently POC Saratoga West Side and Gavin Park Walks, photographer, TAW liaison, and past president. Your efforts and support of volkssporting is deeply appreciated.

Louise Remillard**Scotia, NY**

In recognition of your dedicated service to the Empire State Capital Volkssporters as Membership Chair, POC and developer of the Scotia North-side walk, POC of the Bennington Seasonal Walk, and coordinator of the club's yearly Incentive Program. Your willingness to help, always with a smile, is very much appreciated.

Jessica Ruit**Mahwah, NJ**

Jessica has served as Vice President for the past five years and is the creator and POC for the NY state-wide "Appalachian Trail" seasonal walk. She created and hosted the New Jersey/New York 'Border Crossing' traditional event. Jessica has been a valued contributor to the West Point Volkssport Club.

Eileen Skinner**Clifton Park, NY**

In recognition of dedicated service to the Empire State Capital Volkssporters and advancing of AVA programs serving as Webmaster, POC, Booklet Publisher, and weekly communicator of club activities and events "Hotmails". Your love of volkssporting and your commitment to our club is truly appreciated.

Elizabeth Walsh**Cohoes, NY**

In recognition of dedicated service to the Empire Capital Volkssporters and advancement of AVA programs for the many hours spent sanctioning and coordinating the club's twenty-seven year-round and seasonal walks and bike rides in addition to creating a year-round neighborhood walk in Cohoes is greatly appreciated.

COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARDS**Miriam Boucher****Lexington, MA****Deborah D'Arcangelis****Colonie, NY****Tad Darling****Schenectady, NY****Linda Dunn****Clifton Park, NY****Carol Giesecke****Cambridge, MA****Terry Gitnck****Cohoes, NY****Paul Graveline****Andover, MA****Susan Grey****Glenville, NY****Karen Kolaczyk****Marlborough, MA****Barbara Kolapakka****Saratoga Springs, NY****Joseph LaPointe****Holliston, MA****Arden Lawand****Schenectady, NY****Blake Mitchell****Barbara Nigro****Diane Peterson****Carol Schmidt****Carol Sorensen****LaVerne Stiles****Janet Varnon****Robert Varnon****Delores Vaz****Vera Weiss****Patty Wing****Holliston, MA****Schenectady, NY****Lowell, MA****Poughkeepsie, NY****Fort Edward, NY****Saratoga Springs, NY****Greenfield, MA****Greenfield, MA****Pawtucket, RI****Scotia, NY****Fishkill, NY****CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION****Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center****Lowell, MA****McCusker's Market****Shelburne Falls, MA****Newton Free Library****Newton, MA****Sip 'n Dip Donuts****Bristol, RI****Stop & Shop****Walgreen's Pharmacy****Wellesley Library****Sandwich, MA****Concord, MA****Wellesley, MA**

NORTHWEST REGION

Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Rosemarie Hirsch

Lakewood, WA

In appreciation of leading Evergreen Wanderers Club and longtime support to many clubs in the NW Region of AVA. Your love for the opportunities that volkssports provides is shown by you sharing your enthusiasm with others. These contributions are greatly appreciated for the advancement of non-competitive walking in the AVA's Northwest Region

Sherry Ogur

Mountlake Terrace, WA

For exceptional service in the Northwest region as the Sound Steppers President and other offices as needed over time. Deep appreciation to you for volunteering to chair the ESVA Challenge Committee. These contributions are greatly appreciated for the advancement of non-competitive walking in the AVA's Northwest Region.

Katie Sell

Bellevue, WA

For exceptional service to the Interlaken Trailblazers Volkssport Club for serving as President, Webmaster, Trail Master, Walk Box Host and all-around volunteer for service to Volkssporting in the AVA's NW Region.

Sandi Severtsen

Shoreline, WA

For exceptional service in the Northwest region as the Sound Steppers President, and other offices as needed. Your work as ESVA Area Coordinator is most valuable in helping other clubs in WA to succeed. Your many years of dedication have greatly aided in the adoption of new technologies and led to club membership growth.

Neil Smith

Mountlake Terrace, WA

For exceptional service to the Interlaken Trailblazers Volkssport Club for serving as President, Webmaster, Trail Master, Walk Box Host and all-around volunteer for service to Volkssporting in the AVA's NW Region.

Annette St Pierre

Stevenson, WA

For exemplary service to the Northwest Region coordinating the regional conference in Bend OR from trails to facilities to publicity. Your leadership of committees for social events, route preparation, sales and registration were greatly appreciated.

Carolyn Warhol

Puyallup, WA

For exemplary service to the northwest region as the Daffodil Valley President, Trailmaster, ESVA longtime Secretary and other offices. Your many years of dedication have greatly aided in the adoption of new technologies, led to club membership growth, ensured top performers were recognized and kept exceptional walks available when other clubs closed.

Bill Winton

Tualatin, WA

For exemplary service to the Northwest Region using his business expertise to design and develop registration, sales and accounting templates and files for the regional conference. Bill also managed on-site registration and payment tracking, ensuring accuracy and accountability.

Elisabeth Wittenberg

Tacoma, WA

Elisabeth has been greatly appreciated in the success of Volkssporting in the NW Region. Your service as President of the Pathfinder Club of the NW, taking on the Treasurer office of the Evergreen Wanderers Club and of course walk leader and all-around helper wherever you can has been wonderful!

Nancy Wittenberg

Puyallup, WA

Nancy was instrumental, solely, in making the right connections through an attorney to restore Evergreen Wanderer's Non-Profit status. She also had significant assistance in furthering the club's continued existence by initiating new walk events. These contributions are greatly appreciated for the advancement of non-competitive walking in the AVA's Northwest Region.

COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARDS

Tom Baltes

Camas, WA

Lisa Morin

Bothell, WA

Louise Baltes

Camas, WA

Carol Mukasa

Seattle, WA

Barbara Byers

Carnation, WA

Jim Slakey

Puyallup, WA

Cheryl Fisher

Mount Vernon, WA

Jackie Slakey

Puyallup, WA

Tim Fisher

Mount Vernon, WA

Irene Stanford

Maple Valley, WA

Sharon Freeburne

Grants Pass, OR

Tess Sutton

Tacoma, WA

Marie Jewett

Medford, OR

Don Whitt

Gig Harbor, WA

Ron Jewett

Medford, OR

Janey Whitt

Gig Harbor, WA

Phil Maynard

Woodinville, WA

Jerri Wildfong

Gold Hill, OR

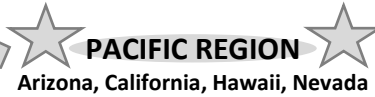
CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Arco Service Station
Arrow Hardware
Arrow Hardware
Arrow Hardware
Carbonado Volunteer Fire Dept
CJ's Evergreen General Store

Tacoma, WA
Buckley, WA
Eatonville, WA
Orting, WA
Carbonado, WA
Bremerton, WA

Comfort Inn and Suites
Hampton Inn and Suites
Holiday Inn Express
Safeway
Sunrise Master Association

Port Orchard, WA
Tukwila, WA
Moses Lake, WA
Puyallup, WA
Puyallup, WA



MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

April Borbon

Las Vegas, NV

A Las Vegas High Rollers & Strollers member for 11 years, secretary since 2020, April is an extremely valuable asset. She manages the club website and Facebook page. In 2022, she single-handedly solicited and obtained National Walking Week proclamations from FIVE local and state governments. It wouldn't have happened without her efforts.

Brenda Harris

Boulder City, NV

Benda has provided 15 years of exemplary service as Las Vegas High Rollers & Strollers treasurer. A meticulous record keeper, Brenda constantly recommends innovative ways to improve our methods and procedures. She also manages club membership, member perks, and implemented a life member program. This long overdue recognition is well deserved!

Diane Gomes

Manteca, CA

Diane has served as Delta Tule Trekker's treasurer for six terms, keeping meticulous records and continues to serve. Most noteworthy is the designing and maintenance of the club's website. It has set precedent among other clubs in the state. Her enthusiasm and dedication are top-notch for the promotion of American Volkssporting.

Wanda Martin

Stockton, CA

In recognition of dedicated service to the Delta Tule Trekkers and the advancement of American Volkssport programs in California by holding leadership positions and giving hours of dedicated assistance in planning and volunteering at walking events. Wanda is truly an inspiration to CVA and the club. She is a keeper!

COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARDS

Brandi Morick
Charlene Henshaw
Diane Stauffer

Manteca, CA
Lodi, CA
Stockton, CA

Jim Gomes
Marcelo Fernandez

Manteca, CA
Manteca, CA

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Best Western Amador Inn
Frank's Downtown Café
Heritage Winery
Ione Plaza Market

Jackson, CA
Manteca, CA
Acampo, CA
Ione, CA

Jeanette Farley
McDonalds, 324 Pine Street
McDonalds, 200 W. Lodi Avenue
McDonalds, 4515 Pacific Avenue

Manteca, CA
Galt, CA
Lodi, CA
Stockton, CA



MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Curt Converse

Colorado Springs, CO

As President, Vice President, Publicity Chairman and a more than 30-year Falcon Wanderers Club member, his energy and talent developed and sustained a vibrant Volkssport Club attracting many new members, hosting great annual events, and delivering new and innovative programs that leave a lasting legacy of excellence.

Jan Converse

Colorado Springs, CO

As President, Vice President, Secretary and a Falcon Wanderers Volkssport Club member over 30 years, her demonstrated leadership, dedication, and focus resulted in a thriving Club that continues to add new members, hold great year-round events, and sustain innovative programs during these challenging times.

 **SOUTH CENTRAL REGION** 
Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Tom Alyea

Kansas City, MO

Tom Alyea is recognized for his many years of service to AVA America's Walking Club. He has Faithfully served as President for several years and other positions of support within his club. His dedication and service to furthering the mission of AVA is deeply appreciated.

 **SOUTHEAST REGION** 

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

David Platt

Orlando, FL

In recognition of your tireless efforts during your time as club Vice President, Chairman of Membership and in the development of the club's web site. You have made lasting impacts on club operations which benefit all of the Mid Florida Miler members and those who walk at our club events!

 **SOUTHWEST REGION** 

New Mexico, Texas

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Bonnie Avonrude

Tyler, TX

Bonnie is an enthusiastic supporter of the East Texas Trekkers and other area clubs and has served as Vice President of East Texas for 8 years and Treasurer for 4 years. She is willing to help with walks, checking out new trails, and verifying directions both around Tyler and in Louisiana.

Brooke Hudson

Hurst, TX

Brooke has served as President of the Tarrant County Walkers for over 6 years and is always available to help at events in the North Texas area. Brooke has been to the national conventions since the 1990's where she volunteers for checkpoints, start/finish table, and anywhere there is a need.

David Sheppard

Mesquite, TX

David has served as President of the Texas County Walkers for 6 years helping to create over 100 walks in far flung Texas counties. In addition he has served as webmaster for the Dallas Trekkers and the Texas Volkssport Association for many years. David is always available to help at walking events.

Deborah Carter

Mesquite, TX

Deborah has served as President of the Dallas Trekkers for 12 years and in various positions of the Texas County Walkers helping to create walks in many Texas counties. She looks for new places to walk and has helped develop many walks both locally and across the state.

Eileen Roberts

Las Cruces, NM

Eileen is a long-time member of the Sun Country Striders and has served as Secretary/Treasurer for over 10 years. Eileen helped organize the club's 'week of walks' for Southeast NM in 2022 and the 2023 walks for the Southwest.

Gary Silkworth

Euess, TX

Gary has served as Vice President and President of the Star Trekkers of Irving for over a decade and as Vice President of the West Texas Trail Walkers. Over the years, Gary has designed and made awards for different events using his home workshop.

Henrietta Vargas

Las Cruces, NM

Henrietta is a long-time member of the Sun Country Striders and has served as President for over 10 years. She helped organize the club's 'week of walks' for Southeast NM in 2022 and the 2023 walks for the Southwest.

Stephanie Knight

Austin, TX

Stephanie has been a Volksmarcher and member of Colorado River Walkers for many years. She has been the lead in developing many traditional walks. Stephanie is our webmaster par excellence, our Facebook editor, and Vice President during the last few years.

Susan Fine

Granbury, TX

Susan served as president of the Tarrant County Walkers and as Secretary of the Texas Volkssport Association before moving to Hobbs, NM with her husband. She joined the closest clubs (Midland Walkabouts and Sun Country Striders) and immediately volunteered to help them with their websites and publicity.

COMMENDABLE SERVICE AWARDS

Andy Thomas
Debbie Peak
Heidi Silkworth

San Antonio, TX
Austin, TX
Eules, TX

Linda Dennis
Susan Noonan

Austin, TX
San Antonio, TX

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Arnie Dollase

Castroville, TX



Necrology List for 2022-2023 Convention

It's easy to walk into someone's life but hard when they walkout.



George Agars	Paul Ernst	Mary Kinkaid	Liz Rose
Robert Armev	Jack Fernandes	Noreen Kirk	Homer " Dan" Roy
Patricia Arnett	Faye Foote	Connie Koerin	Duane Russell
Michael Balough	Dena Forster	Norman Labbe	Renate Sabulsky
Maria Baxter	Lila Frisch	Roberrt Lang	Beatrice Schaefer
Ron (Rolland) Berard	Bill Gazzero	Darwin Lay	Bonnie Lou (Dawson)Schaefer
Jeff Blossy	Sandy Gordon	Charles Chuck Lipson	Virginia Mae Schreiber
Bill Brabant	Emelia Goyette	Sandra Lynch	Doc Shipman
Maria Brasher	Jane Graham	Yvonne G Martin	Bob Shockey
Rosemary Brennan	Edward "Ned" Gray	Barb McClain	George Snyder
Audrey Brown	Bob Habeman	Ken Miles	Margaret Spurgeon
Dorothy Brown	Jon Hanlan	Ken Miller	Katherine Svoboda
Rich Bumgardner	Chuck Head	Shirley Milliken	Doris Telles
Ruth Cade	Marie Herring	Dave Muzzy	Jean E. Thomas
Karen West Campbell	Ursula Hess	Mildred Myers-Smith	David Toth
jane Cauchon	Grace Holloway	Ron Nelson	Jeanne Twedt
Ronda Chandler	Herman Husbands	John Nelson	Earl VonHolt
Taylor Chandler	Jean Jackman	RoseAnn Nichols	Nancy Wallace
Leon Childers	Ken Jackson	Virginia Nicholson	Antonia Walsh
Deb Choiniere	Harvey Johns	Walt Ottoson	Herb Webber
Bonnie Christensen	Cathy Johnson	Renee Palmer	Lois Will
Louise Clouser	Wally Johnson	Dena Parks	Ken Wilson
Marla Cluts	Sandy Johnson	Jane Pattison	Robert Wright
Les Clutter	Elaine Johnson	Joy Peach	Phil Wilder
Mary Cook	Preston Laurence Johnson	Dannie Peters	
Carol Cross	Frances Johnson	Charlotte Phillips	
Sue Day	Robert Jukelis	Harry Poarch	
Dick DeMass	Susan Kenyon	Carol Puglisi	
Stanislawa (Stacy) Doyle	Ross Kiddie	Kristin Raasch	
Jimmie Eisen	Barbara Kimball	Esther Rhodes	
Thomas Elms	Marie King	Helga Robinette	