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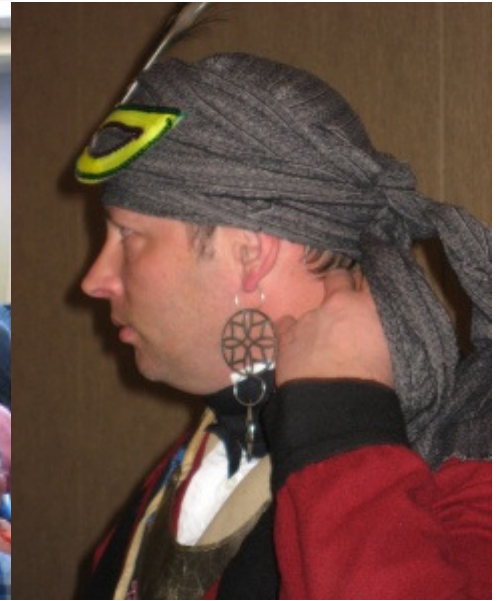
# ARKANSAS LIVING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

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Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring 2007

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## It's Official!

**Carl Adkins – Communications Officer**

*Ozark Folk Center*

On February 19, 2007, interested parties attended the first organizational meeting of the Arkansas Living History Association. The ALHA meeting was held in conjunction with the Arkansas State Parks Winter Interpreters' Workshop hosted at beautiful Mt. Magazine State Park.

Ian Beard, from the Old State House Museum moderated the initial meeting. Participants finalized and adopted a constitution. Once a constitution was in place, the first formal meeting was called to order and officers were elected.

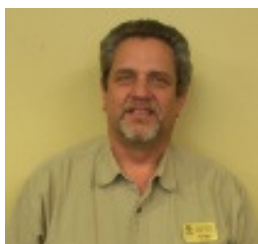
It was determined after elections that the Executive Board would be comprised of the following officers for staggered terms:

President – Ian Beard
Vice President – John Morrow
Secretary – Kristyn Watts
Treasurer – Debra Browning
Communications and Newsletter – Carl Adkins
District 1 Representative – Kent Goff
District 2 Representative – Barbara Ward
District 3 Representative – Sam Trisler
District 4 Representative – Billy Nations

Please note that Tess Kidd, elected at the meeting, subsequently resigned and Sam Trisler was nominated to the Executive Board and unanimously voted in by board members.

The Executive board will be meeting in late May or early June to discuss membership dues, adoption of bylaws, and to hear reports from newly formed committees. Recipients of this newsletter will be notified of the scheduled date for the meeting.

# Meet the Officers



**Carl Adkins – Communications Officer and Newsletter Editor**

# ALHA's Constitution as Adopted February 19, 2007

## ARKANSAS LIVING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

### CONSTITUTION

#### **ARTICLE I: Name**

1. The name of the organization shall be the Arkansas Living History Association

#### **ARTICLE II: Purpose**

1. The purpose of this Association is to support living history in Arkansas through the advancement of the use of living history as a form of interpretation; the encouragement of interaction and cooperation between individuals and institutions engaged in living history; the promotion of professional standards among living historians and at living history sites; and the development of public support for and interest in living history in Arkansas.

#### **ARTICLE III: Membership**

1. Membership shall be open to all individuals, parks, historic sites, museums, cultural centers, related institutions, and organizations engaged or interested in living history as a form of interpretation.

#### **ARTICLE IV: Dues**

1. Annual dues for all forms of membership shall be set at rates as recommended by a committee appointed by the president, and subject to membership approval at each annual meeting. All renewals for each class of membership shall be due in January, and shall run from January to December. All dues shall be paid to the treasurer. The membership shall be empowered to change the dues structure and amounts recommended by the president's committee by a simple majority of the paid members present at any annual meeting.

#### **ARTICLE V: Officers and Government**

1. Elected officials and district representatives shall be current members of the Arkansas Living History Association at the time of the annual meeting.

2. The elected officers shall be president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and communications director. Officers shall serve a 2 year term and can succeed themselves for one additional 2 year term. These offices shall be staggered, with president and secretary being newly elected at one annual meeting, and vice-president, treasurer, and communications director elected at the following annual meeting.

3. Four district representatives shall be elected: one from each of Arkansas' congressional districts. District representatives shall serve a 2 year term and can succeed themselves for one additional 2 year term. These district representatives shall be staggered, with two of the district representatives being newly elected at any given annual meeting.

4. The elected officers and the district representatives shall constitute an Executive Board authorized to conduct the business of the Association between annual meetings.

5. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of five members.

6. Should a vacancy occur in the presidency, the vice-president shall assume that office. All other vacancies on the Executive Board shall be filled by the simple majority vote of a quorum of the Executive Board until an election can be held at the next annual meeting.

7. President

The president shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board, and shall perform such other duties as the Executive Board may direct.

8. Vice-President

The vice-president shall perform the duties of the president in case the president is absent or incapacitated, and such other duties as the Executive Board may direct.

9. Secretary

The secretary shall keep the minutes of the Association and of the Executive Board and an official copy of the by-laws/Constitution, shall present a report of the activities of the Association at the annual meeting, and shall manage all membership lists and contact information.

10. Treasurer

The treasurer shall have custody of all monies belonging to the Association, shall account of all expenditures and receipts, and shall report thereon at the annual meeting of the Association, and to the Executive Board whenever so directed by them. The treasurer shall file all tax information as required by law, on behalf of the Association. The finance records may be inspected by any member, for any purposes, by making an appointment with the Treasurer. The Treasurer will submit quarterly financial reports to the general membership by publication in the Newsletter.

11. Communications Officer

The communications director shall be responsible for producing the official quarterly newsletter of the Association, and of managing the Association’s website.

12. An Executive Board member may be removed from the Executive Board by a two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board for a violation of the Bylaws, for engaging in conduct prejudicial to the interests of the organization, for failing to meet the responsibilities of an elected office or obligation, for failing to maintain individual membership in the organization, or for three consecutive absences from meetings of the Executive Board. Such removal may occur only if the member involved is provided written notice and permitted time and the means to reply.

**ARTICLE VI: Meetings**

- 1. During each year, there shall be an annual meeting held in January, February, or March. The meeting shall be held at a date to be designated by the Executive Board and the host site. The meeting may be changed by a simple majority vote of paid Association members.
- 2. The location of the annual meeting shall be determined by the Executive Board from among suitable sites.
- 3. Annual meeting date and location will be announced 6 months in advance of that meeting, and notices shall be sent to all members at least 30 days in advance of that meeting.
- 4. Executive Board meetings will be held no less than quarterly.

**ARTICLE VII: Committees**

- 1. The finance committee shall be a standing committee composed of the treasurer, who shall serve as chair, the president, and the vice-president.
- 2. The awards committee shall be a standing committee composed of the vice president, who shall serve as chair, and the four district representatives.
- 3. The communications committee shall be a standing committee composed of the communications director, who shall serve as chair, the secretary, and three other Association members chosen by the chair.
- 4. Ad hoc committees may be formed at the discretion of the president, to meet the current needs of the Association.

**ARTICLE VIII: Association Archives**

- 1. The Association shall deposit annually its non-current files with \_\_\_\_\_, with duplicates of documents deemed as critical by the Executive Board held by the secretary.

**ARTICLE IX: Amendments**

- 1. This constitution may be altered, amended, or repealed, or a new constitution may be adopted at any annual or special meeting of the membership by the affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members present, provided notice of the proposed alteration, amendment or repeal or adoption be contained in the notice of such a meeting.

**\*\* Please note that the institution of Article VIII has not been chosen as yet and will be amended at the next board meeting with the adoption of bylaws.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### May

*Behind the Scenes at the State Archives*  
Arkansas History Commission  
Every Saturday in May, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

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*Dr. Wendy Richter, State Historian, will conduct a tour of the History Commission that will emphasize the physical and philosophical changes that have recently occurred at the Archives.*

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*Carolyn Owens Hervey, Library Technician, will give examples of the content of our holdings through the microfilm collection. Patrons will learn how to look through these research materials for information that is often unexpected or overlooked*

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*Lynn Ewbank, Access/Technology Archivist, will demonstrate the features of our updated website, including many new searchable databases and simplified ordering procedures for patrons. One new section, "Documenting Arkansas," is an online digital archive of documents, visuals, maps, broadsides, pamphlets, and three-dimensional objects significant to the history and culture of Arkansas.*

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*Ronnie Watts, the Archival Microphotography Supervisor, will speak about the microphotography program that is celebrating its fiftieth year in 2007. He will also conduct a tour of the History Commission Microphotography area to show patrons how the State Archives films materials and processes microfilm.*

### June

1

**Deadline for Submissions for Summer Newsletter**

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*Profiles in Arkansas Black History*  
Historic Arkansas Museum.  
Saturday, June 2, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

2

*National Trails Day Commemoration of the Trail of Tears*  
9:00-4:00  
Ft. Smith National Historic Site

*Fort Smith National Historic Site will be hosting an event in conjunction with National Trails Day. Chiefs and tribal representatives will discuss the individual journeys that were taken by the tribes and the enduring effects of Indian Removal. Demonstrations such as basket weaving, traditional singing, blacksmithing, and living history programs will be presented throughout the day by members of the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Osage, and Keetoowah tribes. For more information contact Catherine Gray at [Catherine\\_Gray@nps.gov](mailto:Catherine_Gray@nps.gov).*

## ALHA's Logo Contest!

Now that we are an organized group, we need a logo for our website, newsletter and other printed publications. So, if you are the creative type, start sketching out your ideas for an official ALHA logo.

Entries can be in any format, but it would help to be either multicolor camera-ready art or be digitally created with PhotoShop or other image software that can be converted to different image formats.

The best submissions will be provided to the Executive Board for selection. It is possible that the final logo may be a compilation of elements from more than one source, so keep an open mind.

So, to make this a contest, the first year annual dues will be waived for the person who submits the winning entry. In the event of a collaboration of two or more people, or the logo is an amalgamation of more than one entry, a proportional discount will be applied to those involved. You can submit entries to: [carl.adkins@arkansas.gov](mailto:carl.adkins@arkansas.gov)

## Do You Blog?

The Arkansas Living History Association has a new Blog at <http://arkansaslivinghistoryassociation.blogspot.com>.

Check it out and feel free to use it for newsletter submissions, as well as comments. I have it set as unmoderated. So, if we don't get any heated arguments or foul language, you'll be free to post about anything you want that you think will be helpful to the group. Just keep it on topic.

## Submit your information

Please send any submissions relating to web postings, calendar of events, or articles for the newsletter to [carl.adkins@arkansas.gov](mailto:carl.adkins@arkansas.gov) and I'll be happy to include them in next quarter's newsletter. If you are interested in becoming a member, let me know and I'll add you to the email list. Since we are a fledgling organization, we're trying to keep mailing costs down so this newsletter and other notices will come to you via email.

## June

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### *Arkansas Statehood Commemoration Old State House Museum*

*9:00 am - 5:00 pm FREE*

*Relive the summer of 1836 as we celebrate Arkansas's statehood at the original state capitol building, the Old State House Museum in Little Rock! Activities will focus on life in early Arkansas and the surrounding region, including the Indian Territory and the Republic of Texas. A civilian and military encampment will take place on our front lawn and programs will be offered inside the historic Old State House as militiamen, regular soldiers, politicians, townsmen, enslaved and free blacks, rural citizens, American Indians, and travelers interact with the public and share life in 1836. This family oriented event will also include 19th century games and fun hands on activities for the kids. Contact Ian Beard [Ian@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:Ian@arkansasheritage.org)*

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### *Shiloh Museum of Ozark History 10:00 to 11:00*

*Living Historian Doug Kidd brings to life two soldiers from the Civil War. Meet two cousins, one fighting for the Confederacy, one for the Union. Two soldiers from the same family, both passionate about their country, choose different sides of the conflict.*

### *Living History Workshop*

*Living Historian Doug Kidd will present a two-night workshop for Shiloh Museum staff and volunteers on how to choose, research, and perform a first person living history narrative. Contact Doug at [CavSaddler@aol](mailto:CavSaddler@aol) for details.*

## July

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*Ft. Smith during the US-Mexican War  
9:30-3:00  
Ft. Smith National Historic Site*

*Relive a day in the life of a frontier military post on July 26, 1847, the date of a famous duel between Albert Pike and John Seldon Roane on a nearby sand bar. This living history event will recreate the garrison of Ft. Smith and the normal daily activities of the post. Please contact Sam Trisler at [Sam\\_Trisler@nps.gov](mailto:Sam_Trisler@nps.gov) for more information.*

**The Ozark Folk Center is looking for Living History characters to be performed from the stage at the evening shows this season. If you have a character that you think would do well from the stage with a large audience, contact me at [carl.adkins@arkansas.gov](mailto:carl.adkins@arkansas.gov) and we'll discuss it. Ed.**

## Sam Trisler Bio:

As a native of Fort Smith and a 7<sup>th</sup> generation Arkansan, Sam Trisler has been immersed in the history of the state since birth. He began participating in living history events at age 13, accompanying his parents to Fur Trade Rendezvous. After graduating from high school he spent four summers working for the Boy Scouts of America doing emersion type living history and demonstrations of loggers and gold miners from the late 1800's in the Rocky Mountains of northern New Mexico. Sam is currently employed as a Park Ranger at the Fort Smith National Historic Site where he gives living history programs ranging from a soldier of the Rifle Regiment at the First Fort Smith (1817-1824) to a lawyer in the Federal Court (1872-1896) and all areas in between. Sam is a member of NAI, the 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry based at Fort Gibson and Westerners International. He is also a senior at the University of Arkansas Fort Smith in the Historical Interpretation program.

## Debra Browning Bio:

In 1995, I was elected to the Board of Directors of the Early Arkansas Reenactor's Association. I served as a Board of Congress member from 1995 to 2005. In addition, I am a member of the Arkansas Museum Association, the Arkansas Living History Association, the Coalition of Historical Trekkers and the American Bladesmith Society. I am currently serving on the first executive board of the Arkansas Living History Association.

In 2003, I accepted an offer of employment with the Historic Arkansas Museum, where I worked for three years. I was Wardrobe Coordinator within the Education Department. I have also contracted through H.A.M. to do both 1<sup>st</sup>-person and 3<sup>rd</sup>-person interpretations on their grounds and for their Outreach programs.

Sharlene Richardson, Deb Lewis and I have formed (2006) a partnership under the name of History Helpers. Our mission is to provide historical education presentations and hands-on programming to schools, libraries, museums, state parks and other groups. History Helpers is a member of the international Association of Living History, Farm and Agriculture Museums and of the Arkansas Living History Association.