



ARKANSAS DEER HUNTERS ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 1

March 2007

Allen Smith Elected Alliance President

I accept the position of president of ADHA and thank everyone for their confidence and support. It is an honor and privilege, and I promise to give my very best effort throughout my term. I will try to be fair, honest, objective, motivated and progressive, and will represent the full membership without bias. I will try to be active and involved in as many ADHA functions as possible. I will try to be a proactive leader and will try to make myself readily accessible to every region and every member. I want every member to feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, suggestions, criticism or just to talk deer and deer hunting. I will listen with an open mind and try to be responsive and timely. I believe strongly in coordinating our efforts to assure maximum and prompt results. In all that we do we must first and foremost achieve whatever is in the best interest of ADHA, as that will ultimately be best for our overall membership. I am excited about our participation in upcoming events such as the Big Buck Classic in Little Rock, the Arkansas Sports Show in Jonesboro, Family Deer Days in Pine Bluff and Yellville, the private lands elk hunt giveaway and many other events planned for 2007.

My first order of business as your new president is to welcome and thank all of the new members that have joined ADHA during the past year. I also thank those that have reaffirmed their commitments by renewing their memberships. I thank ADHA member Del Ramsey and Muzzleload Magnum Products, Inc. for making the incredible donation of yet another Arkansas Private Lands Elk Hunt for the 2007 season. This outstanding contribution is a rare opportunity and an excellent inducement for recruiting new members to join our organization. A key component of our strength is in the number of members that make up ADHA. I want to stress that every member is an extremely important asset. A common goal should be that we all assist our organization to continue its steady growth and perpetuate all that we've already accomplished. I encourage every member to try at every opportunity to recruit as many potential members as possible. I'll reaffirm too that spouses, kids and

families are always welcome in ADHA. We've simplified it so that new members can join on our website by using a debit or credit card, or they still have the option of mailing a check. We've developed a simple one page flyer for posting at stores, check stations and other places wherever potential members may be found. A copy of the flyer can be printed off from our Message Board. I am hopeful that 2007 will be a record year for substantially increasing our membership. I thank our vice president, Freddie Beavers for accepting the position of interim president while the position was vacant. I also thank Barry Comer for accepting both, the Secretary and Treasurer's duties. I thank all of our officers and directors for their leadership. From top to bottom, and throughout the state, we have some excellent leadership in the ADHA.

My predecessors have done a tremendous job. My primary goal is to maintain and build upon all the great things they've already accomplished. I am grateful to all the officers, regional directors and assistant directors, both past and present, for their tireless efforts and support of ADHA. They have demonstrated time and time again their desire to uphold ADHA as the premier organization and unified voice of Arkansas deer hunters. I've never seen so many volunteers with such an incessant willingness to give so much. Nobody in ADHA is compensated for their work. Their compensation is simply the gratification of knowing they are making a positive contribution to deer and deer hunting. While the position of president is an important one, it is no more important than that of any officer or director. As the old adage goes "there is no 'I' in 'T-E-A-M'", and that certainly applies to all of us. The continued success of this organization requires a unified team effort with a goal oriented vision. We need the support and assistance of every single member, and every member should understand that he or she is an equally important participant and contributor.

While we may sometimes have diverging thoughts and opinions, we all share many common threads in
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our concern and passion for deer and deer hunting.

We know we want the best possible deer herd and the best hunting opportunities that can be reasonably achieved. We all share similar hopes and concerns, and that in large part is why ADHA was originally founded. We now have statewide members, and our goals reach into all seventy-five counties. ADHA is truly a statewide organization that is looking out for the concerns of deer hunters throughout all of Arkansas. We have expectations of increasing members and leaders from every regional area. We ask for, and value, every member's input to help guide us. Our mission statement consists of many carefully thought out goals and objectives. If you've not already done so, I encourage you to visit our recently refurbished website and read the ADHA Mission Statement and other information that is posted there. I thank Region 6 Director Marty Mitchell for re-developing an outstanding website for us. It can be found at

<http://www.arddeer.org/>.

Members of ADHA have already contributed countless days in planning and implementing seminars, and various activities. We reach out to the public as well as our own membership. Our members have volunteered their time to affix camouflage brush to handicapped accessible duck blinds on Raft Creek WMA. They have also volunteered their time to plant food plots at Harold E. Alexander and Wattensaw Wildlife Management Areas. I thank all of those that contributed supplies and labor to accomplish these tasks. These kinds of efforts make for great strides in reaching our greater goals. Incidentally, I congratulate ADHA member and former AG&FC Commissioner Mike Freeze for the re-naming of the Mike Freeze - Wattensaw WMA in honor of his excellent service as a commissioner.

While ADHA has already accomplished a great deal, we should continue to expand our efforts to do more and more, and do those things better and more efficiently. As the premier deer hunting organization in Arkansas, we should be the ones that set the highest standards, and guard against those that try to diminish the things that ADHA stands for. In order to accomplish greater achievements, we must set realistic goals and objectives that are reasonable, affordable and within reach. They should be categorized as short, medium and long term, and prioritized. In my discussions with some of our members, we've talked about trying to accomplish several things. Some are ambitious and require time and funding, while others can be accomplished with relative ease.

The following are some thoughts and goals that I'd like to see us consider:

We need to establish organized membership drives to help our organization grow. We need to continue reaching out to the media and getting as much positive publicity as possible. We need to search out and become involved in sports shows in all of our statewide regions. We need to increase our contact with the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission and state legislature to stay abreast of proposed rule and law changes before they develop, and try to influence changes that are important to our membership. We proclaim that ADHA is the "voice of Arkansas deer hunters", and I truly take that to heart. I would like to see us in-

teract with similar organizations in other states to learn what they are doing. We need to reach out more and more to our youth in order to promote and sustain our heritage, and help promote youth hunting opportunities. I'd like to see a Youth Membership offered at \$5.00 per year, and a family membership for \$20.00. I'd like to see us establish a youth camp where kids can learn a great deal over perhaps three or four days. A youth art contest could be good for fostering and maintaining interest. With so many single parent families, we need to conduct seminars to encourage and teach youngsters how to hunt. Perhaps individual members can purchase a hunting license for a youngster and take him or her hunting. We need to promote more and more family involvement in ADHA. I'd like to see us implement an annual wildlife or nature photo contest. We need to get every member to attend and become involved in our meetings, particularly our annual meetings. Perhaps we can someday bring in some nationally recognized speakers. We need to organize hunts for the sick, disabled and elderly hunters, and continue our work with Benefit4Kids. We need to take a proactive role in donating excess venison to Hunters Feeding the Hungry. I'd like to see at least a few members become official Boone and Crockett Certified Scorers. We need to get members from each region to become Hunter Education Instructor Certified, and teach classes in their respective regions. I'd like to see us get some kind of member discounts at various sporting goods stores, taxidermists and other related stores and services. I want ADHA to place a strong emphasis on safety, particularly concerning tree stands and handling of weapons. I am hopeful we can make a contribution by being involved in statewide surveys, studies and research of our deer herd. We need to get every region to take the initiative and pursue regular functions within their own regions. I'd like to see each region perform work on food plots, habitat and other conservation efforts within their respective regions. We've talked about having regional suppers and gatherings once a month. We've discussed conducting an annual fund raising auction and banquet that involves all of our statewide membership. I'd like to see us raffle some nice prizes such as guns or a 4 wheeler that could earn us a substantial income. I'd like to see us earn enough income to someday advertise ADHA in the AG&FC Rules and Regulations booklet. I am also hopeful we can one day print color newsletters. We've talked about organizing ADHA sponsored bow shoots, skeet shoots, hunting and fishing trips. We've discussed compiling a cookbook, made up of member recipes. We've discussed having ADHA license tags prepared for sale to our membership. I'd like to see us print certificates of membership, suitable for framing for all of our members. I would like for ADHA to be able to someday offer hunting club liability and various other types of insurance to our members. A long range goal could be to acquire or build a small building adjacent to a WMA that we could use for many of our functions. There are many other ideas that have been discussed, with some already realized, but many of which have not yet materialized. These are merely ideas and would need the endorsement of a majority of our voting officers. But, it is imperative that we set our goals, prioritize them and make at least some things happen. I know we don't want to earn a reputation as being a money hungry organization, but we must increase our income to accomplish the greater things we've discussed. We must also keep our organization affordable for our members. We may not achieve every goal, but we can certainly fulfill some of them. Together we can do it! Perhaps we need

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timelines and committees to organize, promote and steer these kinds of aspirations.

There is no greater satisfaction than to see a young person kneeling over his or her first deer with a huge smile from ear to ear. Or, to see an elderly person enjoying what very well could be his or her final hunt. Or, to see someone that is physically impaired accomplishing things that he or she could not have done without our able assistance. The ADHA has several missions, and I am unable to mention all of them in this limited space. In addition, we are always looking for new opportunities to try and be involved. They can be anything that promotes deer, deer hunting, and the ADHA in a positive way. But these things don't just happen. They are the result of a few exceptional people that devote a great deal of their time and effort. In order for ADHA to survive and grow we encourage all of our members to become involved. We want you, but more importantly we need you. Your help can be as simple as recruiting family and friends, assisting with planning and conducting an event, or representing ADHA in our booth at one of the sports shows. Things such as tracking down the best bargain for ADHA ball caps, clothing, vehicle license plates, etc. require a small amount of time. But, it can be an arduous task when everything is combined and resting on the shoulders of a select few. I encourage every member to volunteer to assist at least once a year on a regional level. It is very rewarding to watch our accomplishments materialize and result in success. If it sounds as if I'm pleading to you, make no mistake about it, I am. ADHA needs you!

ADHA has experienced good growth and has accomplished a lot of good things. However, there is plenty of room to grow, and much more we can do. But we need your help. Typical members of ADHA are unselfish people that want to put something back into the sport that has been so rewarding to them. They generally don't ask that ADHA do a lot for them, but rather it be an impetus for their own giving. The rewards are found in our own actions. I ask that each member start by contacting your regional director and asking how you can become involved in ADHA. I want every member to play an active role. I also encourage you to regularly visit the ADHA Discussion Board and become a part of our daily conversations. Just go to our webpage and follow the link to our Message Board. And last but not least I'd like to see every member attend our annual meeting and meet your fellow members. Our members are some of the finest people I've ever met, and will make you feel like a part of the ADHA family. Because, as a member, this is your organization and you are an integral part of the ADHA family!

I accept the position of president as well as the challenges that come with it. I am optimistic that, together, we can make a great organization even greater. Thank you again for your confidence and support.

Allen

G i v i n g B a c k

The ADHA is no different than most any other non-profit organization. Nobody is paid for their service. Everything we do is strictly voluntary. After three years of existence, we've come a long way. We're growing and we've accomplished several of our goals. But, we have far more goals than we have people to fulfill them. We know what we want to do. We just need volunteers to help make them happen. Everyone is different. Some people have more time than others. People have different interests and levels of expertise. Some are comfortable in leadership positions while others aren't. In any case, your help would be greatly appreciated, no matter how much you give. It may entail just helping with one event a year. It could be any level of help you're able to give. It's not just about manning a booth at a sports show or planting food plots. It's also about participating in planning or writing an article for our newsletter. Our needs vary. We encourage and challenge every member of ADHA to help us reach our goals by volunteering a portion of your time. We want you and need your help!

ADHA Website

We recently remodeled our ADHA website. We now have the capability of accepting credit and debit cards for purchases of ADHA merchandise as well as for new membership and membership renewal payments. We've also updated and added some new information on the site. In addition, there is a link that will take you directly to our discussion board. All members should visit the discussion board to stay abreast of the latest ADHA news and events where most of our planning takes place. Be sure to register using your real name and not a screen name. Our website can be found at: <http://www.ardeer.org> Thanks to ADHA member Marty Mitchell for remodeling and maintaining our website.

Roach-Eating Fest "Bugs" PETA

Excerpted from Nov '06 Sentry - Publication of the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance

PETA was buzzing in opposition to a recent Six Flags cockroach-eating contest.

The animal rights group, which claims "insects do not deserve to be eaten alive," urged its members to send letters opposing the park's frightful Halloween promotion. PETA claimed to have been flooded with calls from animal rightists who were shocked by the contest.

According to Six Flags spokesperson James Taylor, the only complaints the company received were from people who did not have the chance to sign up for the event because only a select number of the parks in North America participated in the promotion.

On October 13, 2006, the competition to beat the world cockroach-eating record went on as scheduled at the Six Flags in Gurnee, Illinois.

If PETA had distaste for the bug-eating tournament, it would be interesting to know what HSUS Senior Scholar Michael W. Fox thought of it. Fox is a former vice president of the group, who holds a belief that humans and animals have the same moral standing. In his book, *The Inhumane Society*, he writes, "The life of an ant and that of my child should be granted equal consideration."

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Sponsored

(Jack Dossey - Region 5 Assistant Director)

For my Mathews Switchback XT with my Vapor Blackhawk carbon arrows, topped off with 100 grain Muzzy, "Bad to the Bone" broadheads, I would not have gotten the perfect broadside shot.

There I was, sitting in my A.P.I. MAGNUM climbing stand, wearing my Whitewater New Break-Up camo clothes, over my Arkansas Deer Hunters Alliance sweatshirt and wearing my Wolverine 10" lace-up boots.

When all of a sudden, there he was! Gauging him with my Bushnell range finder, only 40 yards from my stand.

I lightly grunted with my Primos grunt call, and that was all it took. Looking through my Nikon 10x40 binoculars, I could tell he was a "Shooter", coming cautiously toward my stand, slightly up-wind from me.

I hooked my Fletcher Flathead release onto my Zebra Baracuda string. Slowly pulling the arrow back across my Drop Zone rest, and focusing in on my Cobra sight with fiber optic pins, I let the arrow set sail.

I am sure that all the practice shots at my Morrell bag target is what made me confident in my shot.

He was a fine specimen of a white-tailed deer. I'm sure it was all the Buck Forage oats he was eating from my food plots is what gave him his size.

Now, all I had to do was mount my trusty Polaris 4-wheeler to collect my prize.

Mountain Home Gun Show

The ADHA will have a booth at this gun show on March 3rd and 4th. This event will be held at the Baxter County Fairgrounds. Anyone interested in helping with operation of the booth is welcome to come on out and lend a hand.

See Ya There!

Region 1 Eat & Hunt

Region one sponsored a "Dutch Treat Dinner" at Beach Club Barbeque in Hardy, AR, on Saturday February 17, 2007 at 6:30 pm. This was a simple fellowship get-together with no official ADHA business being discussed. Many ADHA members, spouses, children and guests, were in attendance and a great time was had by all. Some members hunted squirrels and/or deer during the weekend get-together. And an armadillo was disposed of at John Henry's!

FIN - FEATHER - N - FUR TAXIDERMISTRY

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This Arkansas Private Lands Quota Elk Hunt is sponsored
by the

**Arkansas Deer Hunters Alliance (ADHA)
and Muzzleload Magnum Products, Inc.**

To enter the drawing, just become a member of ADHA.
Memberships are \$10.00 annually
or \$100.00 for a Charter Membership
For ADHA information and details visit [http://
www.ardeer.org](http://www.ardeer.org)

An annual membership will receive one entry in the drawing. A Charter Membership will receive 12 entries for this year's drawing, plus 1 entry for each following year thereafter, as long as the elk hunt remains available to ADHA. The drawing and announcement of the winner will be held at the 10th Annual Buffalo River Elk Festival in Jasper, AR on June 30, 2007. The elk hunt will take place on 2,800 private acres near Hilltop, AR. Lodging in an on-site private cabin is included.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____@_____

Regular \$10.00 [] or Charter Member \$100.00 []

Mail to: ADHA / Secretary, 512 Caddo Trail
Jacksonville, AR 72076-8988

Open Positions

Vice President Position

The position of Vice President has changed since our last newsletter. Freddie Beavers, our former Vice President stepped down from that position to focus on other endeavors. Although his leadership will be missed, he remains an active member. We thank Freddie for serving our organization. The newly elected Vice President is Darrell Speakes. Darrell is a long time ADHA member and former ADHA President. We want to welcome Darrell to the Vice President position. Congratulations Darrell.

Treasurer Position

The ADHA Treasurer position is currently being filled on a temporary basis by our Secretary, Mr. Barry Comer. Mr. Comer would like to focus his effort more on his Secretarial duties and allow another member to fill the Treasurer position. Any members that are interested in serving as ADHA Treasurer should inquire by talking to any ADHA officer or director.

Newly Created Region 7

Region 1 was recently split to create two smaller more manageable regions. Region 1 will now consist of Independence, Sharp, Fulton, Izard, Baxter, Stone, Marion and Searcy counties. The balance of Region 1 now becomes the newly created Region 7 consisting of Boone, Newton, Carroll, Madison, Washington and Benton counties. John Henry will remain Region 1 Director. We're pleased to announce the new Director of Region 7 is Alan Beard. Alan's Assistant Directors in Region 7 are Del Ramsey, Rodney Johnson and Tony Ramey. Congratulations Alan, Del, Rodney and Tony.

Region 1

John Henry, Director of Region 1 needs members from that region to help as a Regional Assistant. Anyone that is interested in serving as an assistant, please notify an officer or director.

Region 5

Edward Mulholland recently stepped down from the Region 5 Director's position. His job has required that he work some long shifts that leaves little time for his ADHA duties. We want to thank Ed for his service. Ed's Assistant, Jack Dossey is now the Director of Region 5. Congratulations Jack. We are now looking for members in Region 5 that are interested in serving as an assistant.

Membership Numbers

We continue to grow as we picked up many new members from the Big Buck Classic and Arkansas Sportshow. Our current membership numbers are about 425 Regular Members and about 50 Charter Members, for a total of about 475 members. We will continue to sell Charter Memberships until we reach 100. Once that number is reached we will no longer offer Charters. Instead, we will offer Lifetime Memberships at an increased rate of \$150.00. Please remember to keep your membership renewed and active.

Upcoming Events

Twin Lakes Gun Club Gun Show – The gun show will be held on March 3rd & 4th, 2007 at the Baxter County Fairgrounds in Mountain Home, Arkansas. The event will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday. ADHA will have a booth at the show and will distribute pamphlets, flyers, applications, and be available to answer questions about our organization.

Pine Bluff Youth Day – ADHA will conduct a Youth Day at the Delta Rivers Nature Center in Pine Bluff on May 26, 2007. It is scheduled to run from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Planned activities include a fishing derby, Genesis bow shoot, air rifles and various seminars. There will be activities for the entire family and food and beverages will be served. Members that are able to help with this event should contact an officer or director.

Yellville Youth Day - ADHA will conduct a Youth Day at the Crooked Creek Education Center, outside Yellville on April 21, 2007. It is sched-

uled to run from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Planned activities include a fishing derby, Genesis bow shoot, air rifles and various seminars. There will be activities for the entire family and food and beverages will be served. Members that are able to help with this event should contact an officer or director.

In The Works

We've discussed several different event possibilities and continue working toward them. The events we've discussed include additional youth events and sports shows, banquets, bow shoots, fishing, planting food plots and regional dinners. If you know of any facilities or shows that would allow us to pursue these events please let an officer or director know. Check the discussion board regularly for announcements of new events.

Elk Hunt Drawing

The Elk Hunt Drawing will be conducted on June 30, 2007. The drawing will take place at the 10th Annual Arkansas Elk Festival at Jasper, Newton County, Arkansas. The drawing will be conducted by ADHA Officials and will be publicly announced. The drawing is scheduled to immediately follow the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Elk Hunt Permits drawing.

**Barry Comer's first ever antlered buck
Killed Nov 11, '06 north of El Paso, AR**



The **ADHA Newsletter** is the official publication of the Arkansas Deer Hunter's Alliance. Opinions and suggestions of members are welcome as are manuscripts. All submissions will be subject to approval and editing by authority granted by the ADHA Board of Directors. Submissions or address changes should be mailed to ADHA, P.O. Box 2175, Jonesboro, AR 72401. Material contained within this newsletter may not be reproduced without written consent of the ADHA.

Barry Comer (Editor), 512 Caddo Trail, Jacksonville, AR 72076-8988 - (501) 985-5431 - E-Mail: bcomer@ardeer.org

Publishing dates are March, June, September & December - with deadlines of the 10th of the month prior to publication month.

ADHA Cookbook

Assistant Director Don Mullis is compiling a new ADHA Cookbook. We encourage all of our members to contribute wild game recipes. Each contributor will be acknowledged for their contribution by having their name printed following their recipe. Recipes can be posted on the discussion board.

ADHA Officers & Directors

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FROM:

ADHA
PO BOX 2175
JONESBORO, AR 72402

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TO: _____

"Uniting all Arkansas Deer Hunter's"

Has Your Membership Expired Or Will it Soon Expire?

Please check your mailing label above for your expiration date (just after your name)! Make any necessary changes below and return this page to ADHA, PO Box 2175, Jonesboro, AR 72402, along with your \$10.00 renewal amount.

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