



International Log
Builders' Association
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2024 Board of Directors Election Candidates

Mary D'Antoni, Rocky Road LLP



Hey there, my name is Mary D'Antoni. I would like to be on the board of directors so I can better the log home restoration industry with the knowledge of senior log builders and to create and share ILBA's standards with the log home restoration community. Off and on for about 5 years, I worked in the log home restoration field learning the trade while working for a local log home restoration business. While I did learn many helpful tools that allowed me to start my and my partners (Daniel Kidd) business, Rocky Road LLP log home restoration and finishing, there was also a lot I had to figure out myself as well since log home restoration and finishing standards are not exactly universal across the industry.

As our business grows, we are taking on bigger projects and challenges. Reaching out to resources like Mark Nelson, Jared Rogers, and Herb Meeker when answers could not be found has helped us grow our knowledge base and build our business. Herb Meeker has especially taken us under his wing to advise us when needed and educate us with his years of experience building and restoring log homes which we are so grateful for. Grizzly Bob was also a wealth of knowledge when it came to restoring historic structures when we met him at Sashcos Zero Failures class. Shortly after first starting our business, we contacted David Rogers to answer our questions, as at the time it was difficult to find seasoned professionals to reach out to who were willing to answer questions. We spoke a few times, however, when I last called it was his wife who answered and informed us of his passing.

We continue asking questions, reading, and learning so that we can better develop our trade. While we are confident in our blasting, staining, chinking, and log repair skills and methods, we are becoming more confident with log replacement. Every log face and replacement gets more difficult and better.

I have been in the log home restoration field for 10 years now and am passionate about repairing log homes to the highest standards which means lifelong learning. My partner Daniel and I are located in Fairplay, Colorado USA (High Rockies) where we also have a pack of 13 giant breed dogs and a small farm. We enjoy living and playing in nature with them and all our other animals. When I am not working, I enjoy riding my horses, hiking, off-roading, backcountry skiing, snowboarding, snow machining/ snowmobiling, and skijoring with my dogs.



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Andreas Ende, Die Blockhausbauer, GmbH



Andreas Ende's dedication to his craft extends beyond the construction site to the broader industry landscape, where he recognizes the pressing need for support and innovation. He acknowledges the challenges faced by log house builders in Germany, particularly the lack of adequate support from organizations like the ILBA (International Log Builders' Association). From his own experiences and observations, Andreas understands the complexities imposed by stringent energy regulations, evolving sustainability standards, and the growing demand for certifications.

In response to these challenges, Andreas sees an opportunity to make a difference. As he navigates his role on the Board of Directors, he endeavors to address these concerns head-on. He acknowledges that log house builders often find themselves navigating these issues alone, and he aims to change that. Andreas is committed to exploring solutions that meet the demands of energy efficiency, sustainability, and regulatory compliance without compromising the integrity of traditional log construction.

While the path ahead may be daunting, Andreas's determination to provide answers and support to his fellow log house builders serves as a driving force. He recognizes that success may not come easily, but his passion for the craft and his desire to uplift the industry inspire him to forge ahead, seeking collaborative solutions that benefit builders, clients, and the environment alike.

"Firstly, things turn out differently and secondly, than you think."



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David Harkins, Founder & CEO, Harkins Inc.



David Harkins is the visionary founder and CEO of Harkins Inc., a pioneering company at the forefront of innovation in the tech industry. With a career spanning over two decades, David has consistently demonstrated his expertise in leveraging cutting-edge technology to solve complex problems and drive business growth.

Born with an innate curiosity and a passion for technology, David embarked on his entrepreneurial journey at a young age. After earning a degree in Computer Science from a prestigious university, he quickly rose through the ranks, gaining invaluable experience in software development, project management, and strategic leadership.

In 2005, fueled by his entrepreneurial spirit and a desire to make a meaningful impact, David founded Harkins Inc. Armed with a clear vision and a team of talented professionals, he set out to revolutionize the tech landscape. Under his guidance, Harkins Inc. has flourished into a globally recognized company, known for its innovative solutions and unwavering commitment to excellence.

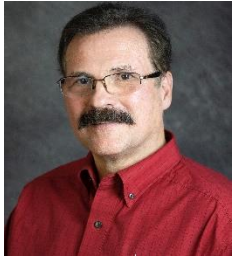
David's visionary leadership and relentless pursuit of innovation have earned him widespread acclaim in the industry. He is revered not only for his technical expertise but also for his integrity, humility, and dedication to empowering others. Beyond his role at Harkins Inc., David is also a sought-after speaker and mentor, inspiring the next generation of leaders to embrace creativity, embrace challenges, and strive for greatness.

As he continues to push the boundaries of what's possible, David remains steadfast in his mission to shape the future of technology and leave a lasting legacy of innovation and impact.



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RE-ELECTION – Robert Kenel: ILBA President



Robert Kenel, known in the industry as R.G. Kenel, is a multifaceted professional excelling in the realms of log building, sales management, and industry leadership. With a rich tapestry of experience and expertise, Kenel has become a distinguished figure in the world of log construction and business advocacy.

As the founder and principal of R.G. Kenel Log Builders, Kenel has earned a stellar reputation for his craftsmanship and dedication to the art of log home construction. With a keen eye for detail and a deep understanding of traditional building techniques, he has transformed raw timber into exquisite architectural masterpieces, each bearing the hallmark of his craftsmanship and passion for the trade.

In addition to his prowess as a log builder, Kenel has also distinguished himself as a sales professional, serving as a Territory Manager for Sashco, a leading manufacturer of sealants and stains for log and wood homes. In this role, he leverages his intimate knowledge of log construction to provide expert guidance and support to clients, helping them protect and enhance the beauty and longevity of their structures.

Outside of his professional endeavors, Kenel is a dedicated leader in the log building community, currently serving as the President of the International Log Builders Association (ILBA). In this capacity, he works tirelessly to promote excellence in log construction, foster collaboration among industry professionals, and advocate for the interests of log builders worldwide. His visionary leadership and unwavering commitment have propelled ILBA to new heights, solidifying its position as a global authority in the field.

Kenel's passion for his craft, coupled with his business acumen and leadership skills, has earned him the admiration and respect of colleagues and peers alike. Whether he's crafting a hand-hewn log home, advising clients on the best sealants for their projects, or advocating for the advancement of the log building industry, Kenel's dedication to excellence shines through in all that he does.



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Kevin R. Maynard, Owner/Member of Open Hearth Home Inspection, LLC



Kevin is a Certified Master Home Inspector and Licensed General Contractor. He is a prominent figure in the field, holding memberships in prestigious organizations such as the Wisconsin Association of Home Inspectors (WAHI), American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI), International Log Builders Association (ILBA) and the Wisconsin Association of Foundation Repair, Professionals (WAFRP).

Kevin's expertise is widely sought after by attorneys, insurance agencies, builders, and homeowners facing construction challenges or inspection issues. With a background in building and repairing log homes, Kevin brings a unique perspective to his work, understanding the intricacies of the building process and components of a home. Having traveled extensively to countries like Norway, Switzerland, and Estonia, Kevin has shared his knowledge as a guest speaker for various associations, including WAHI, ASHI, ILBA, and the Estonia Log Builders' Association. He has also served as an instructor at Home Inspector University, imparting his wealth of experience to aspiring professionals in the industry.

Kevin's dedication to his craft extends beyond his role at Open Hearth Home Inspection, as he also collaborates with Energy Star Properties, LLC, a company specializing in restoration of old homes, particularly log homes from top to bottom. His reputation as a log home expert is well established, with a track record of serving as an expert witness on log home inspection and construction errors nationwide. In addition to his professional commitments, Kevin has actively contributed to log building standards worldwide through his involvement in committees at ILBA. His passion for excellence and commitment to the industry make him a trusted authority in the field of home inspection and construction.



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Andrus Prangli, Hobbiton



I truly fell in love with handcrafted log house buildings in 1997 while studying at the Estonian Agricultural University Forestry Institute. Before that I had traveled a lot in Norway and one camping owner asked me if I could find a log house producer in Estonia who could make him some camping houses. Together with my closest friend Andres Uus we then discovered that there were only a couple of companies in Estonia that could produce such and their production queue was more than one year. We then participated in log-building courses and started our own company the same year. A year later we took courses in Norwegian-style log building by Mr. George Fuller from Norway, and then our sales took off for good. Norway has been the main market for our company since then.

After a couple of years of physical work in the production hall, our business grew bigger and I started mostly to administrate our company - somebody had to. My closest partner Andres took the privilege of working more closely in the production and later, he also started renovating old log houses. Since 2005 our company has been a member of the Estonian Wooden Houses Association. I have been a Member of the Board there several times, and the President of the Association for some years. Our company Hobbiton OU has been a proud member of ILBA for quite some time already: I cannot recall how long exactly but it must be at least 15 years or even more. We see the great value in staying informed about the world's most representative union of handcrafted log house builders.

My purpose in participating in the Board of Directors is to better represent handcrafters from this side of the world in the Association. And as a Director, also promote the ILBA among the producers of our region. And, last but not least: to promote among ILBA members, the participation in the International competition for handcrafted log house builders that has been taking place in Estonia yearly for more than 15 years already. Besides the Estonians, we have had competitors here from Finland, Germany, and Canada but we'd like to make it even more International.



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RE-ELECTION – Matt Smith, ILBA Treasurer



Matt is not only dedicated to his professional pursuits but also actively contributes to the community. He currently serves as the Treasurer of the International Log Builders' Association (ILBA), where he leverages his financial expertise to support the organization's initiatives and promote the art of log home building globally.

Matt Smith is an accomplished accountant with a passion for precision and detail. Alongside his successful career in finance, he indulges his creative side as an amateur log home builder. His unique blend of analytical prowess and craftsmanship has earned him recognition in both the financial and construction industries.

Matt's fascination with log homes began as a hobby, which he developed into a passion project over the years. Combining his love for woodworking with his analytical mindset, Matt meticulously plans and constructs log homes in his spare time.

Matt Smith's unique blend of financial acumen and artisanal skills reflects his dedication to excellence in both his professional and personal endeavors. Whether he's balancing books or shaping logs, Matt approaches each task with precision, passion, and a commitment to exceeding expectations.



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Toni Strawbridge, LBA NZ (Log Building Association New Zealand)



My name is Toni Strawbridge. I am 38 years old and live in Palmerston North New Zealand. My love for log homes goes back to my childhood, then I married a man with the same love for them, and 6 years ago we sold everything we had, brought a sawmill and a caravan, and moved our family to the South Island to build our dream home in the Natural log homes yard. We are now happily living in our dream house slowly ticking jobs off our 20-

page list.

Before our build, we joined the log building association of New Zealand which was a life saviour, we gained knowledge, friends, and opportunities from this association which we were so thankful for. As of the AGM that was held at our house last year we were nominated and accepted the roles of President and secretary of our association and I'm now running it. I am in the process of organising our annual log-building course as we speak.

I believe that by becoming a member of this board I can gain information on Log building from around the world, which will help me become a better secretary for our association and also get help and knowledge for my newsletter that by default I have become the new editor of. But I also feel that I can bring an international perspective also a practical aspect as well with the experience I have had with building my own home.

I currently serve on the school board as a parent rep at my children's school, I like to be involved and am a confident speaker and like to share my ideas and knowledge where I can.

I would like to apply for a position on your board and look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards Toni

PS: Above is a photo of myself and my family. My husband Brook and my children Zavian and Azaria...I thought it was appropriate to share a photo of us all as we come as a package.