

**Tippecanoe County Historical Association  
Board of Governors Meeting**

*Mission: To Enrich the Lives of Tippecanoe County Residents and Visitors by collecting, preserving, researching, and sharing our unique and diverse history.*

**AGENDA**

**5:15 PM, October 22, 2024**

**HYBRID MEETING – IN PERSON and ZOOM**

**Members of the Board** (total: 21 – quorum: 11)

Jeff Schwab – President	Del Bartlett	Quentin Robinson
Dave Sattler – Vice President	Pete Bill	Marsha Selmer
Nick Schenkel - Secretary	Jeff Burnworth	Bridget Slack
Lorita Bill – Treasurer	H. Kory Cooper	Jeremy Spann
Rosanne Altstatt	Walt Griffin	John F. Thieme
Cassandra Apuzzo	David Hovde	Whitney Walton
Colby Bartlett	Tara Raber	Todd White

**Meetings are Hybrid unless otherwise noted. In person at the History Center and available on ZOOM.**

**Connecting Information for Zoom Meeting**

- If you have a computer with a web camera and microphone (most web cams have a microphone built in), connect to the meeting by clicking on the hi-lighted “<https://zoom.us/.....>” below.
- If you have not previously downloaded Zoom software, you will be prompted to do so in order to connect to the meeting. The software is free.
- If you wish to connect by phone, call in one of the numbers listed below (doesn’t matter which). Once you are connected, you will be asked for your Meeting ID number so you can be placed into the correct meeting. The Meeting ID number is listed below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85870744709?pwd=a4zf9xMFvbaxSaK5kAjkjbi3ox4bSe.1>

Meeting ID: 858 7074 4709

Passcode: 076778

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,85870744709#,,,,\*076778# US

+13092053325,,85870744709#,,,,\*076778# US

Dial by your location

- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

## **FUTURE DATES FOR MEETINGS and EVENTS**

**Executive Committee (agenda setting)** – 5:15 the Thursday before a Board meeting  
(currently Zoom meetings)

**Board of Governors – Fourth Tuesday of the Month** at 5:15

- October 22, 2024
- November 19, 2024 (Moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday)
- December 17, 2024- Budget Meeting (Moved due to Christmas Holiday)

## AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Minutes from August 27, 2024 Board meeting – *Pages 4-7*
- Officers' reports and business
  - President
    - Reschedule of visit to Fort Ouiatenon and the Ouiatenon Preserve
    - November meeting will be held at Arganbright and NOT HAVE ZOOM
    - November meeting will include nominations for the Ball Sholty award
    - Board recruitment
      - We have seven serving board members whose terms expire this year
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer – *Pages 8-9*
- Executive Director Report – Claire Eagle – *Page 10-11*
  - The History Center will be a polling site for the general election
  - Program planning for the bicentennial year has begun
  - We have received two grants, one to repaint Arganbright and the other for an alert system for the Fort events
  - The History Center has recently been a recurring graffiti target
- Battlefield Museum Report – Trey Gorden – *Page 12*
  - Visitor numbers are about normal
  - The Battlefield commemoration will be November 9th
- Membership Report – Kelly Lippie – *Page 13*
  - Newsletter material due December 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Membership tent at the feast processed two new memberships and some renewals
- Collections Report – Kelly Lippie – *Page 14*
  - Working on bicentennial book material
  - Working on pop up exhibits for the bicentennial
  - Renewed material loans both incoming and outgoing
- Library Report – Amy Harbor – *Page 15*
  - Researchers are using the online indexes more
  - Grand View Cemetery Tour material and volunteers are ready
- Feast Report – Brooke Sauter – *Page 16-18*
  - Good feast overall, near normal attendance
  - Merchandise sold well
  - Some challenges with busses and parking
  - Cleanup went well this year
- Notes from Committees – *Pages 19-22*
- Any Other Business
- *END AGENDA*

**Minutes for August 27, 2024**  
**TCHA Board of Governors Meeting**  
**At the Tippecanoe Battlefield**

Board President Jeffrey Schwab called the TCHA Board of Governors to order at 5:15pm at The Battleground Museum.

Governors attending in-person were Jeff Schwab, Dave Sattler, Lorita Bill, Nick Schenkel, Cassie Apuzzo, Pete Bill, Kory Cooper, Walt Griffin, Quentin Robinson, Bridget Slack, Jeremy Spann, Tara Raber, Todd White, and Whitney Walton.

Online attendance was not available for this meeting.

Governors not present in person or online were Roseanne Alstatt, Colby Bartlett, Del Bartlett, Jeff Burnworth, David Hovde, Marsha Selmer, and John Thieme.

Staff members present were Executive Director Claire Eagle, Kelly Lippie and Trey Gordon.

The Minutes of the July 23, 2024 Board Meeting were presented and approved, with corrections, by voice vote after a motion from Quentin Robinson and a second from Dave Sattler.

President Jeff Schwab asked us to support Feast volunteers and to volunteer at the Feast when we have the time and ability; the Feast is TCHA's most significant public event and fundraiser.

The Vice President had no report.

The Secretary had no report in addition to the Minutes.

So that the Board could focus on the initial Strategic Planning discussion, reports from the Treasurer, the Executive Director and TCHA committees were brief; written reports were shared with all board members.

Lorita Bill, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report for July 2024 (see attached). She noted the Historical Dinners were successful financially and that income from preparations for the Feast is ahead of expectations this year.

The Report showed a reduction in cash from June into July; this is, she told us, normal for this time of the budget year and called our attention to the large increase in cash less current obligations.

Claire Eagle presented the Executive Director's Report (see attached). She told the Board that TCHA will be cutting ties with the accounting firm with which we have been working, LiftBridge from Indianapolis.

She reported the inaugural year of "Taste of the Past" dinners were quite a success, netting popular acclaim and almost \$5,000 in new income for TCHA.

ED Eagle is waiting to hear from NCHS and the Community Foundation about grants that were submitted to both funding organizations earlier this year.

Trey Gordon highlighted his written report (see attached), noting the Battlefield's visitor numbers continue to increase, and that Stephanie Elliott has begun work as the part time Feast Assistant.

Kelly Lippie presented the Membership Report (see attached).

Feast tickets have been mailed to members.

Planning for the TCHA membership tent at the Feast is underway. Please consider signing up for a shift or two at the membership tent to greet members and recruit new members for TCHA.

The total number of memberships continues to increase year over year.

Ms. Lippie presented the Collections Report (see attached) noting several material loans to local organizations and participation in Shadelands' 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration earlier in August.

There was no Librarian's Report's report for this month.

Feast Coordinator Brooke Sauter presented the Feast Report (see attached). This year's Feast is scheduled for October 5 and 6.

Ms. Sauter noted the continued activity in participant interest for the 2024 Feast and urged board members to continue to help the Feast to another successful year.

In addition to digital tickets, Feast merchandise is now available online now. Check out the offerings at <https://unitedstateofindiana.com/collections/feast-of-the-hunters-moon-merch-store>

Publicity efforts for the Feast are in full swing.

Other Committee Reports were presented (see attached).

Brooke Sauter reported for the Development and Membership Committee, noting that the Indiana Humanities grant to help fund Native American Tribes' participation in the Feast was accepted.

Jeff Burnham submitted a written report for the Facilities Committee.

- Grant opportunities for repairs are being pursued and repairs continue to be made as needed.

Jeff Schwab reported for the Bicentennial Publications Committee (see attached).

The Committee welcomed a small surge in submitted articles recently and continues to look for additional authors.

Kory Cooper spoke on behalf of the Ouiatenon Preserve Committee (please see attached Report). Trash dumping at the OPI pullout is a concern and efforts are underway to remove existing trash and prevent further dumping at the site.

A tragic death and a resignation at the Archeological Conservancy (**Nick's question - [Or COUNCIL?](#)** - has left Conservancy representation on the OPI board open.

Tree trimming by Duke Energy at the Preserve is uncertain; efforts are being made to clarify management of this issue through cooperation among OPI, TCHA, Indiana DNR and USFWS.

The Program Committee and the Publications Committee each had no report

The Publications Committee had nothing additional to report.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Strategic Planning Chair Lorita Bill continued discussions with the Board, emphasizing once again that we ought to understand and build the Strategic Plan so that it speaks to TCHA's Mission.

This month's research and discussion focused on Board members' in-person tour of the Battlefield Museum, scheduled as part of the August Board Meeting.

The board meeting was temporarily paused and each board member was asked to tour the facility and write their thoughts/impressions on three different "white boards" asking board members to respond to these questions

- "Key Takeaways from your tour"
- "First Impressions of the Museum" and
- "Are we effectively telling the story of this historical location:"

These board members' thoughts were the focus of the ensuing discussion.

Points put forward and discussed by board members included these:

- Could the "empty" wall and floor space in the Museum be utilized for displays? Perhaps for children-focused activities and exhibits?
- Would it be useful to provide exhibits about the Native American experience side-by-side with the existing history exhibits?
- How does the large exhibit of historical guns in the "gun room" tell the story of the Battlefield site? Could the gun exhibit be refashioned to focus on the historical period of the Museum and allow for additional exhibit space for other historical interpretation at this site?
- Could TCHA work with Purdue Anthropology (and perhaps other) students to provide an ongoing survey of Museum visitors to gather visitors' impressions of the Museum?

As previously agreed by the board, future board meetings will follow this schedule:

- September: no board meeting but board members are asked to tour the Fort and the Preserve on the usual board meeting night (September 24, gathering to respond to the three questions asked at the August board meeting)
- October: Board Meeting at the History Center and review of the August and September facility tours.
- November: Board meeting at Argenbright.
- December: Board meeting at History Center.

- January 2025: no Board meeting; Annual Membership meeting at the History Center.
- February: Board meeting at the History Center, annual organizational board meeting.
- March: Board meeting at the History Center.

There being no additional business, President Schwab thanked board members for their work at this evening's meeting. Walt Griffin moved, and Quentin Robinson seconded adjournment. The motion was approved by a voice vote at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nick Schenkel, TCHA Secretary

**Treasurer's Report  
Lorita Bill  
October 2024**

<b>Tippecanoe County Historical Association</b>				
<b>Selected Accounts</b>				
<b>Sep-24</b>				
			<b>Change from</b>	
	<b>9/30/2024</b>	<b>8/31/2024</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>				
Petty Cash	572.17	572.17	-	
First Merchants Checking 1%	96,880.50	31,506.93	65,373.57	
First Merchants Operating MM 3.2%	171,359.91	245,755.74	(74,395.83)	
Emergency Maintenance MM 3.2%	53,101.27	52,964.08	137.19	
Ouiatenon Preserve Account 3.2%	106,762.57	106,579.66	182.91	
Feast Rainy Day CD 5.25%	107,113.55	106,646.55	467.00	
Undeposited Funds	787.38	1,247.40	(460.02)	
<b>Total Change in Cash</b>	<b>536,577.35</b>	<b>545,272.53</b>	<b>(8,695.18)</b>	
			-	
Accounts Payable	(50,037.36)	(13,821.60)	(36,215.76)	
Credit Card	(18,336.40)	(4,453.17)	(13,883.23)	
<b>Cash less current obligations</b>	<b>468,203.59</b>	<b>526,997.76</b>	<b>(58,794.17)</b>	
			<b>Change from</b>	
	<b>9/30/2024</b>	<b>9/30/2023</b>	<b>Last Year</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>				
Petty Cash	572.17	600.65	(28.48)	
First Merchants Checking 1%	96,880.50	171,043.65	(74,163.15)	
First Merchants Operating MM 3.2%	171,359.91	-	171,359.91	
Emergency Maintenance MM 3.2%	53,101.27	36,011.48	17,089.79	
Ouiatenon Preserve Account 3.2%	106,762.57	87,476.66	19,285.91	
Feast Rainy Day CD 5.25%	107,113.55	101,164.64	5,948.91	
Undeposited Funds	787.38	1,876.89	(1,089.51)	
<b>Total Change in Cash</b>	<b>536,577.35</b>	<b>398,173.97</b>	<b>138,403.38</b>	
Accounts Payable	(50,037.36)	(14,460.31)	(35,577.05)	
Credit Card	(18,336.40)	(16,758.74)	(1,577.66)	
<b>Cash less current obligations</b>	<b>468,203.59</b>	<b>366,954.92</b>	<b>101,248.67</b>	
<b>Investment Accounts</b>	<b>9/30/2024</b>	<b>12/31/2023</b>	<b>Change 2024</b>	
TCHA Trust	1,567,044.03	1,380,418.37	186,625.66	
Wetherill Trust	392,662.33	359,552.16	33,110.17	
Lafayette Community Foundation	34,823.70	32,981.29	1,842.41	
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>1,994,530.06</b>	<b>1,772,951.82</b>	<b>221,578.24</b>	
*Investments are updated quarterly				



<b>Tippecanoe County Historical Association</b>				
<b>Budget vs. Actuals: 2024</b>				
<b>Thru September 30, 2024</b>				
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Grant Operating	500.00	-	500.00	
Contributions	77,386.55	81,750.00	(4,363.45)	City of Lafayette
Museum Store Sales	30,178.97	30,000.00	178.97	
Library Revenue	1,716.20	1,885.00	(168.80)	
Membership Dues	20,427.50	19,080.00	1,347.50	
Programs & Education	41,723.70	22,100.00	19,623.70	Dinners & VLWL sponsorship
Feast Of The Hunters Moon	34,818.85	34,650.00	168.85	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>206,751.77</b>	<b>189,465.00</b>	<b>17,286.77</b>	
Cost of Goods Sold	13,731.34	13,500.00	231.34	
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>193,020.43</b>	<b>175,965.00</b>	<b>17,055.43</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Salaries, Wages & Benefits	179,003.77	183,800.29	(4,796.52)	
Administrative Expenses	7,306.62	8,600.25	(1,293.63)	
Contract Services (Accounting & Computer)	16,983.16	18,000.00	(1,016.84)	
Equipment & Supplies	2,764.69	3,440.00	(675.31)	
Collections, Exhibits & Library	4,167.73	4,770.00	(602.27)	
Museum Store Expenses	1,236.70	1,600.00	(363.30)	
Insurance and Taxes	14,913.72	15,750.00	(836.28)	
Repairs & Maintenance	22,706.34	26,020.00	(3,313.66)	
Contractual Services (Security & Copier)	2,379.35	3,015.00	(635.65)	
Utilities	30,397.02	36,700.00	(6,302.98)	
Membership Expenses	1,936.20	1,950.00	(13.80)	
Fundraising Expense	1,248.20	2,500.00	(1,251.80)	
Feast Expenses	83,681.70	52,525.00	31,156.70	
Programs & Education Expense	6,870.19	5,110.00	1,760.19	Dinners
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>375,595.39</b>	<b>363,780.54</b>	<b>11,814.85</b>	
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(182,574.96)</b>	<b>(187,815.54)</b>	<b>5,240.58</b>	
<b>Other Income (Expense)</b>				
Grants - Nonoperating	-	-	-	
Rents	7,050.00	5,400.00	1,650.00	
Interest	17,241.70	11,400.00	5,841.70	
Investment Income (distribution only)	65,561.76	62,700.00	2,861.76	
Depreciation	(53,595.00)	(53,595.00)	-	
<b>Total Other Income (Expense)</b>	<b>36,258.46</b>	<b>25,905.00</b>	<b>10,353.46</b>	
<b>Net Income (Before Investment Gains)</b>	<b>(146,316.50)</b>	<b>(161,910.54)</b>	<b>15,594.04</b>	
Other investment income	171,078.24	-	171,078.24	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>24,761.74</b>	<b>(161,910.54)</b>	<b>186,672.28</b>	

**Executive Director Report**  
**Claire Eagle**  
**October 2024**

**Administration**

- I am working on staff evaluations. They will be completed within the next week or so ahead of budget discussions.
- Kelly and I have received 3 comp days for all the extra time worked during and leading up to the Feast. With Trey now classified as a non-exempt employee, he received overtime pay for his extra hours. Additionally, Rick is working a few days for Laura out at the Battlefield to ensure that she does not reach her limits after working extra time as well to cover the museum.
- I have completed the Executive Coaching program through the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette. It was a wonderful experience, and I truly learned a lot.



- We've purchased a table for Bravo for the Arts this Friday. This is a requirement as we received the NCHS grant.
- The History Center will once again be a polling center for the general election. Thank you to all of you who have already signed up to act as site manager throughout the day.

**Programs**

- January-March program planning has begun. We will have it finalized and a program brochure sent out in early December.
- Bicentennial program planning is in full swing. Please see below for our current working plans. Currently Ben Ross, Bridget, Kelly and I have agreed to serve on the bicentennial walking tour subcommittee. If you are interested in participating, please let me know ASAP.
  - Bicentennial Walking Tour Series (the city is very interested in making these a big part of the overall programming)
    - Downtown Churches
    - Neighborhoods (Centennial, Perrin, Highland Park, etc.)
    - Courthouse Square
    - Columbian Park
    - Other architecture
  - Selfie Bingo/Historic Markers Scavenger Hunt
  - Show & Tell speed rounds with Bicentennial Book authors

- Continued cemetery tours
  - Special bicentennial Taste of the Past dinner
- The program committee is working on developing a survey to be distributed at the end of November regarding our programming. We will send it to all members and promote it on social media and website as well. The results of our first brainstorming session on questions are included in my program committee report.

### **Grants and Donations**

- We received a grant of \$43,640 for the exterior work on the Arganbright. We will also be contributing \$5,000 out of our maintenance funds for the project. Work has already begun and is expected to finish in the next week and a half or so.
- We also received a grant for \$57,084.75 from NCHS for an alert system out at the Fort. This project is not expected to begin until the Spring.

### **Facilities**

- Unfortunately, we have now been hit with graffiti on the History Center twice in the last month. It is the same person and same image. I've reported it to the LPD but haven't gotten any farther than that. Stephanie (our regular cleaning service) is working on getting everything removed. It's proven to be difficult to remove it from the brick. I had reached out to the Economic Development Office to inquire about local community services to help remove it and all they were able to provide was some documents on best practices to remove it. I guess the group that used to remove graffiti at no cost does not exist anymore.
- Sometime during the second week of September, the Banquet Hall rooftop unit died. After having to also call in an electrician (thanks Jeff B. for calling in a favor), Blue Fox told me that the fan motor had died and taken out the blade and some electrical wiring with it. I got quotes from both them and ICU on the repair as well as replacement since there were already ongoing conversations with ICU regarding that. I've attached them to this email. Since the weather is cooling, I do not believe this is a huge priority, and we can take some time to make a decision instead of rushing a repair. Since it was just the rooftop unit that went out and not the blower, the heat is working just fine.
- Blue Fox has turned the boiler on for the winter.

**Battlefield Museum Report**  
**Trey Gorden**  
**October 2024**

September/October, 2024

- Visitor numbers are fairly in line with last month.
- By next month's meeting, Stephanie will have started

These two months were mixed, as regards our visitor numbers. In September we had 651 visitors, far below last year's 928, and much lower than the prior month's (admittedly exceptional) 1065. October had 1044 visitors, though; excellent compared to last month, and respectable even against last year's 959.

Feast is over, inventory is nearly finished, and programs are starting to heat up again. We already have seven scheduled for next month!

It's almost time for Commemoration! The event is scheduled for November 9th and goes from 9:00 until 4:00. Here's the lineup. I hope to see you all there.

9:00 Battlefield Museum and historic interpretation camp opens to the public.

10:00 Keynote Address: Guest Speaker Dr. Donald R. Hickey — "Forgotten Conflict: Why the War of 1812 Matters Today." Dr. Hickey will also be signing copies of his latest book, *Tecumseh's War: The Epic Conflict for the Heart of America*.

11:00 American Legion posting of colors and laying of wreaths

12:30 Speaker: Trey Gorden — "US Army & Native Confederacies in the Struggle for the Old Northwest"

1:30 Guest Speaker: Rick Conwell — "A Tour of the Tippecanoe Battlefield: Reliving the Battle of Tippecanoe"

4:00 Event closes

**Membership Report  
Kelly Lippie  
October 2024**

- Issue 3 of Newsletter was not finished in time. There will only be 3 newsletters this year. Next newsletter material is due December 6.
- Member Feast tickets were mailed out in August.
- Membership Tent at Feast:
  - Thanks to Pete and Lorita Bill, Nick Schenkel and Kory Cooper for helping at the front table.
  - 11 memberships sold over the weekend
    - 2 of those 11 were online
    - 2 of those were new memberships, the rest were renewals
    - There were 3 more new memberships purchased online a week after the Feast- which I believe were likely from people who picked up membership brochures at the tent.
  - Approximately 29 members visited the tent, some more than once.

Membership numbers:

Membership Level	Renewal Period	Total as of July 18	Total as of Aug. 22	Total as of Oct. 17
Individual (\$35)	Annual	56	57	55
Senior Individual (\$30)	Annual	80	82	84
Senior Couple (\$40)	Annual	112	109	115
Family (\$50)	Annual	58	61	61
Patron (\$100)	Annual	69	68	68
Sustaining (\$250)	Annual	18	20	17
Benefactor (\$500)	Annual	5	5	6
Treasure (\$1,000)	Annual	3	3	3
Lifetime	Lifetime	28	28	28
<b>Total Memberships</b>		<b>429</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>437</b>

Total number of members in October 19, 2023: **429**

## TCHA Collection Department Report

Kelly Lippie

October 2024

- Renewed loans for 1852 Foundation (Fowler House)
- Ongoing volunteer projects in collections include: Indexing Journal and Courier negatives, scanning photos for Bicentennial book, cataloging artifacts, processing an archival collection, indexing a scrapbook.
- Compiling photographs and artifact images for the Bicentennial Book.
- Helping Tippecanoe County School Corporation with content for the exhibit in their new administration building.
- 2 Interns/ student volunteers will continue their work for the fall semester by designing exhibits for the History Center wall case and Battlefield temporary cases in the gun room.
- Working with GL Graphix to produce the first in a series of “pop up” exhibits for the
- Also processed Feast School Day registrations and did administrative work for the school day events.
- Researched for Cemetery Tour program.
- Compiled “This Day in History” info for Facebook posts.
- Worked with Purdue Anthro faculty to create educational kit with deer bones; also giving access to student working on bale seal project.
- Made 2 trips to collect records and artifacts donated by Mary Anthrop. Mary is now in hospice care and has donated her research files to TCHA and the publication rights to her African American articles. She also donated funds to pay for publishing her articles, buying library/ collections supplies and for a staff/ volunteer lunch.
- Represented TCHA at the Lafayette Business Expo with the City of Lafayette to promote the Bicentennial projects- especially the exhibits.
- Revised the traveling educational kits in preparation for a teacher to check them out for a few weeks.
- Renewed incoming loans of 2 items on exhibit at the Battlefield.

Collections Committee met September 4. 7 new accessions created. No Collections Committee held in October due to the Feast.

**TCHA Library Report  
Amy Harbor  
October 2024**

- West Gate at the Feast ran very smoothly thanks to the great internet service. Credit cards ran quickly which kept lines moving. Ticket scanning was also improved. Volunteers were great.
- Visits to the library have been fairly low this fall. Researchers are making good use of our online indexes, and they typically come with a list of things to see.
- Grand View Cemetery Tour has come together with 12 volunteers representing 13 people. I've completed a map and tour booklet.
- Ten volunteers are working on library projects.

**Feast Report**  
**Brooke Sauter**  
**October 2024**

Wow, what a Feast! As my first year as Event Manager, I spent a lot of time covering the grounds during set up as well as the event itself (and tear down), taking in the event, making notes on improvements for next year, and doing my best to make as many connections and introductions as possible. That all being said, the below are the details and data that I have been able to gather *thus far*. I expect as things are closed out in the coming months I will have more to share. But in short, I feel that it was a good Feast.

**Food Booths:** Lauren was phenomenal in her first year as Food Booth Chair. Leading up to the event, she worked closely with our GFS Rep Craig to ensure all orders were in and accounted for. This of course was based on what the food booths had requested/self-reported, so there were a few last-minute needs and trips to GFS during the weekend itself to compensate for things not “ordered”/requested. She also managed the crew of workers who kept track of the items loading in and out of the GFS trucks. She and I have since met to work on detangling the order information to ensure each group or troop is billed accordingly for their commissary items, and we are already making notes on how to simplify and correct some things for next year.

We had FOUR new Food Booths this year, and I have since talked to each of them. One is an outlier who will return based on their calendar availability (We gained them because Mississinewa canceled their 2024 event, which is closer to them geographically), but the other three were “organic” new additions who intend to return. One of the booths, turkey legs, sold out of his product early Sunday morning. Knowing this would be the case late Saturday, we worked with him to come up with an additional product, chicken kebabs, to supplement with after he ran out of his original product on Sunday.

**Transportation:** Parking on Saturday was a mess. I had coordinated with an ROTC group to facilitate parking in our west lot, but when they didn’t show up at all and were not responding to messages, the Sheriff's Dept, Marty Webb of TEMA, and our Jim’s Towing driver jumped in the clean up a severe mess. This included closing down the lot once it was full, due to cars parking aisles three and four deep at some points. Once that was resolved, the lot was reopened. During the time, I spent time in the lot with them and communicating with ROTC to see what could be done. Fortunately, while Saturday was a mess, the ROTC members (and the contact I had been working with), joined us Sunday and parking was much, much smoother.

We also lost our transportation to and from the 350 Lot. Due to lack of drivers, our usual contact with Faith Church was unable to assist this year. While it was a loss, it meant more walking to the Feast grounds from this lot. But knowing that we would not have the shuttle, I worked with Marty in advance to provide additional safety equipment to ensure pedestrians had a wide walking area separated from vehicles along S River Road. We heard numerous complaints about this, and I am working on a solution for 2025.

Lastly, in transportation, we also lost use of the R Lot at Ross-Ade Stadium about a month in advance of the event. That being said, we worked with TEMA, City Bus, and Purdue Parking to come to the solution of using the Discovery Lot. We had additional signage printed to ensure attendees taking the bus knew how to access the lot, as well as provide additional signage at Ross-Ade Stadium with a map to point drivers to the new location should they arrive at Ross-Ade. After talking with Purdue Parking, this will likely be the new parking location for the Bus to and from the Feast for future years.

**Wifi:** Kudos to Jeff Schwab and Scott Kasander for their hard work on the wireless system at the grounds! As some may remember, last year we had some issues with the wireless, between human



intervention and tech failure. After reworking the entire Wifi design for 2024, it was a mass improvement and I was personally hearing comments from vendors all across the grounds on how fast, steady, and reliable the wireless was for this year. Jeff and Scott's new system, which had various zones, was a huge success as on Sunday, one zone went down but did not take the entire system with it. This led to vendors who were none the wiser, and gates that were able to continue to take payment and process tickets through the gate with no issue.

**Attendance:** So far, it looks like we are right on par with 2023 attendance numbers. There are differences in how Leslie has traditionally calculated attendance and how I view the attendance numbers. But knowing that and using her process to calculate something in a way that is comparable to previous years, we are probably a few hundred people shy of 2023's number, but still vastly north of 40,000, which is what has traditionally been considered the mark of a "good" Feast. (We have had Feasts with attendance higher than 40,000 from 2019-2024.) I anticipate having a final number in the coming week or two.

This year, we sold an additional \$20,000 worth of tickets online than in 2023. Buying early not only saves attendees some money, but also ensures we get the cost of the ticket regardless of whether they attend. This increase in online pre-sales does mean our cash at the gate was down, but I feel this is a good direction to be trending. I am also eager to dive into the data garnered by Ticketspice, our vendor. We are able to see geographic and demographic data based on ticket buyers.

Registration is something that also saw an overhaul in 2024. We now have Mary Fisher running the Registration tent. She brings with her a lot of organization, Feast experience, and "customer service" attitude. Between notes given to me by Linda Swihart, previous Registration Tent coordinator, Mary, Jeff Schwab and I met in advance of the event to prepare her for this task. Between Linda's/my notes, and Mary's personal experience as a participant, things went smoothly. We are already working on ways to improve the process and continue to make it a smooth experience when participants "check in" at the event.

We did run into one issue with participants in regard to Setup. We learned this fall how many set-up volunteers do not fill out their application paperwork, which is crucial to build an accurate database of volunteers and participants. This also caused friction with some volunteers who we did not have records for, but needed their participant buttons. This was certainly a learning experience. Many thanks to Ronda Schwab for assisting with checking in volunteers as they arrived each day for set up, and helping me track volunteers we did not yet have paperwork for. Based on this, we are working on solutions for future Feasts to ensure we have the proper paperwork for our volunteers.

**Financials:** Financials should be wrapped up towards the end of December, when we do pay-outs to the food booths after they have submitted their final paperwork (November 4th deadline). I met with Lorita and Claire this past week to work on the budget for 2025, which also helps me better understand the bounds of the budget line items, especially now that I have been through an entire Feast year.

**A few other items:** We worked with the Pioneer Junior/Senior High School Swim Team to facilitate setting up marquee tents and final set up on the Sunday before the Feast. This was a change from 2023, where Purdue Crew traditionally helped with this as part of their fundraising. Purdue Crew facilitated tear down on the Monday after the Feast. This was a vast improvement from 2023's tear down. The park, Feast staff, and Crew all walked away very happy with this year's clean up.

The Miami of Oklahoma joined us again, thanks to a grant provided by Indiana Humanities. Humanities staff also visited the Feast on Sunday, and sent a very kind thank you note talking about their experience and enjoyment of the Feast.

Advertising was a big success in 2024. In addition to TV and radio interviews, we also had a heavy presence on social media, with daily posts the two weeks leading up to the Feast, and hourly posts scheduled during the event itself. We also purchased City Bus ads in 2024 (Three exterior ads and “cards” in every City Bus in Lafayette), a billboard on I-65 near Hwy 26, and distributed trifolds to area partners, as well as coasters to area restaurants. Of the 15 restaurants I personally delivered to, it was fun to see the joy on the person’s face when they realized I was bringing coasters. These are apparently a hot commodity to bartenders and restauraners alike!

We also hosted a behind-the-scenes tour Thursday of Feast week to tourism partners through Visit Lafayette-West Lafayette. We had 20-some attendees from area hotels, tourism attractions, and businesses. This was a unique opportunity to showcase the variety that the Feast brings, and let tourism partners talk directly to the people who make it happen. (Thanks to Spring Valley Lodges, the NMLRA, Jeremy Spann/Blockhouse volunteers, and the Ouatennon Voyageurs for talking to these partners.)

Merch through United State of Indiana was a HUGE hit. Last I talked to Trey, we had just TWO shirts remaining from our stock. We sold out of magnets, bandanas, and the custom mugs created by Mud Dog Pottery in Battleground. We still have leather coasters left, as well as stickers. I am eager to continue to work with USI to design future years’ merch and rely on their expertise. They obviously have the right idea!

While I could go on, I will cap myself at three pages. I am sure as we continue to close out the books on 2024 I will have more to share. But my heartfelt thanks to the TCHA Board for supporting the Feast. It wouldn’t happen without YOU!

## **Other Committee Reports October 2024**

### **Development & Membership Committee**

#### General Membership Updates

- Follow-up Letters were sent out after the Annual Appeal letter. We received two gifts from this.

#### Grants

- We were awarded an NCHS grant for a safety warning system at the Feast
- We were awarded a Community Foundation grant for building repairs at Arganbright. These are underway.
- We were awarded a grant from Indiana Humanities to support the Miami attending the Feast.
- We were awarded a grant from the Lafayette Life Foundation for School Days for the Feast. We used these funds to purchase much-needed safety supplies for the Feast school days on Thursday and Friday. These were hugely successful.

### **Facilities Committee**

From Claire:

- Gibson Painting has begun work on the Arganbright thanks to the grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette. I spoke with the crew supervisor yesterday and he expects all of the work to take about two weeks.
- We did receive the grant from NCHS for the weather alert system out at the Fort, but I don't expect that project to begin until the Spring.
- Unfortunately, we have now been hit with graffiti on the History Center twice in the last month. It is the same person and same image. I've reported it to the LPD, but haven't gotten any farther than that. Stephanie (our regular cleaning service) has made progress on getting the first one removed, and will work on the second one this weekend or next week when she has time. I had reached out to the Economic Development Office to inquire about local community services to help remove it and all they were able to provide is some documents on best practices to remove it. I guess the group that used to remove graffiti at no cost does not exist anymore.
- Sometime during the second week of September, the Banquet Hall rooftop unit died. After having to also call in an electrician (thanks Jeff B. for calling in a favor), Blue Fox told me that the fan motor had died and taken out the blade and some electrical wiring with it. I got quotes from both them and ICU on the repair as well as replacement since there were already ongoing conversations with ICU regarding that. I've attached them to this email. Since the weather is cooling, I do not believe this is a huge priority, and we can take some time to make a decision instead of rushing a repair. Since it was just the rooftop unit that went out and not the blower, it is my understanding that the heat will work just fine once the boiler is turned on.
- Speaking of which, Blue Fox will be at the HC on Monday 10-12-2024 to turn the boiler on.

Some other notes:

We received a quote for the entire boiler replacement.

The fort Conex was delivered and saved an incredible amount of time. It was over what we thought we should have paid, but will pay for itself in 2 years instead of less than 1.

Parks was pleased with the clean up of the Feast

We will get back to normal now that the Feast is over.

### **Historic Markers Committee**

### **Lafayette Bicentennial Publications Committee**

- We are wrapping up article submission for the bicentennial book.
- The last few submissions will be edited and finalized. Final article selections will be made and the manuscripts will be turned over to Purdue Press for editing.
- Kelly and crew are working on finding photos to go with the submissions as well as creating a few pictorial articles for the book

### **Ouiatenon Preserve Committee**

Last meeting held 10/15/24

In attendance: Kory, Del, Leslie, Colby, Jeremy, Phyllis – meeting held via zoom and phone call in.

- Colby provided information on recently awarded USDA NRCS grant in the amount of ~\$8,000.00 for use in dealing with invasive species. Either this fall or next spring these funds will be used to get rid of honeysuckle on northern margins of the preserve.
- Info on Reverend Fouche plaque has been shared with the TCHA's historical markers committee. As far now there is no plan to remove the plaque from the blockhouse until there is a place to put it at OPI, or TCHA decides to remove it and temporarily store elsewhere.
- Research into video camera and handicap parking sign upgrade is ongoing.
- Adam Sheffy has been given permission to hunt deer on Ouiatenon Preserve.
- Next committee meeting is November 16<sup>th</sup>. Colby will send draft of interpretive signage before for OPI before that meeting for committee members to review and then discuss at meeting.

### **Program Committee**

Members present: Cassie Apuzzo, Leslie Martin Conwell, Claire Eagle, Amy Harbor, Walt Griffin, Bridget Slack, and Jan Young

Other members: Kory Cooper, Quentin Robinson, Brooke Sauter and Whitney Walton

1. Previous Program Review
  - Tuesday, September 10 at 11:30 a.m. – Show & Tell: Purdue's First Graduate: 15 attendees
  - Thursday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. – Early Architects & Builders in the Wabash Valley 1825-1860: 44 attendees
  - Saturday, September 21 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Archeology Month Celebration: 65 attendees
2. Plan for Upcoming Programs
  - Saturday, October 19 from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. – Grand View Cemetery Tour
    - i. Reminder emails and social media posts have been sent out. We'll have 13 docents.

- Saturday, October 26 from 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. – Ghost Tales with the Tippecanoe Storyteller’s Guild
  - i. Claire is working on getting the Tippecanoe Storyteller’s Guild to add TCHA as a cohost to their event. There are already two separate Facebooks events and we don’t want to add another one.
- Saturday, November 9 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. – Battle of Tippecanoe Commemoration and Veterans Ceremony
  - i. Trey is finalizing contracts with Don Hickley (keynote speaker) and the Miami. Then we will publicize the event.
- 3. January-March program
  - Claire has been in touch with Dr. Rabern and Will Raddell regarding scheduling their programs (Purdue’s Herbarium and the Painter and Decorators Union, respectively).
  - Tom has said his group will once again do the Maple Sugaring program, we just have to pick a date.
  - Leslie is going to propose some topics for School of the Artifact.
- 4. Bicentennial Programs
  - i. Bicentennial Walking Tour Series (the city is very interested in making these a big part of the overall programming)
  - ii. Downtown Churches
  - iii. Revamp of Hidden City Tours
  - iv. Neighborhoods (Centennial, Perrin, Highland Park, etc.)
  - v. Courthouse Square
  - vi. Columbian Park
  - vii. Other architecture
  - viii. Selfie Bingo/Historic Markers Scavenger Hunt
  - Bicentennial Walking Tours Subcommittee
    - i. Claire, Ben Ross, Bridget and Kelly have all agreed to serve on this committee. We are still looking for additional members.
- 5. Program Survey
  - We will be producing a program survey to be sent to our members and shared on our website and social media at the end of the year. This survey will help us better understand what our program attendees and members want to see from us.
  - Brainstorming of questions/what we want to know:
    - i. Are programs scheduled at times that allow you to attend?
    - ii. Are there barriers to attending programs?
    - iii. Are programs accessible?
    - iv. Do you know our lecture programs are recorded and put on YouTube?
    - v. How do you hear about our programs first? Social media? Website? Emails? Program brochures?
    - vi. Do we need more variety? Can you rank programs?
    - vii. Demographic information questions.
    - viii. What do you want to see?
    - ix. Do you want to be involved in planning programs? On the committee? Present yourself?
    - x. Do you want programs to be repeated?

#### Committee Task List

- Claire will talk to Brooke about the selfie bingo idea and if she has thoughts on how to make submission
- All committee members will begin brainstorming clue ideas for the bingo

- All committee members will continue to think about people to serve on the bicentennial walking tour committee
- All committee members will continue to brainstorm survey questions

**Publications Committee**

**2024 BOARD OF GOVERNORS TERMS (3 Year Terms)**

Name	Term Ends (Annual Mtg. Jan/Feb)
Rosanne Alstsatt	December 2026 (January 2027)
Cassandra Apuzzo	December 2026 (January 2027)
Colby Bartlett	December 2026 (January 2027)
Del Bartlett	December 2024 (January 2025)
Lorita Bill	December 2026 (January 2027)
Pete Bill	December 2025 (January 2026)
Jeff Burnworth	December 2026 (January 2027)
H. Kory Cooper	December 2024 (January 2025)
Walt Griffin	December 2025 (January 2026)
David Hovde	December 2025 (January 2026)
Tara Raber	December 2026 (January 2027)
Quentin Robinson	December 2024 (January 2025)
Dave Sattler	December 2026 (January 2027)
Nick Schenkel	December 2024 (January 2025)
Jeff Schwab	December 2024 (January 2025)
Marsha Selmer	December 2024 (January 2025)
Bridget Slack	December 2026 (January 2027)
Jeremy Spann	December 2026 (January 2027)
John Thieme	December 2025 (January 2026)
Whitney Walton	December 2026 (January 2027)
Todd White	December 2024 (January 2025)

**2024 OFFICERS OF THE BOARD (1 Year Term, not more than 5 consecutive terms)**

Position	Name	First Term Began	Term Number in 2024	Re-election eligibility ends
President	Jeff Schwab	February 2021	4	January 2026
Vice President	Dave Sattler	February 2022	3	January 2027
Secretary	Nick Schenkel	February 2023	2	January 2028
Treasurer	Lorita Bill	February 2021	4	January 2026

## TCHA COMMITTEES – 2024

\* indicates Chair or Co-Chair

### Standing Committees

#### Executive Committee

Board President \*  
Board Vice President

Board Secretary  
Chair of the Budget, Finance, and Risk Management  
Committee

Board Treasurer

#### Collections Committee

Kelly Lippie \*  
Cassie Apuzzo  
Del Bartlett  
Trey Gorden  
Amy Harbor

Nick Schenkel  
Marsha Selmer  
Other Members:  
LA Clugh

Rick Conwell  
Kevin Cullen  
Carolyn O'Connell  
Mary Springer

#### Facilities Committee (formerly the Buildings & Grounds Committee)

Jeff Burnworth \*  
Walt Griffin \*  
Colby Bartlett  
Del Bartlett

Lorita Bill  
Pete Bill  
Kelly Lippie  
Marsha Selmer

Jeremy Spann  
Other Members:  
Kevin Cullen  
Bill Young

#### Finance, Budget, and Risk Management Committee

Lorita Bill\*  
Jeff Schwab

John Thieme

Todd White

#### Nominating Committee

Quentin Robinson \*  
Dave Sattler \*

Colby Bartlett  
Claire Eagle

Jeff Schwab

#### Other Committees

##### Development & Membership Committee

Brooke Sauter \*  
Del Bartlett  
Jeff Burnworth

Kory Cooper  
Kelly Lippie  
Tara Raber

Dave Sattler  
Jeremy Spann

##### Employee Benefits Committee

Board President \*  
Chair Budget Cmte  
Treasurer

Walt Griffin  
Tara Raber  
Todd White

Other Members:  
TCHA Director (non-voting)  
Insurance Rep (non-voting)

##### Feast Committee



Brooke Sauter \*  
Jeff Schwab \*  
Pete Bill  
Jeff Burnworth  
Kelly Lippie  
Other Members:  
Dan Alford  
Sara Bartlett  
Mac Bellner  
Terry Clark

David Conner  
Barb Deaton  
Mary Fisher  
Brian Hawn  
Erin Hicks  
Jeff Hockstra  
Erika Kvam  
Robert Leavitt  
Randy Lower  
Matt Riebsomer

Sheri Sondgerath  
Jeremy Spann  
Jason Stanfield  
Scott Stambaugh  
Linda Swihart  
Andy Wall  
Jeni Watkins  
Joyce Wiegand  
Bill Young  
Jan Young

#### Historic Markers Committee

Trey Gorden \*  
Rosanne Altstatt  
Del Bartlett  
Nick Schenkel

Bridget Slack  
Other Members:  
Sally Carter

Phyllis Dotson  
Duane Mantick  
Stewart Schreckengast

#### Lafayette Bicentennial Publications Committee

Claire Eagle \*  
Jeff Schwab \*  
Rosanne Altstatt  
Pete Bill  
Amy Harbor  
David Hovde

Kelly Lippie  
Quentin Robinson  
Whitney Walton  
Other Members:  
Mary Anthrop  
Carol Bangert

Joan Briller  
Joseph Briller  
John Norberg  
Brooke Sauter  
Bill Tilford  
Tom Turpin

#### Ouipatenon Preserve Committee

Kory Cooper \*  
Del Bartlett  
David Hovde

Jeremy Spann  
Other Members:  
Leslie Martin Conwell

Phyllis Dotson  
Colby Bartlett (non-voting)

#### Program Advisory Committee

Claire Eagle \*  
Cassie Apuzzo  
Kory Cooper  
Walt Griffin

Amy Harbor  
David Hovde  
Quentin Robinson  
Bridget Slack

Whitney Walton  
Other Members:  
Leslie Martin Conwell  
Jan Young

#### Publications Committee

David Hovde \*  
Cassie Apuzzo

Colby Bartlett  
Trey Gorden

Dave Sattler

\* - The Board President is an ex-officio member of all committees