

**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, March, 24 2026
HYBRID MEETING – IN PERSON and ZOOM**

Members of the Board (total: 22 – quorum: 11)

Nick Schenkel– President	Lorita Bill	Jeff Schwab
Jeremy Spann – Vice	Jeff Burnworth	Bridget Slack
Tara Raber - Secretary	H. Kory Cooper	Chris Stevenson
Natalia Huff – Treasurer	Walt Griffin	John F. Thieme
Rosanne Altstatt	David Hovde	Whitney Walton
Cassandra Apuzzo	Ashima Krishna	Jillian White
Colby Bartlett	Dave Sattler	Todd White
Del Bartlett		

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/89441187805>

Meeting ID: 894 4118 7805

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FUTURE DATES FOR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Executive Committee (agenda setting) – 3:30 P.M. the Thursday before a Board meeting

Board of Governors – Fourth Tuesday of the Month at 5:15 P.M.

- April 28, 2026
- May 19, 2026 (Moved due to Memorial Day)
- June 23, 2026
- July 28, 2026
- August 25, 2026
- September 22, 2026
- No October Meeting
- November 17, 2026 (Moved due to Thanksgiving)
- December 15, 2026 (Moved due to Christmas)

Tippecanoe County Historical Association

AGENDA for March 24, 2026

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes from February 24, 2026, Board meeting – ACTION ITEM
- Officers' Reports and business
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Review and approval of IRS Form 990 for 2025 - ACTION ITEM
 - (Transfer of excess funds – ACTION ITEM
 - Purchase of CD with First Farmer's Bank – ACTION ITEM
- Executive Director Report – Claire Eagle
 - New Program manager position
 - Grants
 - TCHA Centennial 2028 celebration
- Battlefield Museum Report – Trey Gorden
- Membership Report – Kelly Lippie
- Collections Report – Kelly Lippie
- Research Library Report – Lucy Lugo
- Feast of the Hunters' Moon Report – Brooke Sauter
- Notes from Committees
- Any Other Business
- End of Agenda
- ADJOURN – ACTION ITEM

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

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT for March 20, 2026 / Nick Schenkel

Many thanks to everyone for your support in electing me as president of our board this year. I'm looking forward to a productive year working with our board, staff and volunteers.

And many, many thanks to our now retired President Jeff Schwab and retired Treasurer Lorita Bill. Their work over their terms has been critical in moving our organization forward as we work to implement our Mission. I am glad that both Jeff and Lorita will continue to work with the board and as committee chairs.

Looking forward to the year ahead, let's complete our work on the TCHA Strategic Plan we've been developing

I have asked former board president Jeff Schwab and Executive Director Claire Eagle to work with me to compile a draft of the Plan from the committee reports we've received. This draft Plan will be presented to the full board for review and then offered for our membership for their review before final completion and approval by the Board.

There are several forward leaning initiatives called for in the Strategic Plan's committee reports; let's work together to highlight those that we can accomplish in the next couple of years and set plans to achieve those that will take more time.

2026 marks the 200th anniversary of Tippecanoe County's establishment and, as we'll read in the staff and committee reports to follow, TCHA will be helping our community celebrate this significant milestone in our shared History.

Our own organization will be celebrating 100 years of service in 2028. I'm working with ED Claire Eagle to form a task force of board members, staff, and community members to prepare celebrations for this major Tippecanoe County Historical Association milestone. Please contact me or Claire if you're interested in working with the task force.

Looking ahead to our April board meeting, I've asked representatives from First Merchants Private Wealth Investors to provide our annual review of TCHA investments.

I'll finish with these thoughts. For many years I have been motivated by the many folks who work to make our Tippecanoe County Historical Association the best we can be. Your ideas and your work are vital to our organization's success, so please join me and continue devoting your time (and when you can, your treasure) to TCHA with enthusiasm and thoughtfulness.

Minutes for February 24, 2026
TCHA Board of Governors Meeting
In Person at the History Center and Online via Zoom

Board President Jeff Schwab called the February 24, meeting of the TCHA Board of Governors to order at 5:20 pm at The History Center, Lafayette.

Governors attending in-person were Jeff Schwab, Jeremy Spann, Lorita Bill, Nick Schenkel, Cassie Apuzzo, Jeff Burnworth, H. Kory Cooper, Natalia Huff, Tara Raber, Chris Stevenson, Bridget Slack, Whitney Walton and Todd White.

Governors Jeremy Spann, Roseanne Allstatt and Jillian White attended online.

Governors who were not present in person or online were Colby Bartlett, Del Bartlett, Walt Griffin, David Hovde, Ashima Krishna, Dave Sattler, and John Thieme

Executive Director Claire Eagle, Kelly Lippe, Lucy Lugo and Brooke Sauter attended in person. Trey Gorden attended online.

The Minutes of the December 16, 2025 Bard Meeting were presented and approved with a motion and a second from Todd White and Whitney Walton. Note: there was no Board Meeting in January 2026.

President Schwab introduced our two new board members, Ms. Natalia Huff and Mr. Chris Stevenson, both elected to serve their first term at the Annual Meeting on February 7.

President Schwab called for officer elections for this year, calling upon Vice President Spann to present the slate: President: Nick Schenkel, Vice President: Jeremy Spann, Treasurer: Natalia Huff, Secretary (after some discussion by the board): Tara Raber was nominated by herself and seconded by Todd White.

There being no further nominations from the floor the nominations were closed upon a motion by Kory Cooper, seconded by Lorita Bill and the slate was presented to the board.

The proposed slate of offers was then approved upon a voice vote.

President Schwab then passed out paper forms requesting board members to select which TCHA committees they want to serve on for 2026; note that all committees are formally appointed by the board president.

He also passed out the annual Whistleblower Policy and Conflict of Interest Statements and asked that both be filled out, signed, and returned to the President at this meeting.

President Schwab asked that all final reports from Strategic Plan Committees be submitted to the president asap so that final review by the board can be scheduled.

The Vice President had nothing more to report.

The Secretary had nothing additional to report.

The Treasurer presented her monthly Report (see attached), noting that TCHA's net Operating Cash less current liabilities at the end of January was \$372,180.15.

She noted as well that TCHA has \$98,978.78 more in total Operating Cash less current liabilities plus restricted and designated accounts compared to January 31, 2025.

Claire Eagle presented the Executive Director's Report (see attached report). She reported on several topics including administration, programs, facilities, grants and donations and upcoming events. Ms. Eagle noted candidates for the new full-time Program Manager position are now being interviewed with the goal of having the new staff person in place in late March.

Trey Gordon reported for the Battlefield Museum (see attached report). The public restrooms are being revamped by the County Parks so that they are more accessible to people with mobility challenges.

He noted as well that the flint knapping workshop, scheduled for February 21) was a success with a waiting list already formed for a possible future repeat program.

Kelly Lippie presented the Membership Report (see attached report). The first TCHA member newsletter for 2026 will be out soon. Base membership prices have increased by \$5.00 and gift memberships are now available for \$18.26 all year. Several members-only events are scheduled for this Spring.

Kelly Lippie presented the Curator's Report (see attached report). Improvements to the Battlefield Museum were noted as were several opportunities for presenting the collections in the larger community. New exhibits will be presented in TCHA buildings this Spring and the newly refurbished History Trailer will appear with new displays at county events in this 200th year anniversary of the founding of Tippecanoe County.

Lucy Lugo reported for the TCHA Research Library (see attached report). Highlights include an increasing number of research visits and requests and continued volunteer activity focused on indexing TCHA community institutional records.

Brooke Sauter reported for the Feast of the Hunter's Moon Committee (see attached report). She noted the Feast is scheduled for October 24-25 this year and provided reasons why those dates were chosen. She highlighted long time Feast volunteers Bill and Jan Young's recognition as Volunteers of the Year for 2025 and the TCHA Annual Meeting. And she provided updates on the many activities needed to bring the Feast to the community this year.

Other Committee Reports were then presented (please see attached reports).

- **The Development and Membership Committee report was presented by Claire Eagle** (see attached report). The 2026 Development Plan is available (see Supplement).
- **The Facilities Committee report was presented by Jeff Burnworth.** Arganbright roof has been patched and is no longer leaking.
- **The Historic markers Committee report was presented by Trey Gordon.** The Edna Browning Ruby marker project is moving forward.
- **The Ouiatenon Preserve Committee report was presented by Kory Cooper.** Planning for the interpretive panels at the site continues.
- **The Program Committee report was presented by Claire Eagle.** Previous quarter programs were reviewed and programs for the next quarter were presented.
- **And the Publications Committee Report as presented by Jeff Schwab.** Visits were made to the Purdue Archives (in person) and the Indiana State Library (online) to gather information for TCHA publication revisions including a John T. McCutcheon publication.

Nick Schenkel offered, on behalf of the entire board, their thanks for the hard work and dedication to TCHA's mission by the outgoing officers (President Jeff Schwab, Treasurer Lorita Bill and Secretary Nick Schenkel) followed by a rousing round of applause.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm upon a motion by Cassie Appuzzo.

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Schenkel, TCHA Board Secretary, February 24, 2026

Treasurer's Report / March 2026 / NATALIA HUFF

Tippecanoe County Historical Association Selected Accounts

	This Year 2/28/2026	Last Month 1/31/2026	Change from Last Month	Last Year 2/28/2025	Change from Last Year	
Operating Bank Accounts						
Petty Cash	550.00	618.25	(68.25)	568.48	(18.48)	
First Merchants Checking .01%	30,113.38	26,046.31	4,067.07	46,701.89	(16,588.51)	
First Merchants Operating MM 2.75%	333,224.06	332,259.20	964.86	358,411.65	(25,187.59)	
First Merchants Operating MM 2.75%- Strategic Plan	25,000.00	25,000.00	-	25,000.00	-	
Undeposited Funds	384.15	197.20	186.95	269.48	114.67	
	<u>389,271.59</u>	<u>384,120.96</u>	<u>5,150.63</u>	<u>430,951.50</u>	<u>(41,679.91)</u>	
Current Obligations & Receivables						
Accounts Payable	(12,744.94)	(15,368.85)	2,623.91	(13,559.79)	814.85	
Credit Card	(2,805.01)	(2,704.57)	(100.44)	(2,729.20)	(75.81)	
Grant Money Receivable	9,974.82	9,974.82	-	43,640.00	(33,665.18)	
Grant Money Advanced	(3,842.21)	(3,842.21)	-	(42,813.56)	38,971.35	
Bicentennial Book Money	-	-	-	(25,000.00)	25,000.00	
	<u>(9,417.34)</u>	<u>(11,940.81)</u>	<u>2,523.47</u>	<u>(40,462.55)</u>	<u>31,045.21</u>	
Operating Cash Less Current Obligations	<u><u>379,854.25</u></u>	<u><u>372,180.15</u></u>	<u><u>7,674.10</u></u>	<u><u>390,488.95</u></u>	<u><u>(10,634.70)</u></u>	
Other Restricted and Designated Accounts						
Emergency Maintenance MM 2.75%	79,969.17	79,800.82	168.35	53,120.90	26,848.27	
Ouiatenon Preserve Account 2.75%	142,707.92	142,706.74	1.18	124,869.68	17,838.24	
Feast Rainy Day CD 3.99% Renews Feb 8, 2026	164,888.92	164,816.70	72.22	109,112.47	55,776.45	
Total Other Restricted and Designated Accounts	<u>387,566.01</u>	<u>387,324.26</u>	<u>241.75</u>	<u>287,103.05</u>	<u>100,462.96</u>	
			<u><u>7,915.85</u></u>		<u><u>89,828.26</u></u>	
Investment Accounts						
	12/31/2025	12/31/2025	Change 2026	Distributions	Addition	Net Gain (Loss)
TCHA Trust	1,735,500.47	1,735,500.47	-	-	-	-
Wetherill Trust	414,566.02	414,566.02	-	-	-	-
Lafayette Community Foundation	36,391.70	36,391.70	-	-	-	-
Total Investments	<u>2,186,458.19</u>	<u>2,186,458.19</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

*Investments are updated quarterly

Tippecanoe County Historical Association

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY26_P&L - FY26 P&L

January - February, 2026

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Income			
4020 Contributions	37,208.16	36,630.00	578.16
4200 Museum Store Sales	1,598.01	1,000.00	598.01
4400 Library Revenue	546.80	450.00	96.80
4500 Membership Dues	3,824.78	6,945.00	-3,120.22
4600 Programs & Education	1,558.00	3,750.00	-2,192.00
5000 Feast Of The Hunters Moon		5,000.00	-5,000.00
Total Income	\$44,735.75	\$53,775.00	\$ -9,039.25
Cost of Goods Sold			
7720 Merchandise Exp - Battlefield	869.30	450.00	419.30
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$869.30	\$450.00	\$419.30
GROSS PROFIT	\$43,866.45	\$53,325.00	\$ -9,458.55
Expenses			
6001 Salaries, Wages & Benefits	39,549.50	53,253.34	-13,703.84
7003 Administrative Expenses	2,236.07	1,920.00	316.07
7004 Contract Services Administrative	3,269.77	4,000.00	-730.23
7007 Equipment & Supplies	490.31	1,100.00	-609.69
7012 Collections, Exhibits & Library	519.46	1,300.00	-780.54
7013 Museum Store Expenses	22.95	120.00	-97.05
7799 Insurance and Taxes	3,433.50	3,440.00	-6.50
7815 Repairs & Maintenance	4,776.52	5,080.00	-303.48
7816 Contractual Services - Facilities	431.76	400.00	31.76
7817 Utilities	8,843.79	8,720.00	123.79
8500 Membership Expenses	1,414.88	800.00	614.88
9100 Feast Expenses	5,656.50	4,982.00	674.50
9201 Programs & Education Expense	1,307.38	2,116.00	-808.62
Total Expenses	\$71,952.39	\$87,231.34	\$ -15,278.95
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -28,085.94	\$ -33,906.34	\$5,820.40
Other Income			
4910 Other Income	1,800.00	1,400.00	400.00
6100 Investment Income	5,150.02	3,900.00	1,250.02
Total Other Income	\$6,950.02	\$5,300.00	\$1,650.02
Other Expenses			
6600 Depreciation Expense	13,400.00	13,400.00	0.00
Total Other Expenses	\$13,400.00	\$13,400.00	\$0.00
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -6,449.98	\$ -8,100.00	\$1,650.02
NET INCOME	\$ -34,535.92	\$ -42,006.34	\$7,470.42

BUDGET and FINANCE COMMITTEE / March 2026 / Lorita Bill

The Budget and Finance Committee met on March 17th.

The committee discussed any questions related to the 2025 tax return and moved to recommend to the Board of Governors acceptance of the return to be filed no later than the due date of May 15. A copy has been provided to the Board of Governors for review previous to this meeting.

- **The committee reviewed the excess funds generated during 2025. The committee recommends that \$148,250 be allocated as follows:**
 - **\$50,000 transferred to the TCHA Trust as an Endowment**
 - **\$25,000 be transferred to the Feast Rainy Day Fund**
 - **\$25,000 be transferred to the Maintenance Reserve Fund (to possibly be used for a new website)**
 - **\$25,000 to be earmarked for Strategic Plan Cost (Funds will remain in the current Operating Money Market Account)**
 - **Approximately \$23,250 is to be paid to the Tippecanoe County Parks Department and restricted for use on the Battlefield Chapel.**

The committee reviewed the current format of the Treasurer's monthly report to the board. The only change is that one of the reports will now be printed directly from QuickBooks.

The Executive Director made a recommendation to move the Feast Rainy Day Fund from First Merchants to First Farmers. The rate will be 3.55% fixed for 11 months and we can add to the balance at any time and a one-time penalty-free withdrawal is allowed. Board approval is requested since we will be moving about \$190,000 from one bank to another. In addition, while we consider this an arm's length transaction, we would like to make everyone aware that Todd White of First Farmers is a member of the board.

The committee asked the Executive Director if there was any update on the renewal of our property insurance. She had nothing to report.

We discussed the continued use of our "pre-approved" payments list which continues to be a good internal control for bank drafts by vendors and other reoccurring payments paid electronically or through First Merchant's online account. The Committee

recommended the pre-approved list be reviewed and confirmed by the Budget and Finance Committee annually in the Spring of each year.

The committee discussed the newly implemented control of the executive committee reviewing the credit card statement for the prior month for items over \$500.

More about the Battlefield Chapel

Battlefield Chapel Endowment (In Lafayette Community Foundation)

This endowment was acquired in 1990 when the Battlefield Historical Corporation turned over their assets to TCHA.

Since TCHA having these funds restricted to the Chapel made no sense in the first place, research was done to gain a better understanding of the merger of Battle Ground Historical Corporation into TCHA in January of 1990.

The merger documents were located as well as TCHA's agreement with the Parks Department in the Battle Ground Historical Corporation's files which TCHA is in possession of. There were several drafts of the Parks Department Agreement, and the ownership of the Chapel and which party would take care of it going forward was apparently an issue since some of the first drafts of the agreement assigned the burden to TCHA.

The final version made no specific mention of the Chapel and TCHA has not been responsible for the Chapel's care or maintenance.

A phone call was made to Kathy Atwell (prior executive director of TCHA) and while she was not around during that period, she remembered that the reason TCHA kept the restricted funds was because the Parks Department could not hold restricted funds since they were a part of the county government. Sometime later, the Tippecanoe County Parks Foundation was formed, and they were allowed to accept and hold restricted contributions. TCHA has held these funds in limbo for 35 years.

The Chapel has been maintained by the Parks Foundation.

When TCHA invested in the Lafayette Community Foundation, they used several small endowments to make up its investment. 27.76% of the amount was the Battlefield Chapel Endowment.

The amount of the endowment in 1990 was \$6,426.45 and earnings from the endowment were to be used for maintenance of the Chapel.

- The total value of the Lafayette Community Foundation investment as of December 31, 2025, was \$37,306.
- The portion of the endowment that represents the Battlefield Chapel totals \$10,354.
- The earnings on the funds were to be temporarily restricted for the maintenance of the Chapel. The Lafayette Community Foundation makes annual distributions to TCHA from the earnings of the investments.
- The accumulated distributions allocated to the Chapel currently totals \$12,900. The total funds that TCHA holds related to the Battlefield Chapel totals \$23,254.

The Budget and Finance Committee proposes that we make this contribution to the Tippecanoe County Parks Foundation with the stipulation that they maintain the Endowment of \$10,354 and that the accumulated earnings of \$12,900 be restricted for the use of maintaining the Battlefield Chapel.

Executive Director Report / March 2026 / Claire Eagle

Administration

- A verbal offer for the Program Manager position has been accepted. I am waiting for the signed offer letter to be returned at this time. A tentative start date set for April 1.
- Our yearly preapproval list for payments has been reviewed and updated by the Finance Committee to ensure our accounting procedures are up to date.
- I met with Dr. O.T. Ford and Dr. Deborah Fleetham from the Purdue History Department. We discussed possible partnership projects with the department. Courtney Wade, who runs the children's try-on on and trade booth at the Feast, will be attending Purdue Spring Fest with some of the clothes and such in partnership with the History Department. Brooke designed some coloring sheets for them, and Courtney will be taking some Feast and TCHA brochures as well.

Programs

- The Maple Sugaring program earlier this month was the most well attended one we've held. Counts have attendance at 1400 over the two days.
- Quarter 2 program guide has been sent to National Group and should be in mailboxes soon.
- The Taste of the Past dinner schedule has been set for the year. We are very excited to work with Chef Lauren again. If you are interested in volunteering or any of these dinners, please let me know. I will be sending emails to previous volunteers next month to start getting people signed up. Tickets will go on sale to members at the end of April.
 - Saturday, June 27: America's 250th
 - Friday, July 17: Taste of the Feast
 - Saturday, August 1: Historic Farmer's Market
 - Saturday, December 12: Victorian Christmas

Facilities

- The gutter repair has been completed at Arganbright.
- A pump and thermocouple have been replaced in the boiler system at the History Center. This came out of the recommendations made after Blue Fox did a complete cleaning and inspection of the boiler late last year.
- The Program Manager's office at Arganbright (old Feast office) has been repainted, and new flooring has been put down to cover the asbestos tiles. Thanks to Jeff B., Jeff S., Chris Hitze and Tom Velton for getting that work completed. The office will be ready to go when the new program manager starts!

Grants, Sponsorships and Donations

- The grant report for the weather alert system has been submitted. We should receive the outstanding funds we are owed within three weeks.

- I've submitted a proposal to the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette (CFGL) Spring Grant cycle for the purchase of 11 new marquees for use out at the Feast. These marquees would replace many of the hand-built structures and reduce materials costs and labor time for future Feasts.
- I am working on two other proposals, another one for the CFGL Consulting Services Grant and one for the McAllister Foundation for support of the Feast School Days.
- Our Letter of Intent for the CFGL Impact Grant Cycle was accepted. The next phase of the proposal is due May 8th. More information will be presented at the Board Meeting.

Upcoming

- TCHA's Centennial: Nick will be appointing a task force to begin planning for TCHA's Centennial in 2028. If you are interested in serving on this task force, please contact Nick or myself.

Battlefield Museum Report / March 2026
Trey Gorden *Will be distributed later*

Membership Report / March 2026 / Kelly Lippie

- First Newsletter of 2026 Sent out on March 13.
- Planning special member opportunities for each quarter.
 - o Quarter 1 = Members only preview show of The Revolutionists at Civic Theatre. About 45 members came, catered by Arni's.
 - o Quarter 2 = Members only tour of the Courthouse with Commissioner Tom Murtaugh in April. Will start taking reservations April 1.
 - o Quarter 3 = Members only "tour" of the Gun Room. Still working on details of this behind-the-scenes opportunity.
 - o Quarter 4 ?

Membership Level	Renewal Period	Total as of December 11	Total as of Feb. 17	Total as of March 19
Individual (\$40)	Annual	54	55	56
Senior Individual (\$35)	Annual	90	97	102
Senior Couple (\$45)	Annual	129	131	133
Family (\$55)	Annual	68	72	70
Patron (\$100)	Annual	62	63	63
Sustaining (\$250)	Annual	16	15	16
Benefactor (\$500)	Annual	5	5	5
Treasure (\$1,000)	Annual	4	3	2
Lifetime	Lifetime	27	27	27
Total Memberships		455	468	474

Total membership February 19 2025: 450

Upcoming: Member Courthouse Tour registrations begin April 1.

TCHA Collection Department Report / March 2026 / Kelly Lippie

- 2 of 3 new temporary exhibits have been installed at the Battlefield Museum. Working on another 1 for Battlefield.
- Camera and Toy displays are installed at History Center.
- Compiled building research on the Arganbright Center for CFCL Grant Application.
- Working with Paula Davis to organize Oral History interviews about the Black Chamber of Commerce or potentially an opportunity to scan photos or documents from the businesses involved in the 1990s.
- I attended the Kissing Tree Farewell program in West Lafayette.
- Attending web class on Wikipedia article editing and creating.
- Several students from the Purdue Urban Matters Lab have been in or made appointments to research historic buildings in West Lafayette and Lafayette.

Upcoming in 2026

- Dedication of new history marker at Bethel AME Church on May 31. TCHA will have some kind of presence. Also working with DAR on General Tootle tombstone dedication at Greenbush sometime in April.
- History on Tour Trailer will have an updated exhibit developed for the county bicentennial that will travel to some county events.
- Will be talking to WALLA class about preservation on March 25.
- Indiana Historical Society (free) exhibit loan planned for this summer at the Battlefield June 18- July 15. "Endangered Heritage".

Collections Committee Met on March 4

- 10 new accessions were created.
- 11 FIC (found in collection) items removed from the collection.

BOARD ACTION NEEDED:

Deaccessions

Number	Description	Reason & Comments	Source	Disposal method
6487	Holi Pichkari (water gun)	Out of Scope. used during Indian festival of Holi. TCHA mistakenly lists it as a syringe.	Ella Blackstock Estate	Sale
6589	small metal scissors	Out of Scope. Does not appear on the list of accessioned materials	C. Lee, 1954	Sale

6711	1 of "2 small copper measures rescued from city dump"	Out of Scope. Not sure where the other one is.	Arthur Bailey	Sale
6233	small spatter glass vase	Out of Scope. broken, numbered on bottom but number is almost all worn away. Number is assumed, but it doesn't match a description of anything in the donation.	Arthur Bailey	Destruction

Research Library Report / March 2026 / Lucy Lugo

The research library has been busy this past month. We've had more in-person visits than remote research requests by a large margin. It's great to see people coming in to seek out our resources.

We've begun planning for this year's spring cemetery tour. It will take place at the Indiana Veterans' Home cemetery on Saturday May 30th, from 2-4pm. More details to come soon. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out!

Research Library Stats:

- This past month we've assisted a total of 27 researchers, 7 email/mail/phone calls and 20 in-person visits
 - 9 out of the 20 in-person visits were TCHA members
 - Mostly genealogy questions, including visits from Purdue students who are conducting research as part of a class
- Library volunteers continue to work on various projects, including indexing Tippecanoe Villa cards, Children's Home cards, marriage records, surname cards, and more.

Feast of the Hunters' Moon Report / March 2026 / Brooke Sauter

Planning for the 2026 Feast of the Hunters' Moon (October 24-25) is well underway, with steady progress across applications, vendor coordination, and early logistics. Applications have been finalized and are being sent to print, with distribution to follow via email and the Feast website. Communication has already taken place with all food booths, with all 2025 participants indicating intent to return, with one still pending confirmation. We have also begun accepting bids for key grounds vendors (Heavy equipment, porta-joins, etc.) and services.

Internally, committee responsibilities have been reworked to better distribute workload and improve communication, with Area Chairs meeting in March. These changes are intended to improve efficiency and provide clearer structure as we move into the busier planning months.

Food booth operations continue to be a focus, with efforts to streamline processes and reduce administrative burden. We are eliminating the request application for returning vendors and have scheduled a full food booth meeting for April 16 to update with the booths on 2026 goals, expectations and meet with the Health Department. Inventory processes are also being reworked to improve organization and accountability and initial planning for the 2026 food program is underway (Thank you to Lauren, Jeff, Jeff and Lorita!)

Early logistical planning has begun for grounds and infrastructure, including discussions around pole cutting needs for 2026. We will likely cut at Prophetstown, and need will be decided in the coming weeks depending on grant decisions.

Other updates include increases in ticket prices (per the three-year cycle) and I have communicated with CityBus and Purdue related to bus transportation for this year's event.

Feast Sewing Circle is underway, and the focus this year is cold-weather clothing (cloaks, mitts, etc.). Promotional efforts are also in progress, with brochures, posters, and coasters in development, apparel design with United State of Indiana, and the banner on Columbia Street in downtown Lafayette has been secured.

HUGE thank you to Claire for tackling sponsorship asks this year, including the help of development of a new \$1450 "Friends of the Feast" level, which is designed to better engage individual supporters.

Overall, planning remains on track with strong vendor retention, improved organizational structure, and continued momentum as we move into the next phase of preparation.

Other Committee Reports / March 2026

Development & Membership Committee / Kelly Lippie

Membership

- Discussing ways to offer membership to clubs/ organizations again.
- 3 "1826" Gift memberships purchased so far.
- Quarterly members-only programs in the works.

Development

Grants for 2026

- Community Foundation:
 - o Spring Grants: will apply for new tents (10) for Feast food booths
 - o Impact grant: Capital projects currently have a Letter of intent was submitted and we have been invited to apply for the grant.
 - o Consulting Services Grant: Letter of intent due in April, we will apply for website design project.
- NEH Preservation and Access Grant (in partnership with Purdue Archaeology) – Kory Cooper. Wants to re-apply this year.
- Claire is working on a grant request to the Alfred and Dorothy McAllister Foundation (William McCaw) which would be used to support Feast School Days.
- Brainstorming other grant opportunities.

Feast Sponsorships

- Brochures sent out to committee members
- Currently \$15,000 in sponsorships with a few more waiting to hear back from.
- New **\$150** "Friend of the Feast" sponsor level
- Deadline June 15
- Taking suggestions for other businesses to approach.
- Will send out email to TCHA members and contacts about sponsorship opportunities.

Facilities Committee / Jeff Burnworth

Several new grants are in progress (see Executive Director's report)

The History Center's HVAC system repairs are in the works, (in particular the recirculator pump.

Progress has been made on updating the Program Manager's Office at Arganbright with new paint, new lights, rewired data lines and verification that 2 electric outlets are grounded. New flooring to be installed, possibly between the writing of this report and the March board meeting.

The committee is addressing an issue of a non-housed person camping in the rear alcove of Arganbright.

Committee members are preparing the History Trailer for May use. Parts in, waiting for weather to be installed.

Bill Young installed a timer for Arganbright exterior lights. It works great!

We continue waiting on our church renters to respond to the revised lease.

Historic Markers Committee / Trey Gorden

The Historic Markers Committee hasn't met since the last board meeting and won't meet until after the March board meeting so the next report will be at the April board meeting.

Ouiatenon Preserve Committee / Kory Cooper

The OP Committee hasn't met since the last board meeting and won't meet until after the March board meeting so the next report will be at the April board meeting.

Program Advisory Committee / Claire Eagle

Members present: Cassie Apuzzo, Claire Eagle, Walt Griffin, David Hovde, Lucy Lugo and Whitney Walton

Other members: Amy Harbor and Brooke Sauter

TCHA Board President Nick Schenkel was also in attendance as a guest.

1. Committee Task List Review

Claire will reach out to Tom W. to see if the group wants to do their usual St. John the Baptist event in June.

Claire and Bridget will meet to further discuss the idea of a homeschool class series.

2. Previous Program Review
 - i. Tuesday, February 10 at 6 p.m. – Members Only Revolutionists Performance: 45 attendees
 - ii. Thursday, February 12 at 6 p.m. – Author Talk with Tom Speaker: 12 attendees
 - iii. Saturday, February 21 at 12 p.m. – Flint Knapping Workshop: Sold out at 10 (waiting list)
 - iv. Saturday and Sunday March 7 and 8 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. – Maple Sugaring at Post Ouiatenon: ~1400 attendees
3. Plan for Upcoming Programs
 - a. Wednesday, March 11 and 15 and April 8 at 5:30 p.m. – Feast Sewing Circles
 - i. Brooke is handling all the logistics of these.
4. April-June Programs
 - a. Program Guide is being completed and sent to National Group this week!
 - i. Wednesday, April 8 and 22, May 6 and 20 at 6 p.m. at the Arganbright – Feast Sewing Circle
 - ii. Saturday, April 18 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Saturday, April 25 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and Monday, April 27 at 5 p.m. – Members Only Courthouse Tours led by Commissioner Murtaugh (tours are an hour and fifteen minutes in length)
 - iii. Tuesday, May 12 at 6 p.m. at the History Center – “An Immigrant’s Perspective on Lafayette, 1853-1854” with Whitney Walton (will be offered on Zoom as well)
 - iv. Saturday, May 30 from 2-4 p.m. – Cemetery Tour at the Indiana Veterans Home
 - v. Saturday, June 6 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Battlefield – Battle Ground Lion’s Club Community Day
 - vi. Tuesday, June 9 at 6 p.m. at the History Center – “Community Baseball: The Lafayette Red Sox and its Players” with Matt Meyer
 - vii. Saturday, June 20 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fort Ouiatenon – St. John the Baptiste
 - viii. Saturday, June 27 at 6 p.m. at the History Center – Taste of Past: America’s 250th
5. Quarter 3 Ideas/In Process
 - i. Taste of the Past dinners (July/August)
 - ii. Family Game Night
 - iii. Members only tour of the Battlefield gun room
 - iv. Archaeology Day

6. Tippecanoe County Bicentennial
 - a. History on Tour Trailer
 - i. The committee has agreed to help staff with the stops of the History on Tour trailer.
7. Homeschool Programming
 - a. Claire and Bridget have met to discuss further and have a good start on what we would like to offer including scheduled time, cost and some themes. This will be one of the new Program Manager's first tasks when they start.
8. Program Manager Position Update
 - a. The last interview is Friday, March 13. Claire hopes an offer will be made shortly after and the position will be filled and in place by early April.

Committee Task List

- The group will work to update the spreadsheet created by Amy Harbor for township events. It can also be found here:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1b4RF-KzVEkowBE3TjzJO6Kc-w20f-p6JlxvaQOoVNc/edit?usp=drive_link
- David Hovde is going to reach out to his contacts at the Farmer's Institute to see if they would be interested in hosting the trailer at their Quaker Fair in September and to see if anyone would be interested in presenting a program on the history of the site in Quarter 3.

Publications Committee / Jeff Schwab and David Hovde

The publications committee met on March 11th.

Most of the meeting was spent discussing the search for appropriate Indigenous American sources regarding their interactions with General Harrison's forces at Prophetstown/Battleground in 1812 and the resulting battle and the appropriate terminology to use for the various participating tribal groups.

We also made a plan to put the current draft in a shared location so that the entire committee can review and propose changes.

2026 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 2027 (January 2028)
Lorita Bill	December 2026 (January 2027)
Jeff Burnworth	December 2026 (January 2027)
H. Kory Cooper	December 2027 (January 2028)
Walt Griffin	December 2028 (January 2029)
David Hovde	December 2028 (January 2029)
Natalia Huff	December 2028 (January 2029)
Ashima Krishna	December 2027 (January 2028)
Tara Raber	December 2026 (January 2027)
Dave Sattler	December 2026 (January 2027)
Nick Schenkel	December 2027 (January 2028)
Jeff Schwab	December 2027 (January 2028)
Bridget Slack	December 2026 (January 2027)
Jeremy Spann	December 2026 (January 2027)
Christ Stevenson	December 2028 (January 2029)
John Thieme	December 2028 (January 2029)
Whitney Walton	December 2026 (January 2027)
Jillian White	December 2027 (January 2028)
Todd White	December 2027 (January 2028)

2026 OFFICERS OF THE BOARD (1 Year Term, not more than 5 consecutive terms)

Position	Name	First Term Began	Term Number in 2026	Re-election eligibility ends
President	Nick Schenkel	February 2026	1	January 2031
Vice President	Jeremy Spann	February 2025	2	January 2030
Secretary	Tara Raber	February 2026	1	January 2031
Treasurer	Natalia Huff	February 2026	1	January 2031

TCHA COMMITTEES – 2026

* Indicates Chair or Co-Chair

Standing Committees

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Board President*	Board Secretary
Board Vice President	Board Treasurer
Chair of Budget, Finance and Risk Management Committee	

COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

Kelly Lippie*	LA Clugh
Cassie Apuzzo	Rick Conwell
Nick Schenkel	Carolyn O'Connell
Jeff Schwab	Amy Harbor
Trey Gorden	Mary Springer
Lucy Lugo	Claire Eagle

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Jeff Burnworth*	Claire Eagle
Walt Griffin	Pete Bill
Colby Bartlett	Chris Hitze
Lorita Bill	Bill Young
Jeremy Spann	
Jeff Schwab	

FINANCE, BUDGET and RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Lorita Bill*	Nick Schenkel
Claire Eagle	Jeff Schwab
Natalia Huff	John Thieme
Walt Griffin	Todd White
Tara Raber	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jeremy Spann*	Nick Schenkel
Korty Cooper	Jeff Schwab
Claire Eagle	Bridge Slack
Dave Sattler	Jillian White

Other Committees

DEVELOPMENT and MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Kelly Lippie *	Claire Eagle
Tara Raber	Heather Hitze
Dave Sattler	Brooke Sauter
Jeremy Spann	Ronda Walsh Schwab
Jillian White	
Todd White	

FEAST COMMITTEE

Brooke Sauter and Jeff Schwab*	Brian Hawn
Jeff Burnworth	Erin Hicks
Jeremy Spann	Chris Hitze
Tara Raber	McKenzie Kassner
Jillian White	Erika Kvam
Claire Eagle	Randy Lower
Kelly Lippie	Janine Lowery
New Program Manager	Lauren Reed
Aerica Beaver	Matt Riebsomer
Pete Bill	Jackie Schmidt
Soctt Ksander	Scott Stambaugh
Mary Fisher	Andy Wall
Sam Haughey	Logan York

HISTORIC MARKERS COMMITTEE

Trey Gorden*
Roseanne Alstatt
Del bartlett
Basil Alstatt
Sharon Baker
Pam Barnard
Jonathan Lipps
Duane Mantick
Linda Swihart

OUIATENON PRESERVE COMMITTEE

Kory Cooper*
Del Bartlett
Jeff Burnworth
David Hovde
Ashima Krishna
Jeremy Spann
Leslie Martin Conwell
Phyllis Dotson
Colby Bartlett

PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

New Program manager*	Chris Stevenson
Cassie Apuzzo	Whitney Walton
Walt Griffin	Claire Eagle
David Hovde	Amy Harbor
Bridget Slack	

PUBLICAIONS COMMITTEE

Jeff Schwab and David Hovde*
Roseanne Allstate
Cassie Apuzzo
Chris Stevenson
Whitney Walton
Trey Gorden
Pete Bill

Note: The Board President is an ex-officio member of all committees