



# 2020 Annual Report

*Tippecanoe County  
Historical  
Association*

## Letter from the TCHA Board of Governors President

*Mission: To enrich the lives of Tippecanoe County residents and visitors by collecting, preserving, and interpreting our unique and exciting history*



Pete Bill  
TCHA Board President

Greetings members of the Tippecanoe County Historical Association

I'm not certain what one can say about 2020 except, "Wow, I'm glad it's behind us." As President my goals for the past five years have been to strengthen the fiscal viability of your Association, and to push forward our mission, especially regarding outreach to the community we serve.

COVID-19 ratcheted that challenge up just a wee bit this year.

First, I'm pleased to tell you that in spite of the cancellation of the Feast, which normally accounts for about 68% of our income, but also constitutes about 45-50% of our expenditures for the Association, and in spite of our loss of the ability to have any kind of traditional fund raising gala or large event, **TCHA is projected to have sufficient operational funding to get us through to the 2021 Feast.**

Beginning in spring when COVID-19 first hit, and the possibility of cancelling the Feast and all other in-person events was first considered, TCHA began taking steps to financially secure the Association. In April and May we were still hoping to have the Feast 2020, but as we entered summer and saw how other community events were being cancelled and COVID-19 was likely to continue into the fall, the decision was made to cancel the Feast for the safety of our Feast participants (many of whom are in the "at risk" population), event attendees, and our community in general. Because considerable logistics and expense goes into the Feast prior to the event itself, this decision had to be made several months in advance of the Feast date.

By June we started implementing the contingency plans we had only talked about theoretically in spring. Our top priorities were:

1. preservation of the huge Tippecanoe County historical artifact collection
2. continued educational outreach to the community via other modalities than face-to-face contact.
3. maintain the fiscal viability of the Association so that once the crisis passed, we would be able to rapidly re-engage with our mission.

This meant implementing some strong austerity measures. It was determined that there were four key staff functions that must be maintained: the Curator to preserve the collection, a Program Director to continue to outreach to the community, the Battlefield Museum Manager, and the Feast Coordinator so work could be done to launch the 2021 Feast. All other TCHA staff positions would be cut or be switched to a volunteer basis. The Executive Director position was eliminated, the vacated Membership Director position was not re-filled, and Leslie Martin Conwell, who had just begun working as Programming Director, took on a role of Operations Manager. This meant shifting more responsibilities onto the TCHA Committees, individual volunteers, and Board members for picking up any other essential duties.

Staff, with the help of the Board and the volunteer accountant (who fortunately is a CPA with years of experience working with Not-For-Profit organizations), immediately began digging into the details of our TCHA expenses. Unlike some organizations that can shut down operations during this crisis, TCHA must maintain the operations and care of our facilities, and provide a safe environment for our extensive collection. Thus, we didn't have the option to roll into a ball and hibernate until COVID-19 passed.

Any spending not considered essential to the stated core priorities was eliminated. Duplicated services between Arganbright, the History Center, and Battlefield were cut. Another hundred smaller changes were also made in how we operated the Association, its buildings, and kept our collection protected.

Also in June we started working out the detailed projection of TCHA's required cash-flow to keep the doors open and the lights on until the 2021 Feast. Although the reduction in staff helped cash flow significantly (payroll and benefits normally account for about 25% of our operating expenses), our cash-flow projection to reach October 2021 as presented in July 2020 was not hopeful for reaching the 2021 Feast without significantly reaching into our Line of Credit to borrow money.

Spring 2020 had already been lean financially because of cancellation of spring and early summer fundraisers. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, TCHA still had \$59,625 in our Operational Fund which is the fund used to pay all Association expenses (salaries, utilities, operations, etc.). We had an additional \$50,108 in a Feast Rainy Day Account that the Board had established in 2018 to be used as an emergency support fund in the event of a poor Feast. In addition, we had a previously established Line of Credit with Merchants Bank of \$215,000 whose purpose is normally to pay up-front costs for the Feast, but in a pinch cash could be drawn against it for operational purposes. TCHA has two endowment trusts that pay out a set amount a few times of the year and helps support our operations. However, some funding, such as the money in the TCHA Ouiatenon Preserve Account that comes from a government set-aside program, is restricted for use only on the Ouiatenon Preserve and cannot be used for general TCHA operational expenses.

Typically, it takes about \$30-35K to operate the Association each month. Using the known projected income and expenses from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, our projections showed that TCHA Operational Funds would run out of cash in November 2020. At that point we would tap into the Feast Rainy Day Account which, with some boosts from regularly scheduled payouts from our endowment trusts, would get us into January 2021 at which point we would have to begin drawing on the \$215,000 Line of Credit as a loan to fund operational expenses. \$100,000 is typically taken out of the Line of Credit to cover Feast expenses *before* the event occurs. So by the time of the Feast 2021 in October, between the draw to operate the Association from January to October 2021, and the \$100,000 needed to launch the Feast 2021, it was projected that only \$34,096 of the original \$215,000 in the Line of Credit would be left. Since the Line of Credit is a short-term loan, TCHA would have to pay that all back from the proceeds of the 2021 Feast.

This grim reality check spurred TCHA staff and committees to action and they began aggressively recruiting for grants, establishing alternative incomes through sales and video performances, and a variety of other income generating ideas while simultaneously implementing the expense cuts mentioned previously.

Each month after July we did a cash flow projection using updated information on any additional income we had generated, and a similar adjustment to expenses based upon the cuts we made to spending.

We were able to take advantage of the Payroll Protection Program, the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, and received CARES Act funding through the Indiana Humanities and Arts, Cultural & Destination Marketing support grants. In addition, we increased our on-line sales strategies which significantly increased sales income that would normally would have come from in-person sales or auction sales. Local corporations and businesses also sponsored TCHA virtual events such as Duke Energy sponsoring the Feast virtual music festival. Finally, you, our members, stepped up during this critical time with donations of cash, checks, and materials, you renewed your memberships, you donated your personal time to volunteer, and you provided words of encouragement. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

As a result of all these collective efforts, the cash flow projections as of the November Board meeting showed that the Operating Funds alone will carry us into April 2021 with the Feast Rainy Day Reserve carrying us to August 2021 before we have to tap into the Line of Credit. That's a far cry from where we thought we were going to be back in June of this year.

Since the last cash flow report at the November Board meeting, we have had continued small and some fairly large cash donations that should carry our cash flow for Association operations all the way to the start of the Feast of the Hunters' Moon 2021 *without having to tap into the Line of Credit to support Association operations*. That means we can use the Line of Credit for start up costs of the Feast exclusively.

The fact that we were able to achieve this degree of financial stability after losing the 2020 Feast is a testament to the efforts of our staff, volunteers, and Board to find ways to run all aspects of the Association on a much leaner budget (a savings that will continue to keep our monthly expenses lower for years to come). And more importantly it is a testament to *all of you* that stepped up to help TCHA get through this really difficult time. Our appreciation cannot be adequately conveyed in words. Thank you.

### **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Founding of Lafayette**

It's never too early to begin planning a party to celebrate the founding of Lafayette (land purchased for Lafayette in December 1824 by William Digby, platted in May 1825, Tippecanoe County founded in 1826). TCHA is establishing a committee to coordinate activities around this celebration. David Hovde has volunteered to coordinate this committee so if you're interested in helping out, please contact David at [hovde@purdue.edu](mailto:hovde@purdue.edu).

### **Thanks, and fare thee well**

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for your support of our Association, and the suggestions and input you've provided me as your Board President. In February, I will be completing my fifth annual term as President and per the By-Laws of our Association, I will be turning the reins of this position over to a new President. I will remain on the Board for the completion of my Board term and will be happy to continue to help your Association remain one of the largest and strongest county historical Associations in Indiana.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of you in our mission to *enrich the lives of Tippecanoe County residents and visitors by collecting, preserving, and interpreting our unique and exciting history*.

Take care and best wishes for a much better 2021

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Bill". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "P" and "B".

Pete Bill

(please feel free to contact me anytime at [billr@purdue.edu](mailto:billr@purdue.edu))

## Operations Manager Annual Report 2020

Hello, Tippecanoe County Historical Association members! Many of you know me as “the Feast lady,” but I am proud to also serve the TCHA membership as Operations Manager. I was asked to step into this leadership role last July when the financial challenges posed by COVID 19 led to staff restructuring.



Leslie Martin Conwell  
Operations Manager

As Operations Manager, I am responsible for the oversight of the day- to- day activities of your Association. On any given day, this could mean writing a grant, taking out the trash, meeting virtually with various TCHA committees, or following through on maintenance needs. I welcome the opportunity to serve TCHA in this capacity as we work together to insure TCHA’s survival through COVID 19 and to lay a solid path to a strong recovery. Let’s take a look at some of the projects that we are working on in our efforts to continue to keep TCHA a fiscally strong organization and maintain our reputation as an outstanding community resource for all.

**Administration-** Your Board of Directors, volunteers, and staff have worked extremely hard to evaluate TCHA’s financial situation and look for ways we can continue to be financially responsible. Among the many actions that were taken to reduce expenditures or enhance revenue possibilities were:

- Switching to a local payroll company, saving over \$1000.00 a year
- Telephone and internet streamlining/upgrades that provide better service at a substantially lower cost
- Reevaluation of office equipment contracts and needs, downsizing where appropriate
- Marketing History Store merchandise through Ebay
- Development of a new online store through the “Square” sales platform
- Utilizing online sales for innovative Feast of the Hunters’ Moon commemorative merchandise
- Putting a “donate” button on the TCHA Facebook page
- Registering as a non-profit for the “Amazon Smile” organization donation system
- Researching TCHA branded merchandise for online and in-store sales
- A series of pancake breakfast fundraisers

Of particular note in our cost cutting and revenue enhancement efforts was the work of volunteer Lorita Bill, CPA, who did a brilliant job of ferreting out ways we could save money, and Board member Jeff Schwab, who lent his budgeting skills to the mix.

**Grants and Donations-** Under the leadership of Development and Membership Committee Chair Erika Kvam and Board President Pete Bill, the committee met frequently to identify grant and fundraising possibilities to pursue, especially in light of the cancellation of TCHA’s major fundraiser, the Feast of the Hunters’ Moon. The grants that TCHA received in 2020 are listed in the Development and Membership Committee report later in this document, and provided a total of **\$132,211.52** in financial support! Several of these grants were essential to the maintenance and upgrading of TCHA facilities; others provided critical operational support; and one, the Duke Energy grant for the “Feast of the Hunters’ Moon Tunes” concert, helped make possible the presentation of wonderful music and cultural education for fans of the Feast of the Hunters’ Moon festival.

Donors and sponsors are always an important source of support to TCHA, but in this COVID 19 year they provided a lifeline to enable us to sustain operations, provide programming, and keep secure the irreplaceable collection items in our care that document Tippecanoe County’s history. TCHA takes the responsibility of being the history keeper of the community very seriously, and **YOU** gave us the tools to do that successfully by purchasing a membership, volunteering, giving encouragement, and through your donations and sponsorships. **Thank you** to our donors, sponsors, the Greater Lafayette Community Foundation, North Central Health Services, Indiana Humanities, the Indiana Arts Council, the Small Business Administration, and Duke Energy for recognizing the importance of the work TCHA does in enriching the lives of Tippecanoe County residents and visitors by collecting, preserving, and interpreting our unique and exciting history.



**Facilities-** With four sites to maintain- the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum, Fort Ouiatenon, Arganbright Genealogy Center and the History Center- maintenance of facilities is an ongoing responsibility in order to insure the proper curation of TCHA's collections as well as provide a pleasant educational experience for our visitors. The Facilities Committee, led by Walt Griffin, closely monitors all TCHA facilities to keep them in good working order and to identify any repairs or improvements that are needed. This committee has been a driving force in insuring ADA compliance, upgrading security systems, and making the sites safe, comfortable and welcoming. Future maintenance projects that we are hoping to get grants for include a new roof and boiler for the History Center. Volunteers have been helping in so many ways by assisting with the mowing, snow removal, planting and maintaining flowers, doing drywall, and helping TCHA staff keep the facilities clean! I'd also like to thank our partners at Fort Ouiatenon and the Tippecanoe Battlefield- the Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Department. They do a beautiful job of maintaining the grounds at these parks!

**Public Engagement-** The words "public engagement" sound a *bit* out of place in the realm of COVID social distancing protocols! However, TCHA staff, volunteers and Board members were able to maintain connection with the membership, schools, and community by utilizing social media, email, videos, newsletters, online classes, socially distanced public programming, and the website. TCHA's Instagram page, YouTube channel and Facebook pages saw exponential growth in 2020. This growth was spurred on by the posting of fascinating pictures from TCHA's collections, an online "School of the Artifact" featuring photos of the Ouiatenon artifacts, and videos that showcased the sites, collections, and exhibits. All of TCHA's sites participated in outreach efforts. Stories were told, memories were stirred, research was shared, and lots of learning was done on social media and through public programming! TCHA had such success connecting with our audience through these venues that we will most definitely expand on this type of outreach in the future. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported these efforts.

**The TCHA Team-** It is an honor and privilege for me to work alongside the TCHA staff, Board, membership and volunteers. You all have exhibited professionalism and a much needed sense of humor as we dedicate ourselves to ensuring that TCHA survives the pandemic. Thank you to the staff and board for bringing me up to speed in my new role as Operations Manager. I have greatly appreciated the staff and Board's "can do" attitude and positive outlook, and the encouragement the membership has given us. Everyone has been willing to learn new things and do business a bit "differently" than we have in the past. Your efforts have been incredible and inspiring.

**Looking Ahead-** TCHA has a lot of exciting projects on the 2021 horizon. We are establishing a committee to plan for an exciting celebration of the Bicentennial of the founding of Lafayette! If you are interested in helping plan the "200 Party" stay tuned for further details! The Ouiatenon Preserve- A Roy Whistler Foundation Project was just notified that it has been granted National Historic Landmark status. This is the highest designation given by the federal government to historic sites, and recognizes the historical importance of the archaeological sites both Native and French within the Preserve. Congratulations to the Ouiatenon Preserve! Virtual and socially distanced in-person programming is set to resume at our sites beginning in March, and we'll be sending out information to the membership soon about all the great events and programs that are lined up for 2021. This year's Feast of the Hunters' Moon is scheduled for a sunny October 9-10! Do you have an idea for programming or for an exhibit? What would you like to see YOUR Association do this coming year? Feel free to contact me at [director@tippecanoehistory.org](mailto:director@tippecanoehistory.org), 765.426.2128 and let me know your thoughts! TCHA needs you as we move forward.

Serving as TCHA's Operations Manager has been a unique opportunity for me to fully appreciate the breadth of all the Association has to offer the community and the professionalism of the TCHA staff, the hard work of the Board, and the strength provided by volunteers and the membership to TCHA. As many of you know, I have been associated with TCHA for 40+ years and I've seen TCHA weather a lot of challenges. I have faith in us. While things are still very tight, we are in a far better position at the beginning of 2021 than was thought we might be earlier in 2020. As Operations Manager I've seen everyone working together to ensure the Association's survival and the view from my desk chair is one of a bright future. Thank you to the Board of Governors, staff, volunteers, and membership for your support of TCHA.

## **TCHA Treasurer's Report**

### **Jeff Schwab, TCHA Treasurer**

The association's financial picture changed rapidly during 2020 as we all responded to the Covid-19 crisis. When the statewide shutdown came into effect in March, we started to estimate what the impact of the statewide situation would be on our bottom line looking at both the shuttering of our three sites as well as the cancellation of our programs and fund-raising events. We made immediate plans to tighten our controls on utility expenses as well as to limit discretionary spending in response to the anticipated drops in revenues that we would see.

When it became apparent in early summer that we would likely not be able to hold the annual Feast of the Hunters' Moon, our primary fundraising event, we rewrote the association budget for 2020. We reduced the operating income projections for the year by 76% and the budget for expenses by 53%. This new budget took into consideration the actual expenses incurred for the portion of the year already gone by and imposed drastic spending cuts for the remainder of the year.

Despite these cuts, a significant budget shortfall remained even after accounting for our available rainy-day reserves. Fortunately for the financial health of the association, the staff embraced the cost saving mentality and delivered savings beyond what even our austerity budget expected. This coupled with grants and fundraising efforts covered elsewhere in this annual report permitted us to finish the fiscal year without the need to tap into our reserve funds.

Our fiscal plan for 2021 assumes that revenues and events will continue to be curtailed at least through the first half of the year. It conservatively assumes that 2021 non-Feast income will be around 87% of the 2020 budget plan and that non-Feast expenses can be held to 84% of 2020 levels. The budget plan for 2021 does assume that by late in the year the Covid-19 situation will have resolved itself sufficiently that we can hold a 2021 Feast of the Hunters' Moon event.

### **Notes on the 2020 Financial Statements**

The statements presented are preliminary. Among other things, we are still awaiting final numbers on the trust results for the year. We intend to have these numbers in time for the annual meeting. The losses in the trusts that occurred early during the Covid crisis along with the depreciation expenses shown on the profit and loss statement give the impression of a large loss for the year. Although is true from an accounting point of view, the fiscal health of the association is much stronger than that. As shown in the balance sheet, we enter the new year with a good cash position and do not believe that we will have to use any of our line of credit prior to next year's Feast of the Hunters' Moon, which is a very normal occurrence for our association.

# Tippecanoe County Historical Association

## BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2020 and 2019

	TOTAL	
	2020	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
1000 Petty Cash	942.05	580.00
1010 LB&T Checking	92,833.30	89,159.57
1011 PayPal	1,099.12	
1015 Emergency Maintenance Fund	8,882.71	20,046.83
1025 History Center Restricted Account	12,953.99	12,944.77
1027 Ouiatenon Preserve Account	69,434.20	66,086.08
1045 Feast Rainy Day Account	50,001.26	30,011.85
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$236,146.63</b>	<b>\$218,829.10</b>
Accounts Receivable		
1200 Grants Receivable	0.00	9,968.54
1210 Accounts Receivable	0.00	609.21
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$10,577.75</b>
Other Current Assets		
1213 Other Current Assets	1,343.03	6,627.90
1222 Due from OPI	0.00	18,676.00
1400 Prepaid Program Expenses	600.00	600.00
1410 Prepaid Insurance	3,483.67	4,416.15
1510 Inventory- General	46,636.92	50,869.83
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$52,063.62</b>	<b>\$81,189.88</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$288,210.25</b>	<b>\$310,596.73</b>
Fixed Assets		
Buildings	681,440.08	606,440.08
Buildings - Improvements	566,091.09	531,020.09
Equipment	245,310.68	236,333.82
Exhibits - Museum	56,729.00	56,729.00
Land	1,391,691.17	1,260,929.97
Total Accumulated Depreciation	-674,028.13	-607,218.24
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$2,267,233.89</b>	<b>\$2,084,234.72</b>
Other Assets		
1900 Investments	1,188,583.24	1,227,260.21
1950 Beneficial interest in trusts	348,648.13	358,885.04
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$1,537,231.37</b>	<b>\$1,586,145.25</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$4,092,675.51</b>	<b>\$3,980,976.70</b>



# Tippecanoe County Historical Association

## BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2020 and 2019

	TOTAL	
	2020	2019
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
2000 Accounts Payable	15,207.46	16,206.77
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$15,207.46</b>	<b>\$16,206.77</b>
Credit Cards		
2005 Lafayette Bank and Trust Visa	428.65	1,283.11
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>\$428.65</b>	<b>\$1,283.11</b>
Other Current Liabilities		
2006 Other Current Liabilities	578.28	0.00
2025 Accrued Wages	2,224.00	9,198.00
2047 Loan Payable	8,000.00	0.00
2300 Sales Tax Payable	20.39	74.19
2610 Simple Retirement Payable	0.00	230.18
2620 Co-elect Retirement Payable	0.00	230.18
2700 Deferred Revenue	6,500.00	500.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$17,322.67</b>	<b>\$10,232.55</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$32,958.78</b>	<b>\$27,722.43</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$32,958.78</b>	<b>\$27,722.43</b>
Equity		
3010 Unrestricted Net Assets	2,178,059.10	1,855,971.60
3020 Temporarily Restricted	161,072.11	161,072.11
3030 Permanently Restricted	596,915.41	596,915.41
3040 Board Designated Net Assets	1,017,207.65	1,017,207.65
Net Income	106,462.46	322,087.50
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$4,059,716.73</b>	<b>\$3,953,254.27</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$4,092,675.51</b>	<b>\$3,980,976.70</b>

# Tippecanoe County Historical Association

## PROFIT AND LOSS - Without Quiatenon Preserve

For the Years Ended 2020 and 2019

	TOTAL	
	JAN - DEC 2020	JAN - DEC 2019 (PY)
Income		
4015 Grant Income-	132,211.52	46,807.63
4020 Contributions	103,643.09	138,102.75
4100 Fundraising Events	4,436.96	21,754.00
4200 Museum Store Sales	37,955.50	66,630.39
4400 Library Revenue	4,610.80	3,611.23
4500 Membership Dues	21,745.00	25,095.00
4600 Programs & Education	35,711.18	54,876.52
5000 Feast Of The Hunters Moon	5,181.00	598,119.55
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$345,495.05</b>	<b>\$954,997.07</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$345,495.05</b>	<b>\$954,997.07</b>
Expenses		
6001 Salaries, Wages & Benefits	246,080.47	288,706.20
7003 Administrative Expenses	12,305.31	15,739.71
7004 Contract Services Administrative	15,359.01	14,384.66
7007 Equipment & Supplies	2,050.22	6,084.35
7011 Library/Archives Expense	428.95	879.91
7012 Collections and Exhibits	2,735.00	2,298.95
7013 Museum Store Expenses	20,023.75	43,027.91
7799 Insurance expense-	16,171.04	14,790.22
7815 Repairs & Maintenance	10,953.68	33,004.64
7816 Contractual Services - Facilities	10,361.81	9,683.64
7817 Utilities	37,820.53	50,179.83
8500 Membership Expenses	3,576.09	5,240.99
8602 Fundraising Event Expenses	891.99	21,267.42
9100 Feast Expenses	6,622.87	377,766.29
9201 Programs & Education Expense	11,886.24	39,610.53
9400 Miscellaneous (Income)/Expense		-1,528.03
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$397,266.96</b>	<b>\$921,137.22</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -51,771.91</b>	<b>\$33,859.85</b>
Other Income		
4910 Other Income	8,064.59	13,565.40
6100 Investment Income	26,432.10	274,938.38
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$34,496.69</b>	<b>\$288,503.78</b>
Other Expenses		
6600 Depreciation Expense	52,305.66	46,520.30
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$52,305.66</b>	<b>\$46,520.30</b>
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -17,808.97</b>	<b>\$241,983.48</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -69,580.88</b>	<b>\$275,843.33</b>

## TCHA Collections Department Annual Report 2020

### General Activities

- 96 new accessions created for the permanent collection and 5 new expendable collections created in 2020.
- Bathroom renovations at the Arganbright during January restricted volunteer work in the library and necessitated a large effort to cover and close off shelves in order to keep them clean. After construction was completed in early February, volunteers and staff worked on a major cleaning project to return the library reading room to normal and to replace books and shelving that had been moved out of the way.
- The Purdue Women's Group was in for their annual service project. For 2020, they cataloged political buttons in the collection; which were then photographed and entered into the Past Perfect database.
- Local quilt historians made several visits to help examine the historic quilt collection and record information for catalog records. The quilts were photographed, cataloged in Past Perfect and an indexed in a separate document.
- A task force is working to determine NAGPRA compliance for human remains excavated from Fort Ouiatenon in the 1970s. This effort includes collaboration with Michigan State University and a number of Native Tribes.
- During lock-down, staff used remote login software to access office computers to continue inputting catalog data. Also during lockdown, scans of archive letters were transcribed and the photograph catalog cards were re-organized.
- Former TCHA collections staff members were contacted to help compile a "History of TCHA collections" to guide current and future collections staff members.
- Several uploads were made to the Past Perfect Online database. The total records available on this database now totals 1,171 archive records, 3,567 photographs, 1,342 books, 651 objects.
- Plans were developed and revised throughout the year to safely open the Arganbright Center to researchers and volunteers again. Policies were posted and changed as needed to meet state and local guidelines. Several researcher visits were postponed or rescheduled to accommodate these guidelines and many researchers were helped remotely in order to limit in-person visits.
- An intern continued work on Fort Ouiatenon records, including scanning of archaeological dig reports and the organization of Ouiatenon research files. This internship project will continue in 2021 with service learning grant money from Purdue University.
- Several collections committee meetings were canceled due to COVID-19 policies. Meetings were converted to Zoom meetings in late 2020 to continue reviewing new material.
- A revised emergency procedure was created for volunteers in the Arganbright Genealogy Center.
- A special tour of the collections storage areas of the Arganbright Center was held for Board members. The goal is to familiarize Board membership with collections resources and storage needs. Board members were invited to host a short video about an artifact in the collection that they find particularly interesting.



Kelly Lippie  
Curator of Collections

### Exhibits

- A women's suffrage exhibit was planned for the Tippecanoe Battlefield's temporary exhibit space, with research and text writing help from a volunteer. This was to coordinate with the Indiana Historical Society's traveling exhibit visit "Securing the Vote" and commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the women's vote. The IHS exhibit visit was later canceled and rescheduled for 2021. The TCHA exhibit was installed and on display at the museum through 2020.
- A "pop-up" exhibit from the National Archives "Rightfully Hers" was put on the display at the Battlefield in August. This was a free display opportunity provided by the National Archives.
- A volunteer donated her suffrage education materials, which were used to enhance the suffrage exhibit at the Battlefield.
- An exhibit of local women's history was installed at the TCHA History Center to tell the story of Tippecanoe Women who have made history.
- New exhibits were installed at the Arganbright Center during the year- bottles from the collection, historic winter coats, mid-century dresses and fencing uniforms and equipment.

- The West Lafayette Public Library was supplied with scans of archival material to create a pandemic display at the library. This included scans and transcripts of diary entries and letters, as well as news articles.

#### Loans (Outgoing and Incoming)

- Two George Winter water color paintings were on loan to the Miami Museum of Art and returned in late spring.
- An outgoing loan was arranged with the Lew Wallace Study Preservation Society for a bust of Annie Ellsworth Smith; this artifact was on loan from February to December 2020.
- An outgoing loan was arranged with the Farm at Prophetstown for 1920s fashion items that were used for exhibit from April to October, 2020.
- A traveling exhibit arranged by Indiana University was loaned several Monon Railroad artifacts and photographs. The traveling exhibit will visit three sites in Indiana during 2021.
- A powder horn on loan to the Tippecanoe Battlefield was extended so the owner could retrieve it after lock down was lifted. This artifact was returned in late summer.
- The loan of Masonic material on exhibit at the TCHA History Center was renewed for another year. The loan of a musket to the Tippecanoe Battlefield for exhibit was also renewed for another year.
- Two long-term loans were renewed in August to Duncan Hall and the 5 Points Fire Station Museum.
- A new loan was received for exhibit at the Tippecanoe Battlefield museum- a buggy whip made to commemorate the 1840 William Henry Harrison campaign.
- A loan to the Eiteljorg will be extended until June 2021, so the staff there has more time to coordinate the remodel of the gallery space.

#### Outreach & Education

- The curator gave presentation on TCHA Civil War artifacts for the Civil War Round Table.
- The curator, Battlefield staff and volunteers worked at Jeff High School to remove and pack one of their artifact exhibits during construction and later returned to re-install the exhibit. This included an examination and assessment of their firearm collection.
- The curator worked with other TCHA staff and Board members to create video content for the new TCHA YouTube channel including film for the Community Foundation, "My Favorite Artifact," Tippecanoe Treasures shorts and a history of the Battlefield fence. A special collections tour was held for Board members in order to inspire them to create video content as well.
- A TCHA program about George Winter with a mini-exhibit of watercolor paintings was rescheduled due to pandemic restrictions, but held with a good turn-out. Later, a Membership Show & Tell program about the stories behind artifacts was hosted by the curator.
- Behind-the-scenes tours were given to Leadership Lafayette's recent class.
- Participated in the DAR's Wabash Avenue walking tour by hosting the Henry Ellsworth tour stop.
- Worked with TAF and West Lafayette Public library to find letters and diaries from past pandemics. This was used in a workshop hosted by TAF & library to encourage writing stories of the quarantine and pandemic experience. These letters will be archived at TCHA at the following link: <https://tippecanoearts.org/quarantine/>

Donors to the Permanent and Expendable Collection in 2020

Stephen Alexander	Sheri Johnson	Marsha Selmer
Mary Anthrop	General de Lafayette Chapter of the D.A.R.	Lynn Sheets
Mario Antonett	Walter and Eileen Griffin	Van and Lynne Sherry
Kathy Atwell	Charles Gullion	Ruth Shook
Ragnhild Bairnsfather	Robert Harrer	Tricia Shuman
Sharon Baker	Janice Harris	Sue Smith
Joseph Bartlett	David and Marjorie Rush Hovde	Society of Indiana Pioneers
Leah Baumgartner	Chelsea Hulbert	Sorola Properties
Robert and Lorita Bill	Indiana University Archives	Mary Springer
Books to Benefit	John Kimsey	Stallard and Schuh, Inc.
Kim Bogucki	Reba Kinder	Jen Stanchfield
Lynne Boulais	Steve Klink	Suzanne Swick
Sandra Buch	Sue Lasater	Cynthia Swope
Dale and Toni Butcher	Lawrenceburg Public Library District	Tippecanoe County Area Genealogical Society
Carmel Clay Historical Society	Dianne Mork	John Trott
Cindy Carr	Leigh Morris	Deborah Vandervort
Lou Ann Clugh	Nina Ottinger	Diana Vice
Paula Courtney	Quentin and Camilla Robinson	Sharon Wilbanks
Pamela Crum	Donna Scanlon	John Wolf
Rita Darnell	Alvin Schaut	Gilbert Young, Jr.
Epsilon Rho Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority	Sue Scholer	Sharon Zimmerman
Dianna Fred	Stewart Schreckengast	

## TCHA Membership Annual Report, 2020

Prepared by Kelly Lippie, Membership Coordinator



Kelly Lippie  
Membership Director

- Membership renewal forms and brochure were updated to reflect changes in membership perks, add a donation option and to streamline text.
- Annual Membership Meetings held at the TCHA History Center in February with guest speaker Charles Hyde, President and CEO of the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site in Indianapolis. Attendance was good. A sponsorship defrayed ticket costs and allowed a full meal to be served.
- Director made calls to donor-level members in early summer to foster relationships.
- Membership Appreciation Dinner (scheduled for July) was canceled due to pandemic concerns.
- Many updates and corrections made to the Member Planet software system to more accurately reflect TCHA's membership needs.
- New group of "Community Contacts" create for emails or mailings to non-member community contacts. This replaces the open-ended complimentary membership category.
- New membership reciprocal benefit with Columbian Park Zoo added in the fall, all TCHA members can now get 10% off at the zoo gift shop and zoo members get 10% off the Battlefield History Store.
- TCHA was admitted to the R.O.A.M. (Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums) in December, which allows for donor-level TCHA members to receive perks at other sites around the country.
- 5 year membership option available at 10% discount, beginning in December.
- 4 member newsletters sent out in 2020. The last 2 issues were digital only and issues will remain digital for the foreseeable future.
- Total TCHA membership as of December 30, 2020 = 377.
- Special recognition and thanks to our highest tier membership, the Treasure-Level Memberships:  
Jeffery Love; Purdue Federal Credit Union and Margaret Wood



## TCHA Program Department Annual Report 2020

TCHA originally had over 50 programs scheduled at Fort Ouiatenon, the Tippecanoe Battlefield, the History Center, and several off-site locations for 2020. With the coming of COVID19 in March, a number of programs had to be rescheduled to 2021, several were cancelled, others were held with social distancing protocols, and some went virtually via online platforms:

- In-person programming- 22 held with social distancing or held outdoors
- Virtual programs through online platforms- 10
- Programs rescheduled to 2021- 17
- Programs cancelled- 4
- TCHA staff and volunteers filmed 20+ videos for posting on the website, social media, or YouTube about historic flags, the Ouiatenon artifacts, the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum and the Battle of Tippecanoe, items in the collections, and other historic topics.
- Several virtual and in-person presentations about TCHA and local history were given to service clubs, schools, and other area organizations.



Leslie Martin Conwell  
Program Director



Charlie Shambaugh  
local historical  
figure whose story  
was presented in  
2020

TCHA sincerely appreciates the flexibility of the program presenters and volunteers in maintaining social distancing, adapting from in-person to online programming, or for being willing to reschedule for 2021. Thanks to their efforts, TCHA programming was able to connect with over 5,000 people in 2020.

Thanks to TCHA's program committee for facilitating programming outreach and education- Pete Bill, Annie Hatke Schap, Zula Kress, David Hovde, Walt Griffin, David Hovde, and Quentin Robinson.

The following sponsors made programming possible for 2020: The National Group, Thieme and Adair, La Compagnie des Beaux Eaux, the City of West Lafayette, the City of Lafayette, Rob Linder Electric, Wausau Homes, and Tippecanoe County Board of Commissioners.

***Looking ahead to 2021***, the program committee anticipates beginning programming in earnest by March! What format the programming will take, whether virtual or in-person, will be determined by the COVID situation at that time. Look for emails or check the TCHA website and Facebook pages for updates! Historical education is a key element of TCHA's mission, and your program committee is hard at work on a memorable year of learning more about Tippecanoe County's exciting history!



John Wickett  
reenactor at  
Battlefield

**TCHA Annual Report 2020**  
**Alameda McCollough Research Library**

At the beginning of 2020 I took over the leadership of the research library upon the retirement of Lou Ann Clugh, and just as I was getting up to speed, the COVID-19 pandemic hit. This required some creative thinking to try to keep our volunteers engaged and to make progress on our ongoing projects.

Volunteers are integral to our mission in the library. Not only do they help serve patrons who visit in person, they also do the bulk of the work supporting our mission of making our collection of documents accessible to our patrons. In earlier years, volunteers had cataloged thousands of original documents on paper and cards. People who visited our library could search these card catalogs for items of interest for their research. Likewise, volunteers would search for information for people who wrote to us.



Amy Harbor  
TCHA Library  
Coordinator

Genealogical research has changed dramatically since the advent of home computers, even more so in the last decade with the growth and popularity of search websites such as ancestry dot com. Researchers want and expect to access historical information and documents from home. This is even more relevant amid a global pandemic.

Since our library was closed to the public for several years before it was reopened in 2010, we have a lot of catching up to do. Indexes that were previously created need to be put into a format that can be accessed online. Equally important, we have thousands more documents that have never been processed at all. All these need to be cataloged and indexed. Several days were spent before the lockdown scanning handwritten indexes and organizing spreadsheets in order to standardize volunteers' work. By the time the lockdown began in March, I was able to send out projects to those volunteers who wanted to work at home. Peggy Bryan, Marsha Selmer, Charlotte Martin, Carolyn O'Connell and Mary Springer deserve special recognition as very dedicated volunteers who completed thousands upon thousands of entries. I don't know how many hours they spent, because most of them didn't log their hours, but it is a substantial number.

The most rewarding part of library work is helping people find answers to their research questions, and that continued throughout the year despite very few in-person visits. Phone calls and emails continued throughout the year and brought us a reasonable amount of income. Although only about 90 people visited the library in person during the limited time we were open in 2020, more than twice that number of patrons were helped by email and phone. The majority of requests come from family historians and people seeking information about historic buildings and businesses. A few other interesting requests came from:

- A Japanese academic writing a book about William Henry Harrison
- A National Park Historian in Alaska seeking National Historic Place designation for the site of a 1944 military plane crash. A survivor and hero of the crash was a young man from Lafayette.
- A Park Ranger from the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park researching abolitionists in Tippecanoe County
- Jeff High School staff person looking for information about the school's response to the 1918-19 Spanish Flu epidemic
- Several people writing about the history of race relations in Lafayette

In addition to research, new and ongoing projects in the library in 2020 included:

- Designing and implementing a standardized training program for volunteers
- Creating a more detailed inventory of our 850+ court books and re-shelving them in a more consistent order
- Creating an index of more than 13,000 estate files for 1825-1959 and another 6000 for 1960-1989 – this project is nearly complete and should be on the website within a few months
- Indexing funeral home records
- Extracting divorces from Court Book indexes and creating a separate index for them
- Adding four new indexes to TCHA website: Divorces, Naturalizations, Guardianships, Wills
- Completing indexing of 104 additional court books, bringing the total to 336

For the most part, volunteers, understandably, have chosen not to return to the library in person in 2020. I'm really looking forward to having their help and especially their company and their collective knowledge **inside** the library, while also welcoming back researchers in 2021.

## Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum and History Store Annual Report 2020

The museum and store, normally open the public approximately 300 days per year, was only open 119 days in 2020 due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Attendance was off significantly, and nearly all school and group tours were cancelled. Individual attendance was off nearly 60% compared to other years, and the only large group to attend in 2020 was a class of 250 Warrant Officer Candidates School (WOCS) members from Camp Atterbury in September. In an otherwise bleak programming year, the WOCS class did deliver the best sales and attendance day since the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011.



Rick Conwell  
Tippecanoe Battlefield  
Museum & History  
Store Manager

Other programs offered during our open intervals were appearances by John and Nolan Wickett and the members of Toussaint DuBois' Company of Spies and Guides.

Overall taxable sales and museum admissions were adversely affected by the pandemic. Sales were down approximately 32%, and admissions down 40% compared to a year earlier. The shift toward online sales has helped to mitigate the impact.

Battlefield staff has used the downtime to develop innovative ways to support our educational mission, including on-site videos, virtual presentations and online sales efforts.

Our internet service is being upgraded by Wintek and Wyatt Communications, and we will soon retire our current credit card and point of sale systems for new and updated platforms. By the time we are able to reopen, we expect to be operating at greater capacity and with much improved cost efficiency.

The iron eagle from above the battlefield entrance gate and his new replacement has finally returned from a long absence. We look forward to having them both on site again!

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the rest of the TCHA staff, Board, membership, and other supporters who have made my last 10½ years as the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum & History Store Manager such a rewarding experience. As of the first of 2021, I am moving into semi-retirement but look forward to continued involvement with TCHA for some time to come. Thank you all very much!

## Feast of the Hunters' Moon Annual Report 2020



The 2020 Feast of the Hunters' Moon "participant" badge logo summed things up perfectly for the 2020 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Feast of the Hunters' Moon:



Leslie Martin Conwell  
Feast Event Manager

Feast of the Hunters' Moon preparations began as usual in January of 2020, with a watchful eye to the horizon in regards to news about the novel coronavirus that was appearing in other countries. When COVID 19 was subsequently detected in the US in February, Feast staff and the Feast Steering Committee began to look at various scenarios as to how the Feast might be affected. In March and April, when it became apparent that COVID was going to significantly impact TCHA programming and possibly the Feast, the TCHA Board of Governors and TCHA staff began financial austerity measures for the organization as a whole, as well as the Feast. We held off printing Feast brochures, application forms, signing any contracts, etc. so as to not commit to any expenditures until we had a clearer idea what the likelihood was of being able to have the Feast.

By July, TCHA had reached a point with event logistics where we had to make a final decision about the status of the event. Board president Pete Bill, Feast Chairman/TCHA Treasurer Jeff Schwab and I met with community officials from Tippecanoe Emergency Management and the Tippecanoe County Health Department on what the impact of the pandemic might be to the Feast. The decision was made to cancel the 2020 Feast based upon the difficulty of maintaining social distancing and other recommended CDC guidelines for large events. The safety of the public was the factor considered foremost in the making the decision. The decision was made understanding how important the Feast is to the community as a positive, engaging historical event and as a major fund raiser for over 50 non-profit community organizations such as scout troops, churches, schools, and civic organizations.

The Feast is also of extreme importance to the financial health of TCHA, as it annually provides over 60% of the Association's operating budget. The Feast is the main fundraising event for the Association and supports all aspects of the operation including curation of the unique and valuable artifacts in the TCHA collection, the broad expanse of community programming to educate about our incredible local history, and preservation efforts to maintain important historical sites such as the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum, the Fort Ouiatenon Blockhouse, the Arganbright Genealogy Center and Library, and the Ouiatenon Preserve.

Once the decision was made that the Feast was officially cancelled, the Feast Steering Committee dedicated itself to finding ways to provide financial support to TCHA. Graphic designer Angela Bruntlett donated her time and talents by designing the "Feast of the Hunters' Moon 2020 COVID 19" logo. The logo was used on clothing and merchandise for sale through The Athlete's online store. There was no financial risk to TCHA, as there was no outlay of cash for the production of the merchandise. The Athlete produced the items once they were ordered by customers. We raised \$2010.09 through the sale of this logo merchandise.

Every year the Feast produces a badge with that year's "theme" that people wear to identify themselves as pre-registered Feast participants. These badges with their annual unique theme have been produced every year since 1973 and people love to collect and display them! It was immediately apparent that it was important to participants to have a badge to commemorate "the year the Feast went viral" and keep their string of badges

going! Badges with the COVID 19 logo were produced and sales of the badges produced over \$1600.00 in revenue. An annual pewter medallion with each year's Feast logo is also a longstanding Feast tradition, so the COVID 19 logo was done in pewter and accounted for over \$2500.00 in revenue. Of special note is a group of Teays River Brewing and Public House staff and customers, who raised and donated over \$900.00 to cover most of the cost of the production of the pewter medallions!

A strong online and social media presence is essential to maintain contact with the Feast audience. We received a \$5000.00 grant from Duke Energy that sponsored the first ever virtual Feast concert. "Feast of the Hunters' Moon Tunes" featured many Feast musical performers bringing the spirit of the Feast into peoples' homes via Zoom. Feast volunteers came together to video a virtual Feast Opening and Closing Ceremonies on the Feast grounds, which you can view on TCHA's YouTube channel.

The Feast Steering Committee is meeting monthly and has begun working on the planning for the 2021 Feast, scheduled for October 9-10. The budget committee and Feast staff have taken a hard look at the Feast budget and have made adjustments as necessary. We will be proceeding with plans while keeping an eye on CDC social distancing guidelines for large events so that the Feast can adapt as needed. Special thanks to the Feast Steering Committee for doing such a fine job of navigating the COVID 19 challenges and for their dedication to the health and welfare of the Feast and TCHA.

***We hope to see you next fall at the Feast!***





## **TCHA BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS 2020**

### **FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

Purpose: To oversee maintenance, major improvements or construction of the properties and grounds owned by TCHA (Blockhouse, Arganbright, History Center, Battlefield Museum)

Chair for 2020: Walt Griffin (griffusmc1968@gmail.com)

All of the buildings owned and occupied by TCHA are more than 50 years old, and as such, they need to be updated to comply with safety/fire regulations, ADA access regulations, and other improvements for the convenience of our patrons and the safety of our staff, volunteers and our valuable collections.

Fortunately, TCHA established an Emergency Maintenance Fund from proceeds of the Feast of the Hunters' Moon in 2018 anticipating that unexpected expenses may occasionally occur. In addition, our partners with the Greater Lafayette Community Foundation have really helped us procure funds in critical situations such as failure of the air conditioning unit in Arganbright during the peak of the summer heat and the restoration of the Ouiatenon Blockhouse. In addition, grants from North Central Health Services have helped us comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations regarding access and movement throughout buildings.

COVID helped spur us to evaluate all of our infrastructure services and to make changes that are allowing us to save hundreds of dollars a month. For example, the phone and internet system at the Battlefield Museum had struggled with intermittent quality. Bill Wyatt of Wyatt Communications donated the cost of labor and Wintek Corporation facilitated installation of new lines to the Battlefield Museum which allowed us to discontinue our old phone and internet service saving us several hundreds of dollars a month. Plus, the higher quality internet service is allowing us to expand on-line sales from the Battlefield Museum, something we couldn't do reliably with the old system.

The new internet service also allowed us to upgrade the security system at the Battlefield Museum and to save money on security system updates by making it easier for the provider to make changes to the security system remotely, as opposed to having to visit and manually make updates and changes.

The boiler at the History Center that provides all the heating was in good condition according to the inspection at the time we purchased the old Masonic building. Recently a closer inspection revealed that there had been patches applied over the years and that some of these will need to be replaced or the boiler itself may need to be replaced. We are getting a couple of quotes on this to determine to what extent replacement, versus repair, is needed on the heating unit.

Volunteers and Board members have stepped up to help staff with routine maintenance and cleaning around the History Center and Arganbright. Volunteers this spring spruced up the outside of the Arganbright with fresh flower plantings.

During the summer the parking lot at Arganbright was repaired and resurfaced. Grants from North Central Health Services and the Greater Lafayette Community Foundation allowed us to install new railings on the steps going into Arganbright, signage, and sidewalk modifications for safety purposes. Inside Arganbright the ADA compliant bathrooms were finished, although a leaky water line required additional work to fix that. Thanks to volunteers, the dry wall damage done during the process of identifying the location of the leak (holes made in the dry wall) were repaired and painted for free.

The refurbishing of the Blockhouse structure was completed this summer to reduce damage caused by insects, rodents, and weather. The work done was excellent and, as quoted by Nick Brown who did the work on the project, it was a “labor of love” in helping to keep this community icon structurally sound.

TCHA was given the opportunity to acquire the house and a block of property in the corner of the current Ouiatenon Preserve holdings on South River Road. With a generous grant from the Roy Whistler Foundation, the property and house were acquired. The building could potentially be used as a headquarters for on-site archaeological studies at the Preserve during the summer. All costs for maintenance, utilities, and major improvements come from the TCHA Ouiatenon Preserve Fund which is funded in turn by the Conservation Reserve and Enhancement Program funds TCHA receives in partnership with the Archaeological Conservancy and Ouiatenon Preserve, Inc.

Future facilities needs include replacement of the roof at the History Center and possibly replacement of the boiler or heating system at the History Center. The Facilities Committee, working in conjunction with TCHA staff and Board, will continue to be proactive in seeking out external funds to help maintain our buildings for use by the public and our membership, and to safely maintain the TCHA collections.

Questions may be directed to Leslie Martin Conwell ([director@tippecanoehistory.org](mailto:director@tippecanoehistory.org)) or Walt Griffin ([griffusmc68@gmail.com](mailto:griffusmc68@gmail.com))

## **MEMBERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Purpose: To maintain and recruit membership for TCHA; and to help seek out, apply for, and procure external funding for TCHA from sponsors, grants, and donations

Chair for 2020: Erika Kvam ([erikakvam@gmail.com](mailto:erikakvam@gmail.com))

Membership has held relatively steady this year in spite of the general downturn in the economy and the uptick in unemployment. Kelly Lippie reported 377 members as of the end of 2020.

When the staff member serving as Director of Membership resigned in Spring 2020, the position was not refilled to conserve finances in the face of COVID-related decreased income impacting the Association. Kelly Lippie assumed these responsibilities in addition to her curatorial responsibilities. Kelly has done a great job of finding ways to improve membership services, including an assessment of other alternatives to the membership management system Member Planet. Kelly was able to procure membership benefits that allow TCHA members to gain access to other museums or activities at a reduced cost through the ROAM program. For those of you that renew your membership in 2021, you’ll notice the back of the TCHA membership card you receive is the ROAM logo on it which provides your “ticket” to other educational experiences at other institutions. Information is available on the TCHA web site for this new benefit.

The Development part of this committee’s responsibilities required meeting every 1-2 weeks to review grant opportunities, review applications to be submitted for grants or programs, and reach out to networks to identify new sources for external funding.

As would be expected with the economic downturn and many restaurants and small businesses shuttering their doors temporarily or permanently, donor recruitment shifted from smaller businesses to larger, more stable corporations. Working with the staff, volunteers, and some Board members, TCHA was able to capitalize on several federally funded programs, we received some donations from local businesses, and over \$36,000 in

donations and contributions from TCHA members (THANK YOU) and the general public. In addition, TCHA tapped into on-line donation programs such as *Amazon Smile* which allows any purchaser of Amazon products to designate that Amazon donate 0.5% of the purchase price to a charity of their choice (e.g., TCHA). While it only means a few cents on every purchase, the amount adds up and contributes to paying for building utilities or needed supplies. Every little bit helps.

We were able to get several grants for specific improvements and some general support of utilities, payroll, etc., so we were still able to fund specific projects critical for TCHA properties. However, we were fortunate to receive many smaller contributions that went to the general operating budget, which is money that pays for keeping the lights on, paying the staff, and keeping our doors open. In the process of focusing on improving our Development efforts, we have established future relationships that will likely be continuing supporters of TCHA.

### **Grants, donations, and sponsorships are listed below**

#### **Loans Proceeds**

Economic Injury Disaster Loan – Small Business Administration (SBA)	\$ 8,000.00
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#### **Grant Income**

Paycheck Protection Program – SBA – CARES Act	\$ 55,150.00
Indiana Humanities - CARES Act funding	\$ 7,500.00
Arts, Cultural & Destination Marketing – CARES Act	\$ 32,600.71
Arts, Cultural & Destination Marketing – CARES Act	\$ 3,260.07
Laf Comm Foundation – Blockhouse repair and renovation	\$ 9,000.00
Laf Comm Foundation – Blockhouse repair and renovation	\$ 10,675.00
Laf Comm Foundation – Security at Battlefield & Arganbright	\$ 6,897.86
North Central Health Services – ADA bathroom renovation remainder	\$ 7,127.88

<b>Total Grant Income</b>	<b>\$132,211.52</b>
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#### **Sponsorships**

Rob Linder – Battlefield audio program	\$ 1,000.00
City of West Lafayette – Diversity Program Feb. 2020	\$ 5,000.00
Tippecanoe County – Diversity Program Feb. 2020	\$ 7,500.00
City of Lafayette – Diversity Program Feb. 2020	\$ 7,500.00
The National Group – Educational programming	\$ 2,000.00
City of West Lafayette – Diversity programming	\$10,000.00
John Thieme P.C. – Annual Membership Meeting 2020	\$ 2,500.00
Duke Energy – Feast Tunes program	\$ 5,000.00

<b>Total Sponsorships</b>	<b>\$40,500.00</b>
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#### **Sponsorships made in 2020 for Programs cancelled – moved to 2021 Programs**

Blue Fox	\$ 1,000.00
Keystone Architects	\$ 2,000.00
T.L. Kincaid	\$ 2,000.00
Underwood Insurance	\$ 1,000.00

## Contribution for OP property acquisition

Roy Whistler Foundation

\$142,500.00

## Contributions or donations \$1 – \$100

Anonymous

Berndette Aliprantis

Amazon Smile\*

*\* You can designate TCHA as a recipient for 0.5% of any Amazon purchase you make! Just sign up at [Amazonsmile.com](https://www.amazon.com/amazonsmile) and use Amazonsmile.com as your portal for access to Amazon shopping*

Lori Amick

Mary Anthrop

Arthur family

Eyal Barash

Colby Bartlett

Gretchen Bieker

Jeffrey Bolin and Carol Post

Mark and Barbara Bowman

Ruth Braun

Constance and Joseph Bumbleburg

Caterpillar

Cohn family

Culver family

Emma Dalsimer

Davis family

Brent Dickson and Jan Aikman

Jan Dickson

Dienhart family

Michael and Phyllis Dotson

Gorman family

Charles Gullion

R.E. and Connie Grace

Williard and Roberta Griggs

Anita and Randall Hagen

Kevin Hall

Patrick Halsmer

Richard and Carolyn Hinshaw

John Hobaugh

Hooper family

William Hoover

Martin Johnson

Lilly Foundation

Gretchen Marks

Major John B. Massey

Melichar family

John and Karen Mills

Ken Moder  
Mullen family  
Mariellen Neudeck  
Nunamaker family  
Carolyn O'Connell  
Old National State Trust  
Jean Olson  
David and Lynda Raymer  
Reen family  
Joseph E. Rees  
Eleanor Riggs  
Quentin Robinson  
Joseph and Lorraine Rund  
Brooke Sauter  
Scaglia family  
Shirley Schultz  
Sheets family  
Pete Sherry  
Michael Simpson  
Paulette Smith  
Jim and Liz Solberg  
Stavnhelm family  
Gretchen Stephens  
Stevens family  
Chris Summers  
Donald and Mary Twiddy  
Darrell Uerkwitz  
Wanner family  
Westminster Living  
Lloyd Wilkinson  
Wojcinski family  
John Michael Wright

**Contributions or donations \$101 - \$250**

Arganbright donation box  
Jennifer Bay  
David and Rita Buckles  
Crystal Springs Grain  
Jack and Pam Freeman  
History Center donation box  
Michael and Phyllis Hunt  
Carolyn Kolb  
Susan and Phillip Paarlberg  
Steven and Cheryl Rooke  
Schmidt family  
John Schneider  
Darrell Schulze and Diane Stott

Marsha Selmer  
Jane Turner  
Todd White  
Wolf Park

**Contribution or donations \$251 - \$500**

Di Begley  
Dennis Clark  
Donald and Melinda Clayton  
Connie Small Davis  
Harlan and Heather Day  
Facebook  
David Hovde  
Crystal Manganaro  
The Mitchell Agency  
James Ross and Marylin Howland  
Patricia Sullivan and Peter Fadde  
David and Dorothy Taylor  
Margaret Wood

**Contributions or donations \$501 - \$1,000**

Kathy Atwell  
Steve Belter  
Donors for Feast Medallion  
Emily Cadwallader  
Network for Good  
Jeff Schwab  
Joyce Weigand

**Contributions or donations \$1,001 - \$5,000**

Battlefield Museum Donations  
Ned Derhammer  
The Gathering  
Bob and Patti Truitt

**Contributions or donations \$5,001 - \$10,000**

Anonymous  
City of West Lafayette  
Seafoam Corporation



## **TCHA OUIATENON PRESERVE COMMITTEE**

**Purpose:** To oversee the maintenance and development of the Ouiatenon Preserve property

**Chair for 2020:** David Hovde (hovde@purdue.edu)

Despite COVID-19, progress is being made in developing the Ouiatenon Preserve. The Ouiatenon Preserve, a Roy Whistler Foundation Project, is a 230-acre archaeological and nature preserve that protects the archaeological site of Fort Ouiatenon and a dozen other related sites, including the villages of the Kickapoo and Mascouten that once lived there. The Preserve also protects critical habitat along the Wabash River for riverine wildlife, migratory birds, native plants, and pollinators.

The Preserve is jointly owned by the Tippecanoe County Historical Association and The Archaeological Conservancy, and is operated by Ouiatenon Preserve, Inc. (OPI) It is a designated Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project and was awarded the 2018 Indiana Archaeology Award. It is one of the largest archaeological preserves in the eastern United States in the Conservancy's network of more than 550 sites.

In April 2020, the sign for the Preserve was completed and installed at the Overlook. This past spring (2020), utilizing the USDA's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, with a second year of \$10,000 in support from the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and assistance from the Tippecanoe County Soil & Water Conservation District, the remaining 80 acres of former agricultural fields were planted in a native lowland prairie. This was in addition to the 105 acres planted in 2019. The seed mix was designed for flood resistance and shallow root systems, that will not damage the buried archaeological resources. Efforts will continue for several years to promote the growth of the prairie and eradicate invasive plant species.

### **Research activity on the Preserve**

Due to the COVID pandemic, the joint University of Southern Indiana - Purdue University archaeological field school, planned for this summer, was canceled. As of now, it is anticipated to be held during the Summer of 2021. This past June, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wildlife biologists conducted surveys to determine the distribution range of various frog species in Indiana.

### **Roy Whistler Foundation Donation**

The Preserve was expanded this year with the purchase of the house and property west of the Overlook. The acquisition expands the Overlook property and offers access to utilities, shelter, and equipment storage. It also ensures that no future development of the property will adversely impact the Overlook and Preserve. A grant request from TCHA was submitted to the Roy Whistler Foundation (RWF) to purchase the property. The RWF board authorized a grant to TCHA of \$142,500. This provided a majority of the funds needed to make the purchase, with the remainder coming from TCHA's restricted Ouiatenon Preserve account. OPI and TCHA are currently working to determine how the house and property will be best used and adapted to support operation, research, and public interpretation at the Preserve.

### **National Historic Land-mark Designation**

Ouiatenon Preserve, Inc. Director Colby Bartlett and Dr. Vergil Noble, Supervisory Archaeologist with the National Park Service, worked together to complete an application to designate Fort Ouiatenon as a National Historic Landmark. National Historic Landmark status is the highest level of recognition given by the Federal government to historic sites. Most counties in Indiana have no such designated landmarks. There are currently two NHLs in Tippecanoe County, the Tippecanoe Battlefield and Samara House. With the addition of the preserve, there will be three.

In November the Ouiatenon NHL application was heard before the National Park Service National Historic Landmark Advisory Committee. Due to the COVID situation, the hearings were held by video conference. Former Indiana State Archaeologist, Rick Jones, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Miami Tribe, Diane Hunter and TCHA Board member and Ouiatenon Preserve Inc. Director Colby Bartlett testified, along with a letter of support from Consul General of France, Guillaume Lacroix. The committee voted unanimously to recommend designation of the Fort Ouiatenon Archaeological District as a National Historic Landmark. It the first NHL in the nation to include Native American habitation sites from specific to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Future Efforts**

For 2021, two aspects of the development to the property will be explored- A trail system and interpretive signage will be considered in cooperation with the Ouiatenon Preserve, Inc. and the Roy Whistler Foundation.

## **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Purpose:               An *ad hoc* Committee of the Board whose purpose it is to stimulate interest in, facilitate development of, and help create publications for TCHA that support the educational and outreach components of the Association's mission

Chair for 2020:   David Hovde

The major project this year has been a book based on the 2017 Midwest Historical Archaeology Conference. This conference held at Purdue University was centered around the 300th anniversary of the founding of Fort Ouiatenon and the 50th anniversary of the Feast of the Hunters' Moon. Originally scheduled for the manuscripts to be finished in April 2020, the date has been changed to January 2021 due to the COVID 19 closing of libraries, archives, and archaeological laboratories. Unfortunately, due to COVID and other issues we lost one chapter. The publications committee is looking into other book projects concerning Tippecanoe County history.

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As of January 4, 2021

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