



251 E. Henri de Tonti Blvd., P.O. Box 144, Tontitown, AR 72770 ~ 479.361.9800

**Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report for the COW Meeting  
Tuesday, September 17, 2024**

The THM Board of Directors met September 9<sup>th</sup>, for an off-site meeting.

- 1. Off-Site Meeting:** THM Board and staff met at Rogers Historical Museum to view the Alcohol in the Ozarks exhibit which THM took part in providing artifacts and stories of winemaking in Tontitown, before, during and after Prohibition. After viewing the exhibit we went to have dinner and have our regular board meeting.
- 2. Call for More Board Members:** Interest in THM has increased over the last year and last week Museum Manager Emily put out a post calling for new board members to help fill in some of our talent that we are missing from the board. That post received 8 potential board members reaching out interested in joining. The board will meet with all potential members in October and make a decision on who to accept, due to bylaws the board can only have up to 15 voting members. We are looking to add more Junior Board Members to the board, Jr. members should be at least 16 years old, and their time on the board does count for volunteer hours (meetings and events), if you know a student interested in history and Tontitown please send them our way!
- 3. Digitization Project:** Juli and Emily are working through the collection each day to photograph, measure and conduct condition reports of artifacts, as well as transcribing historical documents for ease of reading for researchers and visitors. This project will take months to complete what is currently in the THM collection and will be on-going as new accessions are made.
- 4. Visitors:** For August THM welcomed over 200 visitors between the Grape Festival week and regular business hours.
- 5. "Cries from the Cotton Field":** The film "Cries from the Cotton Field" has increased visitors to Tontitown and interest and will continue to do so as it has been optioned for streaming on the free app Tubi it will be available this month; and we just learned that HULU and Amazon have also picked up the film for their streaming services. THM was also granted permission by Dr. Foley to produce DVDs of the film which will be available later this month. We plan to offer this in-house until closer to Black Friday and then it will go live on our online gift shop for nation-wide sales.
- 6. Regular Museum Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday & Saturday 1pm-4pm**

The next THM Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Board of Directors

Misty Piazza President  
Kara Jo Engle Vice President  
Megan Taldo McAfee Treasurer  
Allyson Bowen Secretary

Bev Cortiana-McEuen Member  
Heather Ranalli-Peachee Member  
Chelsea Stewart Member  
Olivia Ward Member  
Daxton Peachee Member  
Torrie Pianalto Member  
Ashlyn Bowen Jr. Member



THM Board at Rogers Historical Museum, in front of the Tontitown part of the exhibit.