



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, November 19, 2024**

The THM Board of Directors did not meet in November due to Polenta Smear on November 3rd.

- 1. November 3<sup>rd</sup> THM Polenta Smear:** The THM Polenta Smear and Taste of Tontitown was on November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00-1:30pm, we were happy to see so many familiar faces and many new at the event. The rough count that we have is 200+ we had almost a dozen student and adult volunteers helping in the kitchen and cleaning, along with all our board members and 3 potential board members. We partnered with Brittany Berry, EAST Teacher at Helen Tyson, to create a photo booth for visitors, and Dr. Rebecca Howard presented on Agriculture in Tontitown 1898-Present. The museum staff brought a handful of artifacts for guests to view and a blank map of Tontitown that we asked guests to put a pin on the map of historic businesses, homes and farms from throughout Tontitown history. I wanted to thank every business that sponsored food or door prizes, it was a great afternoon hearing stories and reconnecting with family and friends!
- 2. Digitization Project:** Museum Assistant Juli has been working diligently on this project and we are currently at 595 entries into CatalogIT. There was a slow down in data entry as staff prepared for Halloween in the Park and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Polenta Smear.
- 3. Visitors:** October Visitors was 45. Museum Manager Emily met with the Italian Studies students for a podcast, as well as three other University of Arkansas students on other projects featuring Tontitown for their coursework.
- 4. "Cries from the Cotton Field":** The film continues to be featured at film festivals throughout the country, coming up is the New York International Film Festival, date TBD.

**Regular Museum Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday & Saturday 1pm-4pm**

The next THM Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Board of Directors**

Misty Piazza	President	Bev Cortiana-McEuen	Member
Kara Jo Engle	Vice President	Heather Ranalli-Peachee	Member
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		Torrie Pianalto	Member
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