

**Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report
for COW Meeting - 8/21/2018**

The THM Board did not have a regular August Board meeting due to the Tontitown Grape Festival. We met on Tuesday, July 31 and Monday, August 6 to set up the temporary Old School Exhibit for the Grape Festival.

- 1. THM exhibits** -- The THM temporary exhibit at the Old School during the Grape Festival was very successful! We had over 300 guests at the Old School and 55 guests at THM during our open times on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of the festival.

The Old School exhibit was entitled *Tontitown Grape Festivals Through the Years*, and featured posters of the Grape Festival book covers from 1946 to date, as well as festival photos and the Queen Concordia slide show. Many Grape Festival books over the years were on tables for guests to peruse. See attached photos.

THM will display the Queen Concordia exhibit in City Hall for several weeks. A temporary exhibit in the THM entry case features a Friendship Quilt from May 1938, loaned by the Imogene Ardemagni Cortiana family.

- 2. Tontitown Oral History Video Project** -- Scott Davis has completed 27 video interviews, as well as videos of spaghetti-making and Tontitown Grape Festival activities. The videos will be reviewed by interviewees, Rachel Bellamy, and/or available THM Board members to edit for accuracy of accompanying photos. THM plans to release the video project during the Tontitown Reunion and Old-Fashioned Polenta Smear on October 28.

Debra Fithen, Grant Manager from the Department of Arkansas Heritage, came to the Tontitown Grape Festival this year and hand-delivered the \$2500 grant check for this video project. Bev gave Debra and her family a tour of THM, City Hall, the Old School Exhibit, and enjoyed spaghetti dinner together.

- 3. Sunday THM position open** -- The THM Board will interview potential candidates for the Sunday worker as soon as possible.

Due to Labor Day, the regular September THM Board meeting will be scheduled for Monday, August 27 or Monday, September 10 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall. Check the City Calendar on the website for updates.

Board Members:

Heather Ranalli-Peachee, President - 479-685-4793

Jennifer De Martino, Vice-President - 479-435-6320

Bev Cortiana-McEuen, Treasurer - 479-361-2609

Caroline Franco, Secretary - 479-200-9980

Carol Walker, Membership - 479-361-2363

Ashlee Bailey - 563-380-0792

Emily Pianalto-Beshears - 479-799-5643

Roger Pianalto - 479-361-2207

Riley Tessaro - 479-361-2607

Kyle Young - 479-619-8733

Tontitown Historical Museum presents *Tontitown Grape Festivals Through the Years*

