



**AQUATORIUM SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT
2021
The Vaccinating Year**

SINCE 1991 PRESERVING THE PAST
AND SOARING INTO THE FUTURE

**The Society for the Restoration of the
Gary Bathing Beach Aquatorium**

(Chanute Aquatorium Society)

613 S. Lake Street, 2nd Floor • Gary, Indiana 46403

www.aquatorium.org

Dear Members and Friends:

For the Society, and all of us, this has been a vaccinating year.

We all thought 2021 would be a year of the storm of Covid-19. But the vaccine gave us a way out, if only we were willing to accept it.

The enclosed report shows you our income and expenses for the first 29 years. The numbers are not exact, but they are very close to what has occurred, and gives the reader a good idea of what we have done each year.

Last year we recapped second floor. And this year we have added tempered “Rain” glass in place of glass block in our gardens

Our Board of Directors meet eleven times a year and is all volunteer. Our paid staff is all part time and are paid by the task. As they have great control over when and how they work, they receive 1099's at the end of the year, there is no payroll to meet.

July 24, 2021 marked the beginning of our 31st year. The building has been saved, maintained, and contributes to the quality of all of our lives. However, we are dealing with a building that will be 100-years-old next summer, restoration and revitalization is an ongoing task.

Thanks to you for being a part of all this,
The Society Board of Directors

OPEN BOOK POLICY

The Society is a 501©3 not for profit corporation. Its books and records are open for inspection at 613 S. Lake Street, 2nd Floor, Gary, IN. The following is a computation of funds raised over the years. Board member, Sophia Stratton, prepares yearly tax returns without charge to us. Returns have been filed through 2020.

I. The First 25 years

1991	\$5,788	
1992	\$109,128	
1993	\$70,170	
1994	\$69,289	
1995	\$320,096	(1)
1996	\$50,838	
1997	\$43,152	
1998	\$1,013,610	(2)
1999	\$270,194	
2000	\$38,757	
2001	\$29,227	
2002	\$32,929	
2003	\$53,202	
2004	\$35,120	
2005	\$41,818	
2006	\$45,094	
2007	\$39,646	
2008	\$55,966	
2009	\$51,989	
2010	\$42,172	
2011	\$1,047,479	(3)
2012	\$569,647	(4)
2013	\$78,488	
2014	\$74,623	
TOTAL	\$4,188,422	

- (1) Includes Federal Grant for sewer and sidewalks – administered (1995) by Gary Sanitation District (\$250,000).
- (2) Includes Casino Funds (\$1,000,000).
- (3) Includes RDA Grant.
- (4) Includes RDA Grant between the City of Gary and RDA pertaining to exterior work on the building (\$500,000).

I. The Second 25 years

As our rentals continue to grow, we decided to divide our income and expenses so as to avoid confusion.

Total from last 25 years			\$4,188,422
2015	Contributions	\$49,436	
2015	Rentals	\$59,553	\$108,989
2016	Contributions	\$23,770	
2016	Rentals	\$59,000	\$82,770
2017	Contributions	\$24,593	
2017	Rentals	\$62,000	\$86,593
2018	Contributions	\$22,000	
2018	Rentals	\$58,972	\$80,972
2019	Contributions	\$22,000	
2019	Rentals	\$57,454	\$79,454
2020	Contributions	\$20,536	
2020	Rentals	\$32,965	\$53,501
GRAND TOTAL			\$4,680,701

All federal and state tax returns have been filed to, and including, 2020 and are available at our office at 613 S. Lake Street, 2nd Floor, Gary, IN 46403.

In compliance with our lease, two copies of this report are filed with the Clerk of the City of Gary and copies are mailed to the Mayor and all City Council members.

EXPENSES (1993 – 2020)

Here in round numbers is a rough breakdown of how the money has been spent.

1	New roof that replicated original roof (1993)	\$150,000.00
2	New top deck with rebuilt hand rails and balustrades (2002)	\$250,000.00
3	New sewer system and sidewalks (1995)	\$250,000.00
4	Create Tuskegee wing (1999)	\$800,000.00
5	Repair and rebuild damaged exterior and interior walls (continual)	\$400,000.00
6	Upgrade and re-electrolyze building (continual)	\$80,000.00
7	Exhibits and graphics (continual)	\$10,000.00
8	Cost of fundraising and administration (continual)	\$130,000.00
9	Sign and balusters in fron (2004)	\$45,000.00
10	Statues of Octave Chanute & Tuskegee Airman (2003/2005)	\$75,000.00
11	New foyer (2005)	\$31,000.00
12	Reconstruction of cornice (2006)	\$40,000.00
13	New cloak room and food prep/storage (2006)	\$15,500.00
14	Rehabilitate northwest façade (2007)	\$15,000.00
15	Continuing maintenance	\$300,000.00
16	New roof and drains on northwest, southwest and southeast wings (2008)	\$23,000.00
17	New handrail systems (2008)	\$6,000.00
18	Chanute garden planning and construction (2009/2010)	\$50,000.00
19	Rehab south wall of Tuskegee garden (2010)	\$6,500.00
20	Umbrellas for Chanute garden (2011)	\$1,700.00
21	RDA grant to Society for Chanute garden and museum space, completed 2012	\$1,000,000.00
22	RDA grant to City for building exterior in amount the of \$500,000, spent in building 2012	\$500,000.00
23	Furnishing museum space	\$17,100.00
24	New lighting and sink/sewer in food prep room (2013)	\$20,000.00
25	Chanute garden sprinkler system (2013)	\$2,752.00
26	Cost of glider project to 08/01/14	\$28,286.00
27	New parapet wall on northwest corner (2014)	\$10,525.00
28	New interior foyer connecting Chanute and Tuskegee rooms	\$8,213.00
29	Installation of the Chanute glider (2014)	\$38,000.00
30	Plaques and plaza for glider and improved lighting (2015)	\$6,100.00
31	Installation of World War II Red Tail Fighter (2016-2017)	\$80,431.00
32	Maintenance and management (2016)	\$40,000.00
33	Maintenance and management (2016 and 2017)	\$100,000.00
34	Cost of plaque for airplane (2018)	\$5,229.00
35	Fund Raising (2018 and 2019)	\$5,000.00
36	Drainage Update (2018)	\$2,800.00
37	Operations (2018)	\$6,131.00
38	Rolling blinds for Tuskegee room (2018)	\$7,845.00
39	Major roof repairs (2019)	\$17,000.00
40	Recoating upstairs floor (2020)	\$23,875.00
41	Operations (2020)	\$35,152.00
42	TOTAL	\$4,633,139.00

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE GARY BATHING BEACH & OCTAVE
CHANUTE'S PLACE IN HISTORY**

2020-2021 HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Honorable Jerome Prince
401 Broadway
Gary, IN 46402

Mayor, City of Gary

Dr. Tom Crouch
National Air & Space Museum
Washington, DC 20560

Curator Emeritus, National Air & Space
Museum, Smithsonian Institute

Charles E. McGee
5231 Lawn Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64130

Tuskegee Airman, Retired
Served WWII, Korea & Vietnam

Don Aucuff
1224 Highland Park Boulevard
Waysaym, WY 54491

The Maher Society
Honors the work of Aquatorium Architect

John Davies
773 North 400 East
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Managing Director of The Society of Innovators

Charles Bussey

Lt. Colonel, retired Tuskegee Airmen

Susan Eleuterio

Former Department Head, Chicago Museum
of Science & Industry

Miles Stipanovich, Jr.
600 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA

United States Steel Corporation

Joseph Hodges
Denver, CO 80206

Great Grandson of Octave Chanute

Diane Banks

Hospital Consultant

Christopher Reising

Indiana University – Created the word “Aquatorium”

TO BE APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD OCTOBER 20, 2021

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE GARY BATHING BEACH & OCTAVE
CHANUTE'S PLACE IN HISTORY**

2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George A. Rogge
1135 N. Union
Gary, IN 46403

Sharon Reising, Treasurer
7600 Maple Avenue
Gary, IN 46403

Jack Tonk, Secretary
1115 N. Randolph Street
Gary, IN 46403

Greg Gillis
716 N. Howard Street
Gary, IN 46403

The Superintendent
City of Gary Park Department
839 Broadway, Suite 202-S

Stacy Lindskog
7635 Juniper Avenue
Gary, IN 46403

Kellie Easton
Harold Avenue
Gary, IN 46403

Renita Reyna, Manager
Ripley Street
Gary, IN 46403

James H. Wooten
6930 Forest Avenue
Gary, IN 46403

Rex Blackwell
7220 Oak Avenue
Gary, IN 46403

Diana Sims
535 Virginia Street
Gary, IN 46402

Judy Rodriguez
6133 E. 6th Place
Gary, IN 46403

Greg Reising, President
7600 Maple Avenue
Gary, IN 46403

Simine Short
6129 Juniper Avenue
Gary, IN 46403

John Gerber
9421 Lake Shore Drive
Gary, IN 46403

Jennifer Gerber
9421 Lake Shore Drive
Gary, IN 46403

William Davis
Gary, IN 46403

Natasha Sims
535 N. Vanderburg Street
Gary, IN 46403

Sophia Stratton
7601 Lake Shore Drive
Gary, IN 46403

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THANK YOU.....

- ◆ Mayor Jerome Prince, The Gary City Common Council and the Gary Park Department – for their continued support
- ◆ Miller Garden Club – the gardens always looks great!
- ◆ Joyce Davis – Lake Street Gallery – the official framer for The Society
- ◆ Renita Reyna – our building manager
- ◆ Shannon Smith – maintenance
- ◆ Rose Smith – housekeeping
- ◆ Renita Reyna – for keeping our computer up to date
- ◆ Karen Kirulis – for giving our statues a bath once a year
- ◆ Pat Lee and Steve Spicer – who give us the expertise to guide us in completing the building and letting us make the cover of the report on Pat's copy machine
- ◆ Rex Blackwell – event chairman, and his hard-working committee
- ◆ AJ Plumbing (plumber) and Greg Gondell (electrician) – our official maintenance/repair people
- ◆ Paul Nelson – producer of the Chanute documentary
- ◆ All of you for your support

Two Who Will Be Missed

ALMA WHITE AND JAN MCLAUGHLIN BOTH PASSED AWAY IN THE LAST YEAR.
BOTH WILL BE SORELY MISSED.

Alma was a longtime Board member who read every word, stated her belief with conviction, always volunteered when needed, and united behind every decision made.

A woman with an infectious smile and melodious giggle, Alma served on many boards and commission in her lifetime. Always proud to be Roosevelt graduate, Alma White loved Gary, Indiana, and Gary Indiana loved Alma White. She was quick witted, loved Jazz, good food, and friends. To know Alma was to love Alma.

Jan McLaughlin was the Aquatorium Manage for over 15 years. She took the gross revenue of the building from \$4 to \$5 thousand dollars a year to over \$50,000 a year and did it with humor and grace. She could calm hysterical brides and hard businessmen alike. She knew how to work with people and put them at ease. Jan, her husband Ray and their son Tim were the sunshine in many people's lives. When Tim passed away 20 years after the doctors said he would, the sunshine died, if you knew Jan, you know what I mean.

We miss the sunshine that Alma and Jan shined for us...