



Annual Report 2025

Indiana National Road Association, Inc. | 501(c)(3)

Established January 1995
Indianapolis, Indiana

2025 Highlights

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Al Green's Drive-In - US 40 National Road



McGinley's Golden Ace Inn - US 40 National Road



Melody Skateland - US 40 National Road



Dear Members, Friends & Stakeholders,

We are pleased to provide the 2025 Annual Report for the Indiana National Road Association, Inc. Our meeting this year is the first in-person meeting since the pandemic. Held at the former P.R. Mallory & Company complex on the National Road, we were able to showcase preservation and innovation of the former Mallory building and communicate our challenges and successes for 2025. The building is listed on The National Register of Historic Places.

Many of our successes this year provide improved foundational elements necessary to achieve best practice standards for a 501- (c)(3) organization. This is evidenced by being awarded a Platinum Seal, for achieving the highest level of transparency and accountability by GuideStar. Approximately 78,000 not-for-profit organizations have a GuideStar seal in the US, with only 15 percent at the Platinum level.

We have also made significant improvements with our vision for the future, outlined in our Strategic Plan for 2023-2025. This includes weekly dispatches using social media (Facebook) to communicate and engage followers with reports and stories about the Indiana National Road. This is directly linked to one of our mission statement objectives: "interpreting our heritage". We have 4,990 Facebook followers as of the Annual Meeting.

In closing we appreciate your interest in our work and support!



David E. Steele, CMC, MBA
President



*"Earning the Platinum Seal from GuideStar demonstrates to the public, as well as current and potential donors we achieve and operate by the highest standards of transparency and accountability".
David Steele, President*

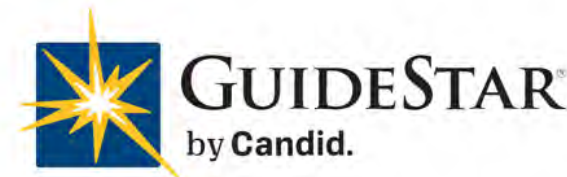
Mission

The Indiana National Road Association is working to preserve, protect and promote the Historic National Road across the Hoosier state to save our history, interpret our heritage, develop tourism and boost economic development.

GuideStar

To provide structure and best practice governance in carrying out our mission and strategic plan, we have earned the Platinum Seal for transparency and accountability from GuideStar.

"GuideStar refers to the database and service for researching U.S. nonprofits. It provides information on millions of nonprofits, including their financials, leadership, and programs, to help donors, grantmakers, and businesses make informed decisions. Donors and volunteers can use the platform to research organizations to support, while nonprofits can create profiles to showcase their work and earn Seals of Transparency."



BoardSource

For best practice research, guidance and support in carrying out the mission and strategic plan, we are members of BoardSource, dedicated to helping nonprofit boards to reach the highest potential.

"With more than three decades of experience, we provide an extensive range of tools, training, effective board leadership"



Strategic Imperatives – 2026 and Beyond

Fiscal Year January 1 – December 31

The four strategic imperatives below drive our strategic plan and action steps for the fiscal year. Details can be viewed by accessing our [strategic plan](#) on our website.

#1 Increase Membership & Stakeholder Growth

Actively promote value proposition for INRA, recruit new members, engage new stakeholders – be recognized as an organization that provide a return on investment of time or capital.

#2 Improve Financial Strength

Actively promote, schedule, and conduct fundraising and grant activities to support both capital and expense needs of the organization – be recognized as a non-profit that engage donors and grant applications in a meaningful way that supports the sustainable preservation throughout all eight counties.

#3 Extend Community Engagement

Actively recruit new community members and stakeholders and establish strong community partnership in all eight counties of the Indiana National Road – be recognized as the subject matter experts and organization that can enable historic interpretation for schools, community groups and activities, business, and chambers of commerce in the eight counties.

Engage Historic Preservation

Actively monitor and promote the preservation of artifacts, historical documents, signage, pocket parks that are core elements of the Indiana National Road – be recognized as the expert data & knowledge source for the Indiana National Road.

Key Accomplishments

Board Restructuring

The board made key leadership changes and recruited two new board members with excellent backgrounds and appropriate fit for strategic management of the INRA 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

David Steele was elected as president. David has a deep background as a business executive and is a frequent writer and contributor to Indiana History forums.

Dara Gard was elected as Vice President. Dara is Associate Director of Annual Giving at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terra Haute and possesses an MBA. Dara has excellent knowledge of the far western section of the Indiana National Road.

Sam Kropp was elected to Treasurer. Sam possesses an accounting and finance degree from Indiana University, Kelley School of Business and works for Decimal, and accounting services and financial operations firm.

Jim Grey was elected to the board. Jim is a writer, photographer and software developer. He graduated from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology where he majored in mathematics. Jim is an author, and frequent public speaker. He writes weekly the popular blog **"Down the Road"**.

Bob Hunt has been elected board member emeritus & historian. Bob's long service on the board and expert knowledge of the national road and scenic by-ways provides a broader role for him to contribute as he limits his time in retirement.

Walter Prosser (1924-2010) elected board member emeritus, in memoriam. Walt was instrumental in the formation and leadership of the Indiana National Road Association. He was also the proprietor of Rising Hall, located on the National Road, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

All board of director bios are now located in the public domain on the **INRA website**.

Studebaker Corporation, located in South Bend, Indiana (1852 - 1966), produced the Studebaker Conestoga all-steel station wagon from 1954-1955. Named in honor of their original horse-drawn Conestoga Covered Wagons, the company built in the 1850's. Conestoga wagons were the primary freight transport on the National Road for movement of goods across the country in the 19th century.



Key Accomplishments

Website Rework

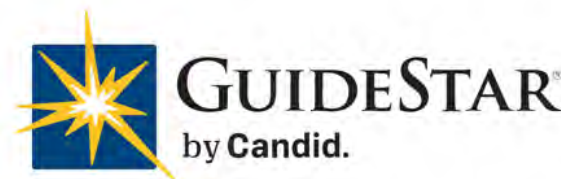
A review and audit of the INRA website needed key technology updates and risk management protocols which have been completed. Furthermore, a new server provider **Media Nouveau** has been selected to monitor and ensure necessary compliance and risk mitigation of key tools, e.g. PayPal interface, SSL certificate, anti-virus protection.

Key documents have been updated and placed in the public domain via our website. This ensures best practice governance and includes; formation documents, by-laws, board of director bios, board of director conflicts of interest statement, access to strategic plan, corridor management plan.

Governance & Transparency

GuideStar - We have earned Platinum status, the highest recognition awarded by GuideStar, who is the world's largest source of information about nonprofit organizations. The GuideStar data base lists all U.S. Nonprofits registered with the IRS. Fewer than 1% of the 1.9 million nonprofits organizations in the U.S. have earned the Platinum Seal. This means the Indiana National Road Association excels in providing financial transparency, sound governance, strategic goals, impact metrics and commitment to measuring progress and results.

Some of the organizations that have earned GuideStar Seals of Transparency are Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, American Red Cross, United Way Worldwide, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.



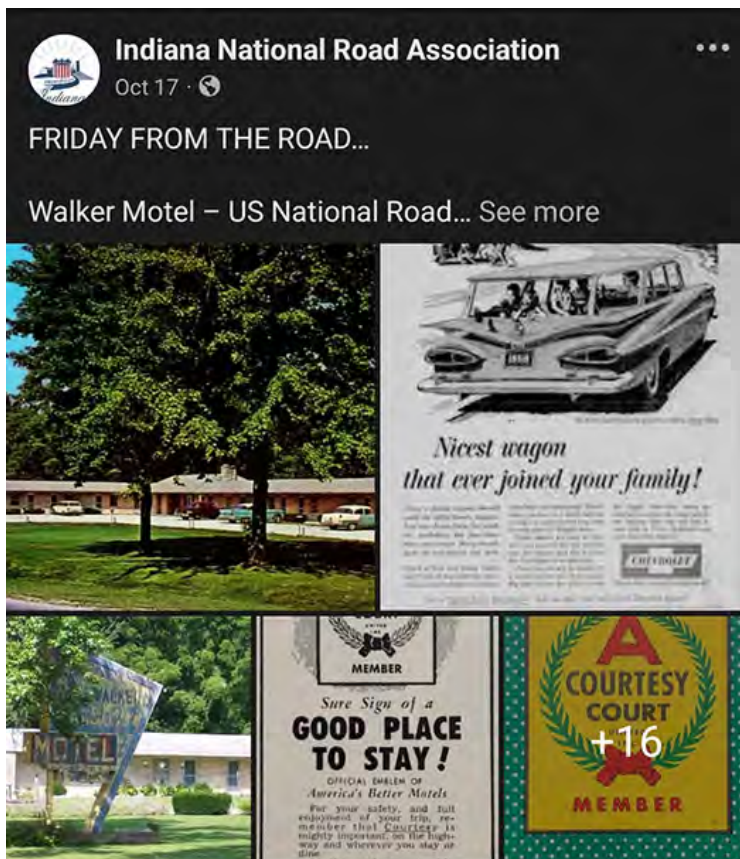
BoardSource - We are members of BoardSource, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving nonprofit governance and leadership. Grounded in a belief that boards are critical to organizational success, their goal is to help strengthen the effectiveness of nonprofit board and their leaders, BoardSource is considered a leading authority and supports more than 90,000 individuals. Their comprehensive library of governance resources and publication is an often-used resource for the Indiana National Road Association.



Key Accomplishments

Governance & Transparency Continued

Social media – We have focused on using Facebook as our social media interface to the public. Facebook site augments our website which has detailed information on our organization. With have over 5,000 followers and continue to attract both followers and public viewers monthly. Our public views have been averaging over 10,000 per month. We do not plan to use any other social media currently, due to Facebook's alignment with our demographics. We have enlisted the help **Goaldy**, a Social Media Marketing & Consulting Agency.



Our weekly **"Friday from the Road"** Facebook site post is focused on providing a "story of interest" to viewer and followers. These "short stories" range from the history of vintage "motels" along the road, to the emergence of "filling stations" and "drive-in movies" along the National Road in Indiana. These posts are based on primary research and sources are cited.

Friday October 17, 2025 post.

Key Accomplishments

Governance & Transparency Continued

Annual Meeting – We held our first annual in-person meeting since the pandemic in October 2025. These will continue to be held in-person and streamed via the internet for those who cannot drive the distance to the in-person meeting but would like to attend. We held our meeting this year at the historic P.R. Mallory Building on the National Road. In addition to the meeting, attendees were provided tours of the building highlighting the remarkable renovation and reuse of this historic building. The P.R. Mallory building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. We will always have the annual meeting somewhere of historic interest along the Indiana section of the National Road.

The following officers were elected for 2025: David Steele, president, Dara Gard, vice-president, Sam Kropp, treasurer, Greg Midgley, secretary.



Joe Bowling, Executive Director of Englewood Community Development Corporation, speaks to attendees at the 2025 Annual Meeting. Joe was a driving force behind the P.R. Mallory restoration.



Historic Milestones of P.R. Mallory & Co.

Heritage Grant – Indiana National Road Association partnered with Englewood Community Development Corporation to apply for a Heritage Support Grant, funded through the Indiana Historical Society. This grant application was for the funding of a wall mural depicting key milestones and the history of the P.R. Mallory Company. We were successful in this grant award, and the mural has been developed and installed.

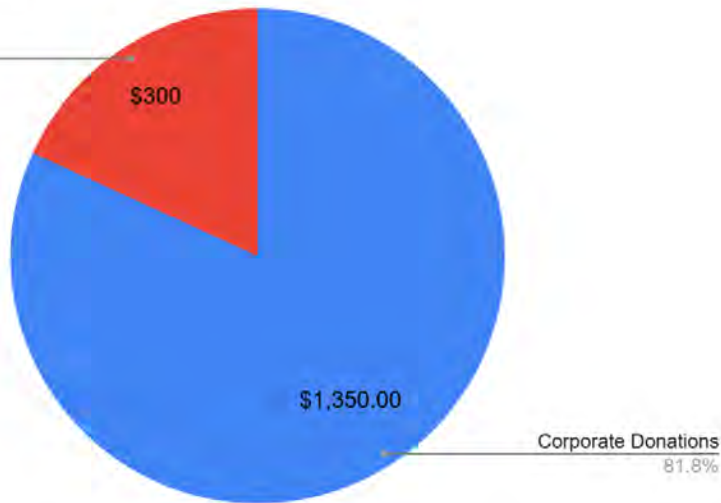
Sources & Uses of Funds

FY 2025 Revenue & Expenses (unaudited)

The organization develops an annual budget during Q4 of each fiscal year. The budget is approved by the Board of Directors at the final board meeting of the fiscal year.

Total Revenues

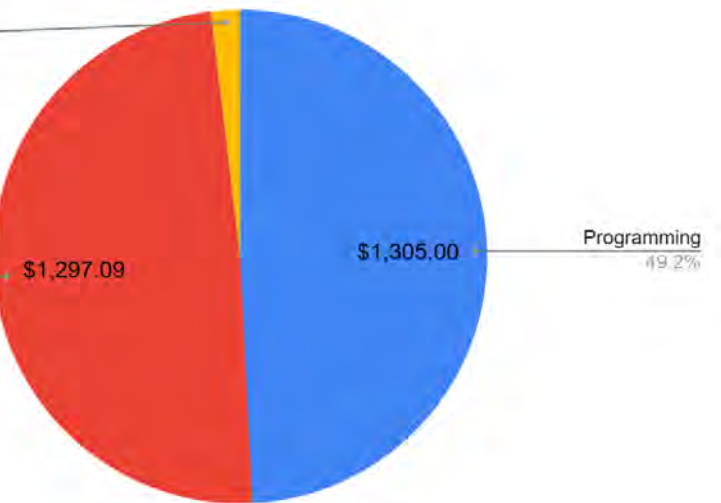
Individual Donations
18.2%



Total Expenses

Membership Events
1.9%

Admin
48.0%



Net loss of \$1,002.09 in FY2025 due to revamping of organization. Cash on hand totals excess of \$4,000.

Thank you to our Supporters

We are grateful to our members and other individuals who support our mission and provide financial and in-kind assistance in helping us to reach our goals and objectives for FY 2025.

Special recognition for the following:

Indiana Historic Society – helping us with the necessary guidance and coaching for completing the Heritage Support Grant application for the P.R. Mallory historical interpretation panel now installed in the main lobby. Special thanks to Jeannette Rooney.

Englewood Community Development Corporation – partnering with INRA on the application to the Indiana Historical Society for the Heritage Support Grant for the P.R. Mallory historical interpretation panel. The milestone interpretive signage was approved and now installed in the lobby of this building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Special thanks to Joe Bowling, Executive Director.

Schmidt Associates – partnering with INRA and Englewood CDC in development of the historical interpretation panel now installed in the lobby of the historic P.R. Mallory Building. The \$38 million P. R. Mallory & Co. complex renovation won Indiana Landmarks 2021 Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration. Special thanks to Joe Jarzen, Client Liaison, Community Studio.

Hancock County Historical Society – partnering on sharing of historical information and speaker engagements related to the Indiana National Road. Especially, understanding more about mid-century motels and travel along the Indiana National Road. Special Thanks to Michael Kester, President & Curator.

Gulf Filling Station- US 40 National Road



Coffee Pot Restaurant - US 40 National Road

Board of Directors



David Steele
President



Dara Gard
Vice President



Sam Kropp
Treasurer



Greg Midgley
Secretary



Steve Barnett
Board Member



Patrick Chase
Board Member



Jim Grey
Board Member



Brian Kizer
Board Member



Donna Tauber
Board Member



Robert H. Hunt
Board Member Emeritus & Historian

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EIN: 35-1948700

Established January 1995
Indianapolis, Indiana

Credits for photo used in Annual Report

Pg. 2) Al Green's Drive-in - Indy Rambler

Pg. 3) President's Letter - INRA Collections

Pg. 6) National Drive-in - IndyStar/Dawn Mitchell

Pg. 6) Studebaker Conestoga - Library of Congress

Pg. 9) Annual Meeting - INRA Collections

Pg. 11) Gulf Filling Station - INRA Collections

Back cover: Dinnie's Drive-in Restaurant - Palladium-Item, Nancy's Grill - INRA Collections

<https://indiananationalroad.com/>

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Indiana National Road Association

Nancy's Grill - US 40 National Road



Dinnie's Drive-in US 40 National Road