



1. Introduction

Event Overview

Flaming Cheese celebrated its third year from June 6–9, 2024, at Sweetwood Temenos in Wisconsin. This year marked a significant transition as the event moved from WiscoBurners LLC to Twisted Kindling LLC under a new board. While this change introduced challenges, the event successfully embraced its 2024 art theme, *The Knights Who Say Brie!*

Goals

- To host a Burning Man-inspired event aligned with the 10 + 1 principles in Wisconsin.
 - To support art through grants and foster artistic expression.
 - To create an inclusive, family-friendly environment.
 - To maintain transparency and accountability by producing reports necessary for official Burning Man regional status.
 - To transition from an LLC to a nonprofit organization.
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2. Attendance

- Total attendees: 140 adults and 10 minors.
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3. Ticketing and Registration

Ticketing Process

In 2024, *Volunteeripate* replaced Burner Tickets, which had ceased operations. This system streamlined the gate check-in process by enabling electronic waiver acceptance, reducing onsite paperwork and complexity. Due to a rapid sell-out in 2023, a lottery system was implemented this year.

Sales Data

- **Tickets Sold:** 153 adult tickets and 19 minor tickets.
 - 136 regular tickets at \$125 each.



- 16 lead tickets at \$65 each.
- 1 low-income ticket at \$85.

Feedback on Ticketing

The lottery system caused confusion and did not achieve the desired outcomes. Additionally, the process for low-income tickets lacked clarity, with only one ticket sold despite multiple inquiries. A clearer application and allocation process will be developed for 2025.

4. Financial Summary

Budget Overview

- Total revenue: \$18,262.50 (ticket sales).
- Total expenses: \$13,254.91 (including \$1,885 distributed as art grants).
- Surplus: \$5,007.59 (allocated for taxes, storage, and the 2025 event).

Challenges

The financial landscape was strained due to the split with WiscoBurners, who did not transfer \$2,000 held for the event as agreed. Increased ticket prices compensated for legal and administrative costs associated with forming a new LLC and rising land rental and insurance fees.

Transparency

A full financial report is available for review [here](#).

5. Volunteers and Teams

Supporting Teams

- Department of Public Works
- Rangers
- Effigy
- Placement
- Art



- Medical
 - Fire Arts Safety Team
 - Gate
 - Volunteer Coordination
 - Sanctuary

Volunteer Participation

- 126 volunteer shifts available; 83 filled.
- 54 volunteers contributed.

To improve communication and coordination, a structured communication plan will be established during the first leads meeting in 2025, with meeting details and action items shared in advance.

6. Programming and Activities

- **Theme Camps:** 9, including 2 sound camps.
 - **Art Projects:** 6 funded initiatives.
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7. Safety and Security

- No incidents or medical reports filed.
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8. Environmental Impact

Leave No Trace Efforts

Cleanup efforts were successful, though significant ash from the effigy required removal. Garbage cans at Center Camp filled quickly, prompting consideration for their removal in future events.

Landowner Feedback

Positive feedback from landowners contributed to an increased population cap for 2025.



9. Conclusion and Next Steps

Reflections

The event faced a challenging start in 2024 due to the split with WiscoBurners. This separation stemmed from a personal conflict between a regional contact, who was also a board member, and a member of the EC team, who likewise served on the board. As a result, WiscoBurners decided to discontinue its involvement with the event.

To ensure the event's continuity, the new EC team reached an agreement with WiscoBurners to transfer the remaining event funds and the website to facilitate the handover to a new LLC. The team promptly established *Twisted Kindling LLC* to host the event. However, despite repeated requests, WiscoBurners did not transfer the funds, website ownership, or associated domain name. Additionally, all content from the original website was removed.

These actions caused significant disruption, alarming both the community and our credit card processor, which questioned the event's legitimacy and threatened to cease processing transactions. The new EC team overcame these challenges by creating a new website and ensuring a smooth transition for participants.

These unnecessary and time-consuming administrative hurdles led to delayed ticket sales, community confusion, and disorganization within the leads team. However, 2025 promises to be different. With administrative tasks completed, a detailed communication plan has been established with leads to improve organization and coordination.

Commitments for 2025

- Enhanced communication with leads.
- Timely tax filings and financial reporting.
- Progress toward official Burning Man regional status.
- Continued efforts to convert to a nonprofit structure.

Acknowledgments

We extend heartfelt thanks to all participants, volunteers, and partners who made Flaming Cheese 2024 possible.