



2026 INDIANA BREWERS GUILD CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The candidates in this document are listed in alphabetical order by last name. Online voting takes place May 4-May 19, 2026 and in-person voting takes place at the beginning of the Annual Meeting at the Broad Ripple Brew Pub on May 20, 2026. Each member brewery in good standing is eligible for one vote.

If you have any questions about the candidates or the voting process, please reach out to Julia at

julia@drinkIN.beer



Jeff Browne, Heartwork Brewing

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

Outside leadership experience includes managing taprooms, restaurants, and breweries (2016-present), directing Bloomington Beer School (2023-present), working as a music educator (2018-2022), and providing guest lectures at Indiana University Bloomington as a researcher for the Rydell Social Cognition Lab (2015-2016).

Why are you interested in serving?

I'm interested in serving because I want to assist the long-term growth of the Guild and craft beer industry in my home state. I provide a varied skillset and perspective that I would love to apply to the Guild's goals and responsibilities. So much of my life has been influenced and impacted by the Indiana beer & hospitality industry and I am passionate about returning the favor and giving back in any way that I can. The craft beer industry remains ripe for growth in Indiana, and I am eager to learn about new ways to make an impact. I actively work all front of house and kitchen positions at Heartwork Brewing 7 days a week, which keeps me in tune with what types of support a brewery needs.

Brief biography

Proudly born and raised in Bloomington, Indiana, I am a hospitality lifer with experience in taprooms, sushi, pizza, fast food, sports bars, fine dining, and breweries in both Bloomington and Seattle, Washington. I hold a B.A. in psychology/music from Indiana University and a master's in business/finance from Washington State University. I specialize in front of house hospitality, staff development, and designing training literature. My hobbies include running, traveling and trying breweries/restaurants, and evaluating research on the psychology of breweries. My recent experience of opening Heartwork Brewing has given me tangible, first-hand insight to the legislature and bureaucracy of alcohol – and I hope I can use my experience to help others. Heartwork Brewing has been honored to receive an endless stream of accolades from the Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, Herald-Times, Bloom Magazine, Untappd, Indiana Brewer's Cup, and more - all since our inaugural year. None of that compares to the pride we take in giving back to local organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club, Habitat For Humanity, Middle Way House, IU Student Foundation, Centerstone, etc. Thank you for your time and consideration.



Dave Colt, Sun King Brewing Co

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

I have served on the board for the past three years. The past two years I have served as the guild president.

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

Running Sun King Brewing Company for the past 8+ years.

Why are you interested in serving?

I would like to serve on the board of directors to continue to help shape the future of our organization. We have come a long way since the Covid set back and I want to help guide the guild to a brighter future.

Brief biography

I have been in the craft brewing industry since 1996. In that time, I have done every job in the industry from cellar to brewer to owner, including working for a distributor.



Alex Eaker, Lost Hollow Beer Co.

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

I have never been in a leadership position with the Guild, however I have been in many of the legal meetings and we have been involved in events, Summerfest and plan to join many more.

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

In addition to being the President of Lost Hollow Beer Co. I am the Director of Operations at Flaherty Dental Laboratory and have started multiple new departments within the company, resulting in substantial revenue growth over the last 7 years. I am a director of the board for the Association of Indiana Dental Labs. There I have provided insight into revenue growth opportunities as well as review and granting of scholarships for the CDT program. I am on a dental technology committee at the IUFW Dental Technology program in which I provide technical expertise in digital dentistry. I serve as the executive director for an investment fund for our brewery and hold annual and biannual meetings for members.

Why are you interested in serving?

Being involved in the Brewer's Guild is an opportunity for me to grow in this industry and learn how to support others even further with my current experiences within the industry and outside. I would like to give my time back to the Guild as it has been instrumental in our growth and stability as a company. The Guild has been such a huge resource for us and for anyone who is not a member should know what it can mean for their company and I would love to continue to be an ambassador and join the board.

Brief biography

My name is Alex Eaker (pronounced Aker) I am 34 years old and have a passion for business and people. I keep a lot of irons in the fire. I have been married for 8 years to my wife Bronte and we have 2 children Beck (4) and Emmy (1). When I am not working I spend most of my time outside or traveling with them. Bronte is a incredible inspiration in my life and the reason I got into the Brewery/restaurant space, she was a professional chef and introduced me to countless big hitters in the industry. She along with other professionals gave me the knowledge and confidence to find a way to open Lost Hollow Beer Co. After heavily investing in brewing education, I opened LHBC with 2 of my closest friends and several investors that supported and continue to support us along the way. I enjoy being with people and serving them in a way that makes them feel seen.



Barry Howard, Bad Dad Brewery

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

I have not participated in any past roles in the Guild. I would like to start contributing.

Why are you interested in serving?

This organization represents one of the best ways to collaborate with industry peers.

Brief biography

22 years engineering and management for AT&T

15 years owner of one of Indiana's largest specialized automotive insurance auctions



Chris Johnson, People's Brewing

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

- Current Board Member
- Long time involvement with legislation regarding Indiana beer
- I was there when the annual guild meeting was all 12-13 breweries from the state, raising a hand to reelect John Hill as president, 5 minutes before SummerFest entry at Optimist Park. (Dave was there and he's older than me!)

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

- I'm a co-founder and operating partner of People's Brewing Company (2009 to current)
- Formerly the head brewer and member of the management staff of Lafayette Brewing Company (2000 to 2008)
- Co-founder of two children, Jack (18) and Fran (17), who can feed themselves, hold jobs, and get better grades than I did.
- I have managed in several other jobs over the years, including a successful regional string band from 2004-2010 (The Woodstove Flapjacks).

Why are you interested in serving?

I have a passion for Indiana beer and believe in a strong Indiana guild to help propel our industry into the future. I also believe that have a united voice at the state house is important for keeping a fair market for us all. I have benefited greatly from the my colleagues and leadership before me. I bring experience in the Indiana brewing industry in both a brewpub and production setting. I hope that I can represent all the segments of our industry and help continue to grow the success in Indiana.

Brief biography

I grew up on a 150 year farm in northeast Indiana, that my family settled in 1833 (I'm as Indiana as it gets). I worked for almost a decade in the farming industry for small family owned farms and larger seed companies. In 1997, I came to Purdue University to study Technical Graphics. In 2000, I took a semester off and pursued a job at Lafayette Brewing Company. I live in West Lafayette with my wife Jes and our two kids Jack (18) and Frannie (17). I also have egg laying chickens and an Australian Red Heeler named Clark.



Bobby Mattingly, Moontown Brewing

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

I have been on the board since 2022. I have served as the Secretary and most recently, Vice President. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to continue serving another board term.

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

I am the operator and co-founder of Moontown Brewing Company. I oversee all three of our locations and am active in all aspects of operations including, but not limited to...brewing operations, restaurant operations, administration, concert/private event bookings and more.

Why are you interested in serving?

I have really enjoyed my time serving on the board. I've met many great people and made great connections. I believe the guild has improved immensely under mine and Dave Colt's leadership over the past few years. Including bringing the Craft Brewers Conference to Indianapolis, refreshing Summerfest to a new venue at Victory field and securing happy hour in Indiana.

My main goals for another term will be to continue improving the guild's presence statewide and nationwide as one of the strongest in the country. I also look to improve and grow our beerfests plus continue to advocate for Indiana beer on the state and federal level.

Brief biography

Co-founded Moontown Brewing Company in March 2018. 15 years of experience in restaurants/brewing industry including 10 years of management experience. Certified Cicerone. Have been on the board since 2022. Married with two children, two goats, a cat and 6 chickens. Avid golfer and outdoors enthusiast. Lager is life. Keep it dank.



Christian Paumi, The Tap Brewery

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

I am new to Indiana and the guild, however I was involved in subcommittee work as part of the Ohio guild. Specifically as both a brewer and as a professor of brewing science I was part of the annual conference planning committee and took part in volunteer services. My students and I volunteered to run the registration booth every morning of the conference in 2024 and 2025. During my time as a brewing science professor at Eastern Kentucky University (2015-2018) and while I owned my own brewery in Lexington KY (2018-2022), I was an active member of the guild and served on a number of committees including craft beer week planning, conference planning, and was heavily involved in working with state representatives on improving brewery, winery, and distillery laws and legislation.

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

Outside the guild I have been a USA swimming official for five years, I've been on the board of my own brewery (Fusion Brewing), been an active PTA board member for 2010-2014, also been a non-profit swim team board member (2015-2017). In addition as a faculty member at the University of Kentucky and at Eastern Kentucky University I served in the outreach committee and the IT committee. During my time I have also been on the grant review board of the NIH and in 2025 served my first year as a judge for the GABF.

Why are you interested in serving?

I loved to get involved and help aligning and acting on an agenda that will help improve all aspects of brewing in Indiana. In addition serving is an excellent way to get to meet the rest of the brewing community and learn and share common problems and successes.

Brief biography

In 1998 I graduated from Gettysburg College with a BS in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. In 2003 I graduated from Wake Forest University with a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a subspecialty in Toxicology and Cancer biology. From 2003-2008 I worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins University where I studied yeast cell biology and also participated in the yeast cold spring harbor course in 2004. From 2008-2015 I was an assistant professor at the University of Kentucky working on Leukemia using clinical samples, cell culture and yeast knockout models. In 2015-2018 I taught fermentation science at Eastern Kentucky University. From 2018-2022 I owner and was head brewer of my own brewery in Lexington KY, Fusion Brewing. After closing due to COVID, I worked from 2022-2024 at Samuel Adams brewery in PA as a brewing supervisor/manager. In 2024-May 2025 I was the brews operations director and QAQC director at Maumee Bay Brewing in Toledo as well as worked part time as an operator for Iron Heart mobile canning. Now I am the head brewer at The Tap Brewery since May 2025.



Lindsay Perdue, Black Circle Brewing

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

I've served on committees, worked for the guild, and have been involved in guild events for the last ten years.

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

I have been director of operations for Great Fermentations and Head Brewer.

Why are you interested in serving?

I care very much about the industry and would like to see younger brewers like myself represent our influence.

Brief biography

Starting with Cutters and Black Swan Brewpub in 2013, I have been in love with craft beer. I worked for the Guild as an Executive Assistant during and after my second pregnancy. I spent the pandemic with Great Fermentations, then joining Flix to be Head Brewer. I worked with GF as Director of Operations and am back in the brewery at Black Circle.



Nancy Porter, Taxman Brewing

What is your previous experience with the Guild?

While this is my first time going out for the Board of Directors, I am no stranger to Guild events. I have been attending and pouring at Guild festivals since I started in the industry. This has given me the insight I believe will help to evolve future events.

What is your previous leadership experience outside the Guild?

As Director of Brewing Operations at Taxman, I'm responsible for all procurement, coordinating production, and leading sensory trainings, which has strengthened my leadership and organizational skills.

Why are you interested in serving?

With my background in event planning and public relations, as well as experience organizing festivals, I believe my skills can help support growth and visibility for the Guild. Serving on the board would also allow me to expand my community involvement and industry knowledge by gaining a deeper understanding of the work and benefits the Guild provides.

Brief biography

I started in this industry in May 2021 after leaving the retail world, looking for a change from my day-to-day routine, and I'm so grateful to have found my home at Taxman. With minimal brewing knowledge at the start, I worked my way up from keg washer to Packaging and QA Manager, and now serve as Director of Brewing Operations. Over the past five years, I've gained invaluable hands-on experience and developed a deep passion for this industry, which has become both my career and a meaningful part of my life.