



## HELLO BEAVER LOVERS!

*Welcome to the first annual report of Beaver Lodge Local 1504!*

*In 2025, we frolicked with many of you at the 21st Beaver Queen Pageant, and the Lodge officially became a non-profit organization at the beginning of the year. Swimming out on our own allows us to have complete control over the pageant as we will handle all of the financial aspects of staging the event. We would not have been able to do this without all of your wonderful support over the years.*

*The pageant started in 2005 with a small group of Duke Park neighbors and has gradually grown over the years to a crowd of 700-800 people. Each year, the creativity of the contestants tickles our tails, and the beaver love that we feel from the audience makes our hearts soar.*

*We look forward to June 6, 2026, as we gather together again to celebrate community and creativity!*

*peace, love, beaver*  
*Beaver Lodge Local 1504*

---

### 2025 Board Members

Karin Abell, Jill Anderson, Rachel Cohn,  
Alis Hassinger, Greg Palmer

---

BEAVER LODGE LOCAL 1504



2025  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

*www.beaverqueen.org - localbeaverlodge@gmail.com - EIN: 33-2463814*

Beaver Lodge Local 1504 P.O. Box 2721 Durham, NC 27715

---

*Wow! Jan 2025*

---

## OUR MISSION

*The purpose of the Lodge is to foster creativity, nurture community, and spark curiosity about the world of beavers. Through educational initiatives and artistic expression, we aim to keep our wetlands clean, and encourage a deeper appreciation for the interconnectedness of nature and community.*

## CITY OF DURHAM GRANT RECIPIENT

We are proud to have been selected as a beneficiary of the City of Durham's 2026 Festivals and Special Events Funding initiative, receiving a grant of \$3,310.00. This award provides a dam strong foundation on which to build the 2026 Pageant and will help advance our goal of strengthening community engagement and increasing charitable support for our partner organizations.

## FOSTERING COMMUNITY

*Beaver Lodge Local 1504 partnered with Keep Durham Beautiful as the beneficiary of the 2025 pageant and donated \$9,000 in pageant proceeds to support the organization's mission of ensuring all Durham residents have access to clean, green, and beautiful outdoor spaces.*

*In addition to the primary donation, the Lodge provided each entrant with \$50 from pageant proceeds to donate to the local charity of their choice.*

Non-Profits Selected: Bike Durham, Doxie by Proxy,  
LGBTQ Center of Durham (x2), Southern Poverty Law Center

---

## 2025 BEAVER QUEEN PAGEANT

The Lodge held the 21st Annual Beaver Queen Pageant on June 7, 2025. An estimated 800 people attended, and the event grossed over \$25,000. The theme "Free to Beave" proudly celebrated individual and collective liberty and reflected the Lodge's renewed creative freedom and control over the event.

# BEAVER QUEEN PAGEANT ON THE BIG SCREEN

In August 2025, Elizabeth Miller-Derstine's documentary short about the Beaver Queen Pageant entitled "Once Upon a Wetland" had its world premiere at the OutSouth Queer Film Festival at Carolina Theatre of Durham. The film highlights two contestants from the 2023 Beaver Queen Pageant and incorporates archival video coverage from past pageants. Beaver Queens Furrh Gnawsett-Major and Genie Tailyah co-star and provide narrative context.

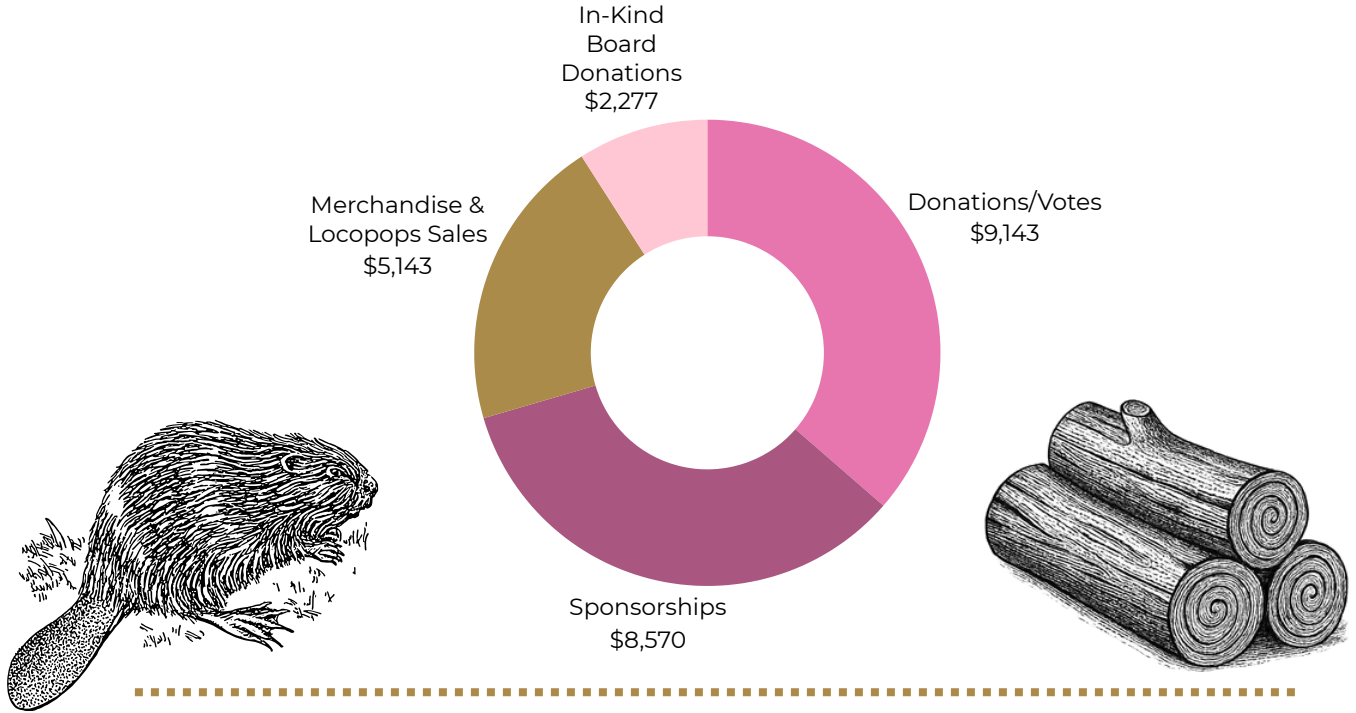
"Once Upon a Wetland" won the Best Documentary Short award at Beyond: The Cary Film Festival and is a part of the Sidewalk Film Festival (Birmingham, Alabama), The Carrboro Film Festival (Carrboro, NC), The Red Rose Film Festival (Lancaster, PA), The South Carolina Underground Film Festival (Columbia, SC), and the Cucalorus Film Festival (Wilmington, NC).

The Lodge sends sincere thanks to the many members of the extended Beaver Lodge Local 1504 community who helped finance the film.



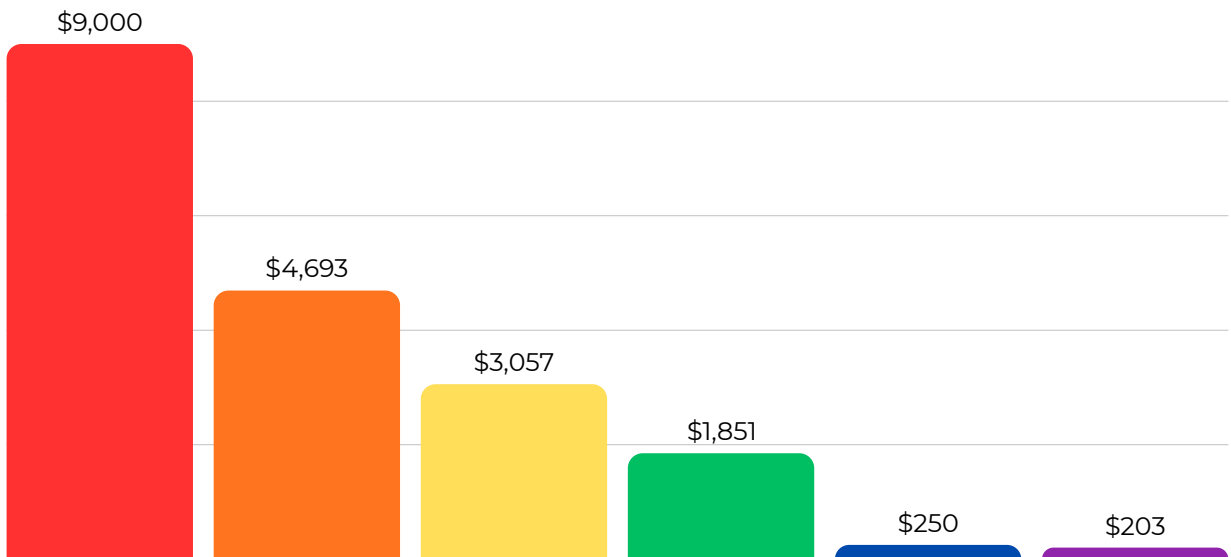
# 2025 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TOTAL INFLOWS \$25,133



TOTAL OUTFLOWS \$19,054

- Pageant Beneficiary Donation
- Pageant Expenses
- Merchandise & Locopops
- Non-profit Expenses
- Contestant Beneficiary Donations
- Credit Card Processing Fees



# BIG THANKS TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS!

VERY IMPORTANT BEAVERS  
ACME PLUMBING  
VAGUELY REMINISCENT



---

PEACE LOVIN' BEAVERS  
CENTER STUDIO ARCHITECTURE  
G CRABTREE SPACES  
INHABIT REAL ESTATE  
URBAN TAILS

---

PAGEANT JUDGES  
DUKE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
FOUR OVER ONE DESIGN  
WINE AUTHORITIES

---

DAM FINE FRIENDS  
ARCANA - BLUESTEM CONSERVATION CEMETERY  
BUILDSENSE - MERGE RECORDS

---

STICK STARTERS  
STONE BROS. & BYRD - TINDER BEAVER - ANDREA ANDERSON - FURRAH  
GNAWSETT-MAJOR - STELLA SPACEBEAVER - PAIN FONDA - THE MCCORMICK  
TEAM - BILL ANDERSON - ELLEN FREEMAN-LYNDE

---

CONTESTANT LOVERS (IN KIND DONATIONS)  
DURHAM CO-OP MARKET - EAST COAST GREENWAY ALLIANCE - FATE &  
FOLKLORE - FREEMAN'S CREATIVE - MERGE RECORDS

---

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

# Thank you to our 2025 Contestants!

## FREE TO BE AVE...



**LADY VIOLET BEAVERTON**  
BEAVER QUEEN



**MADAME RASPBOOTYN**  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE  
BEST TAIL AND COSTUMING  
MOST SAGACIOUS



**INA GNAWTEN**  
BEST TALENT



**CAPTAIN ELLERBE & BUCKY**  
MX. HYGENIALITY  
BEST STAGE PRESENCE



**DONALD STUMP**  
BIGGEST LOSER

← except this "contestant"  
no thanks to this loser

**WANT TO BE INVOLVED?  
OF COURSE YOU DO!  
HERE'S HOW!**

**OPTION 1**

**BE A BEAVER QUEEN PAGEANT CONTESTANT!**

SIGN UP BY SCANNING THE QR CODE  
OR VISITING

[bit.ly/BQPcontestantinterest](https://bit.ly/BQPcontestantinterest)  
(case sensitive!)



**OPTION 2**

**ATTEND THE PAGEANT  
AND BRING EVERYONE WITH YOU!**

The 2026 Pageant will be on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> !

**OPTION 3**

**BE A PAGEANT SPONSOR!**

contact The Lodge at [localbeaverlodge@gmail.com](mailto:localbeaverlodge@gmail.com)

**OPTION 4**

**VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THE PAGEANT!**

contact The Lodge at [localbeaverlodge@gmail.com](mailto:localbeaverlodge@gmail.com)

**OPTION 5**

**LIKE, COMMENT, SHARE, SUBSCRIBE/FOLLOW  
US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**



Instagram - [BeaverQueenDurham](#)  
Facebook - [BeaverLodgeLocal1504](#)  
Youtube @BeaverLodge

Bluesky @beaverlodge1504.bsky.social