

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

***Joyeux Noel* Celebration Month Begins**



The BGHS *Joyeux Noel* celebration month begins with our Thursday December 5 membership meeting at 7 pm; continues with *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair on Saturday December 7 from 9am to 3pm (at Kankakee County Fairgrounds); and concludes with our community Christmas Open House at the Letourneau Home/Museum on Sunday December 15 from 1-4 pm with refreshments served. The photograph at left shows the craft fair advertisement sign in front of the Letourneau Home/Museum—quite a feat negotiating the posts into the early November sub-freezing ground by craft fair organizer Ellen Stringer. The second photograph (festive holiday garland on the four drawer walnut chiffonier in the dining room of the Letourneau Home/Museum) invites the public to the Letourneau Home/Museum Christmas Open House on December 7. The chiffonier was built by Alexandre LeMontagne (1830-1918) in 1850 from local walnut trees which he felled, sawed, and planed. This outstanding work of art qualified Mr. LeMontagne as a journeyman woodworker. Those who attend the Christmas Open House can enjoy this elegant artifact and old fashion Christmas tree with gifts displayed, and will have a chance to pick the top BGHS news story/event of the past ten years—three different news events are shown in the final photograph.

Election of Officers at December 5 Meeting

The agenda for the December 5 meeting includes

- Approval of November 7 minutes (see attached);
- Election of officers: Jim Paul, president; Gary Seiner, vice-president; Marcia Rabideau, executive vice-president; _____, secretary; Laurel Soper, corresponding secretary; John Hassett, treasurer; and (board trustees up for re-election Daron Kinzinger, Gary Seiner, Malette Trudeau-Stevenson, and Jim Paul);
- Preparation for Christmas Open House and Chocolate Tour;
- Formation of an Education Committee to revive the annual student award;
- Resolution of end of year outstanding issues: collection management software, boardwalk, insurance issues, log schoolhouse restoration status; and campus plan advisory committee.

Please come early to the meeting to enjoy drinks and sweets. The next monthly meeting will be on March 5, 2020.

Holiday Gratitude Extended

Special notes of gratitude go to Gary Seiner for decorating the Letourneau Home/Museum for the holiday *Joyeux Noel* and for hosting the December 1 open house from 1-4 pm; to Judy and Ken Ponton for updating the log schoolhouse fundraising status on the thermometer graph; and to Ellen Stringer for organizing another successful *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair. The BGHS also thanks all its members and friends who continuously make our organization so vibrant. *Joyeux Noel*,

Jim