

BGHS News—March/April 2020

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

Despite Pandemic, Spring is Coming



In the midst of this health emergency, the about-to-bloom daffodils at the Letourneau Home/Museum show that, no matter what, spring is about to brighten and refresh our lives. With the current government mandates regarding the global pandemic and national emergency, the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society will cancel the April 2 membership meeting, and the April 5 and April 19 open houses (1-4 pm) at the Letourneau Home/Museum. Later in April, the officers of the BGHS will reassess the situation and advise the membership about the May 7 monthly meeting and May 3 and May 17 open houses. If anyone needs to contact the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society, please do so at the website www.bourbonnaishistory.org or on Facebook at Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society.

Upcoming Events Still Planned at this Time

As we continue our sojourn in this unexpected “stay at home” hiatus, please note the following dates for special events:

- Consider enrolling in these “Leaders in Local History” classes in KCC’s Lifelong Learning Institute this spring—~~April 3 Potawatomi Peril, April 17 Antebellum~~

~~*Abolitionists, May 1 Bourbonnais History in Four Walking Tours,*~~ **(cancelled until fall 2020 semester)**, **May 5** *Cinco de Mayo*, and **May 12** *Our Rich Veteran Heritage*;

- By **March 31**, consider applying for a \$600 scholarship to attend a small history museum three-day course in 2020 through the Center for Collections Care at Beloit College (for more information, go to <https://www.beloit.edu/summer-programs/center-for-collection-care/registration-funding/>);
- Plan to attend the Bastille Day Festival on **July 11th** from 1-4pm at the French Heritage Museum and the Voyageur Classic 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, **August 28th** at 8:00am at the Kankakee County Museum;
- Come to Maternity BVM's French-Canadian Festival on Sunday **August 30**—if you would like to volunteer to assist in the planning, please call Teresa Culver at 815 933-8285 ext. 110 or e-mail her at tculver@mbvm.org;
- Enroll in the Bourbonnais Township Park District's **May 2** *Reminiscing with Tommy and Peggy Durham in the year 1854*; and
- Save the dates for the *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fairs on **July 4** and **December 5**, and the *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner on **September 18**.

Special gratitude goes to Gary Seiner for chaperoning the Letourneau Home/Museum open house on March 15. Also, Vicki Beland was the winner of the February Chocolate Tour membership raffle. Congratulations Vicki! She won several local history books and other items. Please be safe. Best wishes,

Jim