

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

LaSalle Silhouette Unveiled in His Namesake City



The above two photographs show Illinois-Michigan Canal Corridor Association President Ana Koval and LaSalle, Illinois Mayor Jeff Grove unveiling the new silhouette of Rene-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de LaSalle (1643-87) at the I & M Lock 16 Center on 754 First Street in LaSalle, IL. In the 1680s LaSalle came to Illinois and established Fort St. Louis atop Starved Rock. Our member and author of *The Time of the French in the Heart of North America: 1673-1818*, Dr. Charles Balesi (in the right photograph), was a keynote speaker at the event. The Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society and the Bradley Bourbonnais Rotary Club are working with the Canal Corridor Association to someday establish an "Historic Waterways Corridor" from Lake Michigan to Saint Genevieve, Missouri. The "Historic Waterway Corridor" would include Lake Michigan, St. Joseph River, Kankakee River, I & M Canal, Illinois River, and Mississippi River.

Fall Colors Surround Our Historic Landmark



The collage of late fall images at the Letourneau Home/Museum arboretum shows the season's last burst of color. If you look at the roof of the home/museum, you can see that it

shows off its newly repaired chimneys. The repairs were imperative due to water leakage into the home/museum. Mike Neal Construction completed the repairs.

Issues Discussed at November 5 Membership Meeting

At the BGHS meeting on Thursday November 5, the following items were discussed:

- Appreciation was expressed to Laurel Soper, Gary Seiner, and yours truly for "sitting" for the home/museum during 1-4 pm open houses on the first and third Sundays of October and November;
- Gratitude for mulching and pruning during our arboretum work session on November 14 is extended to members Gary Seiner, Steve Liehr, John Hassett, Scott Suryk, and Steve Monts as well as the three master gardeners;
- Election of new officers will take place at the December 3 meeting;
- The Christmas Open House will be Sunday December 20 from 1-4 pm--please come and enjoy the Christmas decorations at the home/museum and holiday drinks, sweets, and camaraderie; and
- Save the Dates: *Les Artisans Arts and Crafts Fair* on July 4 and December 3, 2016 to be held at the Kankakee County Fairgrounds--Ellen Stringer, organizer of the event, is requesting potential crafters to contact her 815-935-5278 or ellen.stringer@gmail.com.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving! Best wishes,
Dr. Jim Paul, Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society Board Member