

BGHS News—February/March 2017

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

The Chocolate Tour Brought Many New Visitors to Our Historic Landmark

Past President Laurel Soper hosted the Letourneau Home/Museum's participation in the first Bourbonnais Township Park District and Village of Bourbonnais Chocolate Tour on February 4th. She stated: "We had a fantastic turnout for Saturday's Bourbonnais Chocolate Tour - over 200 people visited the Letourneau House! BGHS served *petits eclairs au chocolaut*. Thank you, Ken Lewellen, for your time and assistance in greeting visitors, stamping passports and cleaning up. Many visitors spent more than a few minutes touring the house. We distributed newsletters, membership forms and walking tour info. Ken and I heard many comments like 'I always go by this place but I've never been inside.' and 'I've always wanted to stop by here'". Thank you so much, Laurel, for taking charge of this opportunity to connect with our community!

First 2017 Membership Meeting on March 2

We will have our first meeting of 2017 this Thursday March 2 at 7 pm at the Letourneau Home/Museum. Please come early to enjoy hot beverages and eclairs (available at 6:45 pm). During the first 10-15 minutes of the meeting, I will provide an update with slides on the status of Bourbonnais Grove's 1837 Log School House.



This is one possible version of the restored schoolhouse's appearance.

Our new officers (elected at the December 1, 2016 meeting) are: Jim Paul--president, Gary Seiner--vice president, Marsha Rabideau--executive vice-president, Tim Arseneau--treasurer, Charles Balesi--secretary, Daron Kinzinger--trustee, Gary Seiner--trustee, and Jim Paul--trustee. Carl Moran and Charles Balesi continue in their second year as trustees. *Please renew your annual membership to the BGHS by printing the attached membership form and bringing it along with your check to the meeting or sending it along with your check to the address on the form.* One **action** item at the meeting will be to vote on the motion "The society requests that Laurel Soper put all monthly BGHS historical articles printed in *The Herald* since summer 2013 on the BGHS website under the "Le Journal" link and subtitle these articles as "The Following Articles are Continuation of *Le Journal du Village*, not as a Newsletter, but as Monthly Articles printed in *The Herald* newspaper". **Another important**

issue to resolve is finding volunteers to sit at the Letourneau Home/Museum on the following Sundays from 1-4 pm: March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, and December 3. Self-guided tour information is available for all who visit the home/museum on these open house Sundays. *If you have a preferred Sunday that you would like to volunteer for, please reply to me in this e-mail.* We will discuss this further at our meeting on Thursday. **The historical presentation and business at the meeting will be over in one hour.** *Au Revoir,*
Jim