

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

A BGHS Wish for Dawn of New Year:
Bonne et Heureuse Annee!



The 2020 pandemic caused Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society to cancel Letourneau Home/Museum open houses, *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fairs, and the annual *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner. However, the society's work continued with regular activities by using Zoom for monthly membership meetings, social-distancing during gardening work sessions, and fostering a successful log schoolhouse fundraising campaign. I would like to thank all BGHS members, officers, and board of directors for this cooperative effort. May you and our BGHS friends have a truly *Bonne et Hereaux Annee!* (Good and Happy Year!)

**Schoolhouse Restoration Donations from Village and Aqua brings
Accumulated Fund Total to Nearly \$68,000**



With the Letourneau Home/Museum in the background, Angela Serafini (Aqua Illinois Area Manager) and Mayor Paul Schore (on right) delivered their donation checks to me at the site of the future restored log schoolhouse (my outstretched arms indicate where the schoolhouse

will be rebuilt). The Aqua Essential Foundation Fund donation of \$1000 and the Village of Bourbonnais donation of \$12,338.52 brought the donations total to date to \$67,647.76 (including \$10,000 in pledges). The village's donation came from the Chocolate Tour, sale of Chicago Bears Training Camp banners, and online auction Chicago Bears Summer Training Camp street signs. The BGHS is so appreciative of these two donations as well as those from our members and friends. The total 2020 log schoolhouse restoration donations amount to \$22,748.52. Even without the annual BGHS *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner, the 2020 log schoolhouse fund raising campaign has been a success. I have attached the current list of donors.

Instead of the in-person annual celebration dinner, eighty guests reserved seats for a virtual *Fleur-de-Lis* "Dinnerless" Celebration. We invite those eighty and anyone else to celebrate tomorrow January 1 as the French-Canadians did, by greeting our family and friends with "*Bonne et Heureuse Annee!*" (Good and Happy Year!). If you would like to enjoy a special French-Canadian dinner, several suggestions are available at [Recipes | French Canadian Interview Project \(kcc.edu\)](#).

Since we have not yet reached the log schoolhouse fundraising goal of \$120,000, the BGHS welcomes more donations. Your donation may be by check to "BGHS" with memo Log Schoolhouse, mailed to Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society, P.O. Box 311, Bourbonnais, IL 60914 or pay online at <http://www.bourbonnaishistory.org/contribute.html>, scroll to Log School Restoration Project, click Donate, and then follow the prompts. You will be contributing to the preservation of our community's historical heritage. **Save the date: the next *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner is scheduled for Friday September 17, 2021!**

Next Membership Meeting on January 7—Proposed Bylaws to be Discussed

As I mentioned in my last News Eletter, there are several BGHS bylaw amendments that need to be implemented. In order to discuss the proposed bylaws below and other issues, I invite you to please join our first Zoom membership meeting of the new year at **7:00 pm on Thursday January 7** by emailing Laurel Soper at laurel.soper@gmail.com. She will then email you a link to the meeting at 6:50 pm on January 7.

Regarding the bylaws, Article IX of the bylaws states that the "board of directors and officers may amend these bylaws by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at any regular meeting, after such amendment has been deliberated upon and recorded in the minutes of any regular meeting. Notice of the proposed amendment shall accompany notice of the meeting prior to the meeting at which a vote shall be taken." The proposed changes and additions are in blue below. The last News Eletter served as notice of the proposed amendments which can now be addressed at the Thursday January 7 meeting and then voted on at the February 4 meeting. The board of directors and officers can then ratify the membership approved bylaws.

Proposed Bylaws Changes and Additions:

[Section 3.2 Dues](#). (Change to read as below.)

Dues are paid upon joining or by July 1 of each calendar year. Dues paid by new members during the first half of the calendar year shall be deemed paid through the next calendar year.

Annual dues are as follows:

Individual - \$20

Family - \$30

Business - \$50

Individual lifetime memberships are \$300

[Section 5.2 Board of Directors Number and Term](#) (Change to read as below.)

The board of directors of the corporation shall be a minimum of three (3) persons. All directors shall be appointed by a term of two (2) years commencing with the first regular meeting following their appointment, commencing in 2008. (This bylaw was proposed in 2007. The ratification will confirm the bylaw.)

Section 6.3.3 Executive Vice-President. (Change to read as below.)

The Executive Vice-President shall be responsible for coordinating and supervising special projects, including chairmanship of the Collections Committee.

(To be added.)

Section 6.4.6 Collections Committee. The purpose of the Collections Committee is to:

1. Create and submit a collections management policy to the Board of Directors for approval.
2. Recommend a collections management system (software and hardware) purchase to the Board for approval.
3. Ensure that the collections management system is properly installed and existing inventory data from the "Accessions by Location" spreadsheet (updated 12/4/19) is imported to its database.
4. Advise the Board of Directors on requirements to maintain the collections management system and implement procedures to support the collections management policy.

Article VII. Meetings of the Board of Directors, Section 7.1 Meetings (Change to read as below.)

A meeting (1) of the board of directors shall be held a minimum of one (1) time per year. (This bylaw was proposed in 2007. The ratification will confirm the bylaw.)

In addition to the discussion of these proposed amendments to the bylaws, a regular meeting agenda will be addressed (including approval of the December 3 membership meeting minutes which are attached. I wish you "*Bonne et Heureuse Annee!*")

Jim