

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

Membership meetings will resume this Thursday March 9

The BGHS's first membership meeting of 2023 (in-person and Zoom) is this Thursday March 9 at 7 pm. The minutes of the December 1, 2022 are attached. The meeting Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86468157402?pwd=Y0FwNkE0Szc3aHBDOU9jc3hJWF10UT09>. If needed, the meeting Passcode is 260040 and ID 86468157402. The agenda for the meeting is below.

Mark your calendars for these BGHS 2023 events



Dr. Jim Healy as Louis Jolliet

- **Saturday March 11 at noon—Dr. Jim Healy portrays Louis Jolliet in “Solid Path through Water” at Kankakee Public Library [A Solid Path through Water - Louis Jolliet](#) | [Facebook](#);**
- Thursday March 16 at 3:30 pm—Log Schoolhouse Advisory Committee meeting at Village Administration Building;
- The first open house for the Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse will be on Sunday March 19 from 1-4 pm;
- Sundays April 2 and 16 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- **Monday April 6 at 4 pm—Public Hearing for Log Schoolhouse’s Kankakee County historic landmark nomination;**
- Sundays May 7 and 21 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- Sundays June 4 and 18 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- **Saturday June 17 at 1 pm—Melanie Holmes Book Signing *100 Things to do in Illinois Before You Die*, B.Harley Bradley House, Kankakee (see attached PDF);**
- Sundays July 2 and 16 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- Tuesday July 4—*Les Artisans* Arts and Crafts Fair;
- Sundays August 6 and 20 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- Sundays September 3 and 17 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- **Friday September 15 at 5:30 pm—Log Schoolhouse fundraiser *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner, Kankakee Country Club;**
- Sundays October 1 and 15 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- Sundays November 5 and 19 from 1-4 pm—open houses at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- Saturday December 2—*Les Artisans* Arts and Crafts Fair;
- Sunday December 3 from 1-4 pm—open house at Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
- Sunday December 17—Christmas Open House at the Letourneau Home/Museum and Log Schoolhouse from 1-4 pm; and

- Click [French Heritage Corridor - French Heritage Society](#) to find many more events in the 7-state corridor.

Kudos to our volunteers

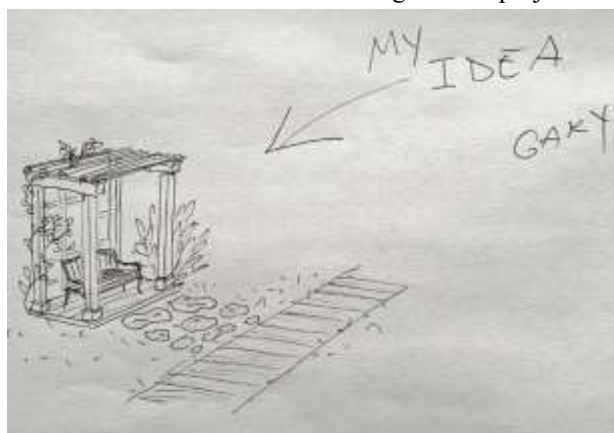
The BGHS thanks all our volunteers: Laurel Soper for her updating of the BGHS website and Facebook postings; Daron Kinzinger for picking up our mail; Christine Michels for her ongoing Corresponding Secretary work; Steve Monts for his ongoing treasurer work; Gary Seiner for his work as curator and chaperoning the open house at the Letourneau Home/Museum on March 5.

Who are we?

We survived the Chicago Fire in 1871 before moving back to Bourbonnais Grove. Our fire-fused porcelain plates are in a display case in the Letourneau Home/Museum. Who are we?

Agenda for March 9, 2023 Membership Meeting

- Pledge of allegiance;
- Presentation based on March/April 2023 news eletter item “Who are we?”
- Approval of December 1, 2022 membership minutes (*attached*);
- Treasurer’s report;
- Corresponding Secretary report;
- Executive Vice-President report;
- Curator report;
- Membership report;
- Ways and Means:
 - Signupgenius.com for volunteering—open houses etc;
 - Craft show report;
 - Fleur-de-Lis Celebration Dinner on September 15; and
 - Preparation for celebration of log schoolhouse’s village and county historic landmark designation.
- Building and Grounds:
 - Log schoolhouse landscaping;
 - Levi Lawson’s Eagle Scout project—Gary’s sketch;



- Wood fence on NW corner; and
- Bisailon Rid All pest/termite estimate for log schoolhouse.

- Old Business
 - Restructuring of BGHS update; and
 - Jim Healy's performance of Louis Joliet "Solid Path through Water."
- New Business
 - Next meeting on April 6, 2023;
 - Special BGHS 2023 dates: 3/11, 4/6, 6/17, and 9/15;
 - Chaperons needed for Sundays April 2 and 16 open houses of the Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse;
 - Log schoolhouse *Chronology from 1837 to Present* slide show now available;
 - 2/2/23 application for log schoolhouse marker and recognition by Country School Association of America; and
 - Sara Phalen of Illinois Museum Association requested presentation at conference (April 19-21) about log schoolhouse preservation.

Perry Farm Living History Legend Francis DuVoisin Celebrates 100th Birthday





Francis DuVoisin became a centenarian on Wednesday March 1. The Bourbonnais Township Park District hosted an open house in his honor that day, and unveiled a special bench. In the above photographs with Francis and the bench are—from left to right—Trustee Jeff Mullinax, Francis, Trustee President Dave Zinanni, Bob DuVoisin (Francis’s son), Cathy DuVoisin (Bob’s wife), BTPD Executive Director Dr. Ed Piatt, Michelle (Francis’s daughter), Francis, Executive Director of the Kankakee County Museum Veronica Featherston, Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee Chairperson Jorie Walters, and me. In the next photograph, longtime Living History Advisory Committee member Vic Johnson and his daughter Laurel Soper congratulate Francis. In the last photograph, BTPD Marketing Director Cherie Smolkovich takes a photo while BTPD Executive Assistant Amanda Langlois holds the cake for Bob DuVoisin to blow out the candles. More details of Francis’s biography are in the attached *Francis100thBirthdayStory*.

As spring approaches, I wish you all renewal and joy. Best wishes,

Jim Paul, President of the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society