

**BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

September 7, 2017

Call to Order: President Jim Paul called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Attendance: Ken and Judy Ponton, Nelda Ravens, Lou Landis, Tim Arseneau, Daron Kinzinger, Gary Seiner, Mimi Raiche, Mary Ann Lambert, Marcia Rabideau, Ellen Stringer, Laurel Soper, and Jim Paul.

Guest Speakers: Amy Ciaccio Jarvis and Rosemary O'Connor of the Concerned Catholics of the Kankakee Area for the Preservation of St. Rose of Lima shared the recent events regarding three Catholic parishes in Kankakee and efforts to preserve St. Rose of Lima Church, an important part of local French Canadian history.

Minutes: Ken Ponton made a motion to accept the minutes from the Aug. 3, 2017 meeting; 2nd by Judy Ponton. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report/Finances As of July 31, 2017, the primary checking account has a balance of \$11,121.54; windows account balance is \$125.50. Daron Kinzinger made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills – 2nd by Laurel Soper. Motion carried.

Tim Arseneau reported that the phone bill has increased significantly. Discussion followed. Tim will start the process of researching options, keeping in mind the alarm system, which is currently dependent on a landline.

Ways and Means/Programming/Publicity: Ellen Stringer reported that there are currently 56 vendors booked for the December show. Twenty eight vendors still need to pay. She just opened up available spaces to July vendors. There are 9 new vendors on the waitlist.

Ellen noted that, due to the number of vendors, BGHS will have only ½ space at Les Artisans; please keep display small.

Ellen will be marketing the Les Artisans Fair at the following events:

- Fall Art Stroll, Sept. 10
- Manteno Lighted Parade, Sept. 23
- Manteno Chamber of Commerce Event, Oct. 7
- Kankakee Farmers Market, Oct. 14
- KCC Holiday Hoopla, Nov. 16

BGHS will have a booth at the Maternity BVM French Canadian Fest.

BGHS Scarecrow entry for Bourbonnais Township Park District contest will be up by Sept. 22. We are No. 19. The Scarecrow Fest is 9-11 a.m. Sept. 23. Ellen encourages everyone to vote on that day.

Nominations for the Fleur de Lis Award are being accepted. Nomination form is at

<http://bourbonnaishistory.org>. Deadline is Oct. 1. The Fleur de Lis Celebration Dinner is on Nov. 3 at the Kankakee Country Club.

Membership Report: There was no membership report, however Jim Paul noted there is a new lifetime member.

Curator's Report: Recent work by Marcia Rabideau and Gary Seiner:

- Collection photos sorted and filed
- Items in safe were reviewed
- Marguerite Bourgeoys oil painting was recently donated by whom?
- BGHS presidents photos framed and ready to be hung.

Building and Grounds: A garden work session was held on Saturday August 12, with master gardeners and BGHS members Judy Beach, Vicki Lambis, Marcia Rabideau, Sandi Davis, Bonnie Bergeron, Mary Ann Lambert, Steve Monts, and Pam Adams attending. Only four of the twenty gardens at the Letourneau Home/Museum are still orphans.

Old Business: A steering committee for the log schoolhouse has been formed. Members are Steved DePasquale, Laurie Wimberly, Dr. James Paul, Dr. John Bowling and Nelda Ravens, who will serve on the steering committee as BGHS liason. Dr. Paul is speaking to various groups about fundraising.

New Business: Jim Paul introduced a newspaper article about an archeological dig by the University of Notre Dame for discussion - could BGHS approach the State of Illinois and/or an Illinois University for a similar project at the Windrose site?

Jojo Sayson of the Ian Fleming Foundation is interested in partnering with BGHS. He will speak about his proposal at a future BGHS meeting.

Adjournment: Ken Ponton made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Daron Kinzinger – meeting adjourned approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurel Soper