

Bois Blanc Island Association News

Greetings in 2023! The countdown is on for us all to have some Island time here in the next few months – the silver lining of not having much ice this last winter is an early arrival on the Island.

The BBI Association has been around for many decades and continues to be committed to working to make Bois Blanc Island a better, safer and more enjoyable place to live and vacation. Our goal is to start each year's "season" with the production and distribution of the Tatler. We also, last year, produced the Island Directory, a biennial event.

The 2023-24 dues are payable in June and they will remain at \$20 a year. By paying these Annual dues, you receive the benefits of the Association including the Tatler and the Island Directory as well as fund the activities referenced below. (Please let us know if you have not picked up your Directory or received one in the mail, and we will get you one. The Directory was last published late last summer.) The Association works with the East End, West End and the Pines to help fund various projects identified by the general population in addition to supporting the Thursday night square dances and Salvation Army visit (if they are able and willing to make a trip to the Island).

In the past, we have funded special needs around the Island from Fire Department needs, to providing funds for vaulted toilets on the North Shore, to repairing sidewalks that are used by everyone on the Island – to name a few projects. We also initiated and completed the rebuilding of the Island Gazebo last year, which is scheduled to get a fresh coat of paint here this Spring. This year – we will deliver the Tatler, coordinate meet and greets in a central location (stay tuned for dates/time), continue to work with the Island folks from all areas on needs as well as support Thursday evening square dances and host the Salvation Army. We are also very excited to continue to work with the Township and the Pines School to locate, design and begin building a Pavilion that can be used by the school, house our summer's weekly Farmer's Market and also serve as a gathering place for all Islanders to use. This Pavilion will be in memory of Loren Gibbons and a result of a generous donation to the Association and Foundation by Judie Groleau for this purpose. This will be such a beneficial addition to the Island, so we are working all the appropriate channels to make this happen. We are so thankful for this generous donation in Loren's name!

With The Tatler is your annual dues statement. Note the dues run from July 1 – June 30. Anyone paying now will be "whole" for the July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 year. Please complete the form and submit as indicated with your annual dues to the address on the dues statement. We also will be emailing you a dues statement in the near future if we have an email address for you on file.

We continue, although slowly, to get this more electronic and we are committed to that. Recent year's Tatlers and the annual Island Calendar have been made available on the BBI Foundation website (https://www.bbicf.org/BBI_Association.php). Because the platform for the website has become outdated and needs to be updated, updates can no longer be posted there. We will be working with Sally Sperry and the Foundation to help get this updated. Many thanks to Sally Sperry and the Foundation for maintaining this site for all these years!

If you are interested in being involved or have areas that you have suggestions regarding the activity of the BBIA, content in the Tatler, or ideas on Island needs, please contact any of the officers or Island Representatives listed on page 3.

Carol Blundy, BBIA President