

# Bois Blanc Island Association News

Unbelievable that we are already over four months into 2024 and talking about Island time! The Ferry is operational providing opportunities to get to the Island earlier than ever this year. So many organizations, people and volunteers are involved on BBI, including the BBI Association, working for decades on your behalf with your dues dollars to make BBI a better, safer and more enjoyable place to live and vacation. The BBI Association is anxious for this year's "season" with the Tatler being the unofficial launch. We will also produce and distribute the Island Directory this year. We are shooting for late August/early September for this to be done.

The 2024-25 dues will be billed 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 funds provided for various other activities and needs. The Association works with all areas of the Island with your recommendations on what is needed - with the surplus monies we have. We sponsor the Thursday night square dances and Salvation Army visit - although the last few years with the pandemic and lack of staffing, it has not been possible for the Salvation Army or any like organization to make a trip to the Island. (Please if you have an organization that is willing to visit the Island for a trailer full of donations - we would love to make that happen.) Bottom line is that we try to provide funds based on what is available for these various areas as well as new needs that arise.

In 2024 - our big focus is on building an Island Pavilion or to get closer to getting one built. Currently we are in agreement with the Bois Blanc Pines School District (including the ISD) to build an open-air timber structure on the north side of the school across Comanche Avenue. It has been challenging to find a location that fit the criteria of the donation - central, usable by the Farmers Market, School and general public and consistent with the "look" of the island. The school's longer-term plans for this land has been a perfect fit for a covered open-air structure such as this - so fingers crossed, we are forging forward to work through the process of making this happen. Many thanks to Judie Groleau for this generous donation in memory of Loren Gibbons.

In addition to this focus along with the production of the Tatler and the Island Directory, we are looking for other areas that need attention - so please bring your ideas forward. Meanwhile, keep your eyes open for schedule updates on the BBI Association website - <https://bbiassociation.org>. This website was brought up live last year by the Association in tandem with Sally Sperry (Thanks, Sally). It is intended to be a framework to launch to other Island organizations as well as a place to house an up-to-date Island calendar (keeping in mind that this is ever changing!).

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, 2024 - June 30, 2025 year. If your dues were not paid for the 2023/2024 year - contact Sally Cook, the BBIA treasurer, to get current to ensure you get all the benefits from those annual dues dollars. 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.

There are a lot of very exciting projects underway - and we are always looking for folks who are interested in being involved on a project or as an Association representative. Please contact any of the BBIA officers or Island Representatives if you would like to be involved or have ideas on needed funds. They are listed on page 2.

Carol Blundy, BBIA President

