

BGHS News—November/December 2016

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

Next Membership Meeting on December 1—*Joyeux Noel*

We will have a special meeting on Thursday December 1 at 7 pm--our last meeting of 2016. At this meeting, we will renew our energy as we initiate a new meeting setting and procedure (e.g., refreshments and historical program followed by a brief meeting--not only for this *Joyeux Noel* meeting but for all future meetings. Please come early to enjoy hot German wine or hot cider and cookies (available at 6:45 pm)--amidst the vintage Christmas decorations in our beloved museum. During the first 10-15 minutes of the meeting, either Dave King will give us his insights on the Van Meter Cemetery or I will portray Gurdon Hubbard followed by Q and A. **During the business meeting, the minutes will not be read so please read them ahead of time (see attached) so that they can be approved.** We will also elect new officers for 2017. The slate of officers are: Jim Paul--president, Gary Seiner--vice president, Marsha Rabideau--executive vice-president, Tim Arseneau--treasurer, Charles Balesi--secretary, Daron Kinzinger--trustee, Gary Seiner--trustee, and Jim Paul--trustee. **The historical presentation and business at all meetings will be over in one hour.** During the next year, the BGHS will attempt to partner with other historical organizations in order to launch a tri-county cultural alliance (Kankakee, Will, and Iroquois Counties) in which we can support and publicize each other's' activities, create a central calendar of coordinated events, and impress on the public the significance of the French-Canadian heritage (the French-Canadian Heritage Corridor) in our counties. A big thank you to Gary Seiner for decorating the Christmas tree at the Letourneau Home/Museum for this year's *Joyeux Noel* celebration!



Best wishes, Jim Paul