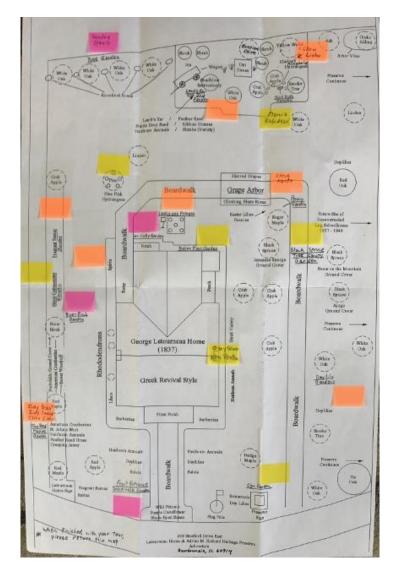
BGHS News-May 2017

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,



Letourneau Home Garden Adoption Begins

Thank you for supporting my idea of the Adopt a Letourneau Home Garden program. Now, we shall divide and conquer! Five of the nineteen gardens have been adopted already--names are in the colored boxes. Here is how the program works: 1) pick one of the remaining gardens; 2) let me know via e-mail which garden you have chosen; 3) inform me when you plan to work in your garden, and I will join you schedule permitting; 3) I will also send out an invitation to BGHS members and master gardeners to join us in your garden on that date and time; and 4) all your garden expenses will be reimbursed by the BGHS--just give me a receipt. Below are two photographs from this past Saturday (May 6): left photo--from left to right--Ellen Liehr, Judy Smead, Judy Beach, and Sandi Davis admire the new heirloom annuals that they just planted in their adopted island garden between the two red maples; and right

photo—from left to right—Sandi Davis, Judy Beach, Judy Smead, and Ellen Liehr pose next to elegant pink petticoat columbine heirloom annuals which date back to 1597.



The gardens at the Letourneau Home/Museum are a priority this time of year. In the photographs below from left to right, Judy Beach, Ellen Liehr, Gary Seiner, Marcia Rabideau, and Steve Monts groom their respective adopted gardens.



Next Membership Meeting on June 1

Our next meeting will be Thursday June 1 at 7pm. Please come early for hot beverages and snacks. The meeting agenda will include: Marsha Rabideau's slide show presentation of highlights from the May 2015 Midwest French Colonial History Tour, Ellen Stringer's update on the July 4th *Les Artisans Arts and Craft Fair* at the Kankakee County Fairgrounds from 9am to 3pm, the DAR's re-dedication ceremony of the Founding Fathers' stone on Friday June 16 at 1pm, and preparation for open house during the Friendship Festival (distributing Letourneau Home/Museum booklets, Bourbonnais walking tour handouts, and rack cards promoting the French-Canadian Heritage Wall at KCC and the French Heritage Museum). *Action items* at the meeting will include *auditing historical society financial records, adopting the remaining gardens, painting the interior of the home/museum*, and *finalizing plans for the French-Canadian fall dinner at the country club*.

Kudos for Our Volunteers

Special kudos go to Ken Ponton and Marcia Rabideau for chaperoning the home/museum for Sunday open houses this month, and all the master gardeners and BGHS members who helped beautify our historic landmark this month. Best wishes, Jim