

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

### **Perry Farm Scarecrow Invitation to December 7 Craft Fair**



Thank you, Ellen Stringer, for setting up this attractive Perry Farm “scarecrow” advertisement for the upcoming BGHS *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair on Saturday December 7, 2019 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Kankakee County Fairgrounds. This semi-annual BGHS fundraising event keeps our presence alive in the Kankakee River Valley.

### **Wanted: Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee Members**

I have attached an application form for joining the Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee, and have also added it below so that you appreciate the *desperate plea* that I am making to solicit new committee members. There are currently only four individuals on the committee. The Perry Farm Living History Committee meets once a month on the first Wednesday of the month, in the Perry Farmhouse from 4-5 pm. Please consider joining me and the three others so that we can continue to generate new ideas on how to teach the community about one of Kankakee County's Historic Landmarks, the Durham-Perry Farmstead, and the Perry Farm Park. Of course the Letourneau Home/Museum and Adrien M. Richard Heritage Preserve are our primary concerns, but we must also prioritize the other Kankakee County historic landmark in Bourbonnais Township--which is so closely tied to the Bourbonnais Grove French-Canadian heritage. Please consider filling out the following application and return it to me via e-mail or to BGHS, PO Box 311, Bourbonnais, IL 60914 or call the Bourbonnais Township Park District phone number below.

- **What is the Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee?**

The Bourbonnais Township Park District's Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee was instrumental in establishing parts of the farmhouse as a museum and pursuing national, state, and county historic landmark status for the farmstead. The Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee is made up of local residents dedicated to preserving the history of the Perry Farm Park and the Durham-Perry Farmstead. The

mission of the Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee is to educate the public about this historic site. The advisory committee meets the first Wednesday of every month at 4:00 pm in the Perry Farmhouse. **Anyone interested in joining this advisory committee may call the park district at (815) 933-9905.**

**Committee Member Application**  
**Perry Farm Living History**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions below. If you need more room, please add additional pages. Thank you.

- 1) Why are you interested in serving on this committee?
  
- 2) Do you have any special skills or knowledge that could contribute to the committee?
  
- 3) Please list any organization committee that you have or are currently serving on.
  
- 4) What is your availability?

**Ken Ponton Receives 2019 *Fleur-de-Lis* Award of Excellence**



The Third Annual *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner on Saturday September 27 was a great success. For all his work in contributing to the preservation of French-Canadian heritage in

our community, Ken Ponton was presented the 2019 *Fleur-de-Lis* Award of Excellence. The celebration dinner functions well as the annual catalyst or focal point for the log schoolhouse restoration fundraising. To date, the funds raised over the past three years for the log schoolhouse restoration is unofficially \$34,110.61. We need \$120,000 to complete our fundraising. Thank you for your continued support for this grand project. After paying the expenses for dinner invitations, rsvp cards, stamps, announcement flyers, award plaque, programs, handouts, dinner, drinks, and tips, we will break even on the dinner. However, the annual celebration dinner is a catalyst for the annual fund raising drive. **Please save the date for next year's Fourth Annual *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner: Friday September 25, 2020.**

### **Next Membership Meeting on October 3**

Our next monthly meeting will be on Thursday October 3 at 7:00 pm. Please come early to enjoy meeting refreshments. The agenda for the meeting will include: presentation by Charles Balesi about a "museum campus", approval of September 5 minutes (see attached), review of Third Annual *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner fund raiser, efficient artifact inventory process, boardwalk repair and replacement, planning next gardening work session, and other items.

### **Kudos to Our Volunteers**

Special kudos this past month go to Judy Beach, Judy Smead, Sandi Sandeno, Marsha Rabideau, Steve Monts, and Gary Seiner for mulching and grooming the gardens on Saturday September 21, to Gary Seiner for chaperoning the home/museum on its September 15 open house, and to Charles Bales and Wal Schuller for all their hard work in planning and setting up the September 27 celebration dinner for the 63 guests. *Au revoir, mon amis.*

Jim