

BGHS News—March 2020

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

Letourneau Home/Museum Historic Landmark on 2020 Chocolate Tour



On Saturday February 1, the Letourneau Home/Museum was featured on the Chocolate Tour. (From left to right) Ellen Stringer and Laurel Soper, who organized our participation, pose next to a table full of *fleur-de-lis* chocolates, and Judy Smead and Ellen Liehr who had come to assist. Attendees were invited to become a BGHS member during February and thereby enter their name into a drawing for several volumes of Bourbonnais history books. Some of the Chocolate Tour money will be used for the restoration of the log schoolhouse (½ of the proceeds from the tour—the other ½ going to BTPD programs). This amount will be publicized soon. Many thanks again to Laurel Soper, Ellen Stringer, Judy Smead, and Ellen Liehr for offering the Letourneau Home/Museum as a site during the Chocolate Tour. About 250-300 people visited our historic landmark that day.

First BGHS Membership Meeting will be on March 5

Our first membership meeting of 2020 is this Thursday March 5 at 7:00 pm. Coffee, bottled water and cookies will be served. **Before the meeting on Thursday, please stop by the Municipal Center Community Room to participate in the Community Campus Plan Open House from 5:30-7 pm in order to share your insights about the future community campus.** The agenda for the March 5 meeting is:

- Approve minutes (attached);
- Schedule docents for first and third Sundays open houses; and
- Regular reports.

I hope to see many of you at this meeting as we prepare for another exciting year.

Upcoming 2020 Events

Upcoming special events are:

- Consider enrolling in these “Leaders in Local History” classes in KCC’s Lifelong Learning Institute this spring—April 3 *Potawatomi Peril*, April 17 *Antebellum Abolitionists*, May 1 *Bourbonnais History in Four Walking Tours*, May 5 *Cinco de Mayo*, and May 12 *Our Rich Veteran Heritage*;
- By March 31, consider applying for a \$600 scholarship to attend a small history museum three-day course in 2020 through the Center for Collections Care at Beloit College (for more information, go to <https://www.beloit.edu/summer-programs/center-for-collection-care/registration-funding/>);
- Plan to attend the Bastille Day Festival on July 11th from 1-4pm at the French Heritage Museum and the Voyageur Classic 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, August 28th at 8:00am at the Kankakee County Museum;
- Mark your calendar for the Maternity BVM French-Canadian Festival on Sunday August 30—if you would like to volunteer to assist in the planning, please call Teresa Culver at 815 933-8285 ext. 110 or e-mail her at tculver@mbvm.org;
- Enroll in the Bourbonnais Township Park District’s May 2 program *A Step Back in Time with Tommy and Peggy Durham*; and
- Save the dates for the *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fairs on July 4 and December 5, **and new date for the *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner is September 18 at 5:30 pm at the Kankakee Country Club—please note this date change due to a schedule conflict.**

Best wishes,
Jim