

BGHS News—June 2020

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

### **July 4 Arts and Craft Fair Canceled**

Breaking news—the BGHS sponsored *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair, scheduled for July 4<sup>th</sup> at the Kankakee County Fairgrounds from 9 am to 3 pm, is canceled. The need for social distancing and limited numbers of people at public gatherings during the pandemic has necessitated this decision. The cancelation was approved at the BGHS Zoom monthly membership meeting on Thursday June 4. The next *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair at the Kankakee Fairgrounds is scheduled for December 5, 2020.

### **We Honor Two BGHS Friends who have Died**

In other news, one of our charter members who blessed the Letourneau Home/Museum after it was relocated in June 1986, Father George Auger, died on June 2. Father Auger was a personal friend of our first president Adrien M. Richard. Over the years, he became friends with many of us in the BGHS when he served as pastor of Maternity BVM and St. Patrick's parishes and maintained contact with our historical society. He was 87 years old. His obituary is in the Saturday June 6 edition of the Kankakee *Daily Journal*. Also, another friend of the BGHS, Grover Baker, died recently. He drove the flatbed truck that transported the Letourneau Home/Museum from its original site (present day Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home parking lot along North Main Street) to its present location. Mr. Baker was a general contractor who worked for the Roy Odell Construction Company.

### **Have You Paid Your Annual Membership Dues?**

**Please pay your annual membership dues if you have not done so already. This is the month that we need to keep our dues current.**

### **Letourneau Home/Museum Remains Closed but Gardens are Open**

While the Letourneau Home/Museum remains closed to the public through the end of July, the gardens of our historic landmark continue to flourish. The buttercups or yellow primrose (in the native garden on south side of the home/museum) and peony (in grape arbor garden) are currently putting on a show.



During June, the daylily bed will be groomed and several dead shrubs and tree branches will be removed. The BGHS expresses its appreciation to Gary Seiner, Sandi Sandeno, Judy Smead, Pam Perkins, Holly Froning, Bonnie Bergeron, Mary Ann Lambert, and Jim Paul for continuing to volunteer to beautify the grounds of our historic landmark. Please stay safe. Our next Zoom membership monthly meeting will be on July 2. Another big thank you goes to Laurel Soper, our corresponding secretary, for hosting the monthly Zoom meetings. Best wishes,

Jim Paul, President of the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society