

BGHS News—August/September 2020

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

*In Memory of John B. Hassett (1953-2020)
BGHS Life Member, Treasurer, and Friend*

Garden Mulch is Ready to Spread



John would want us to continue the activities that he so valued. Accordingly, he abhorred weed pulling. Therefore, in order to offset the continuing onslaught of weeds in the Letourneau Home/Museum gardens, I have donated nine cubic yards of mulch to the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society. Two wheel-barrows and a pitchfork are available on the back porch of the Letourneau Home/Museum. I invite everyone to spread the mulch in order to restore the beauty of our historic landmark's gardens. The mulch pile is located west of the back garden smoke tree. Please weed any area before spreading the mulch. Garden bags are also on the back porch. All full bags may be returned to the back porch. Any downed tree branches can be placed on the brush pile near the curb.

Come Join the Zoom Membership Meeting Thursday September 3

The next Zoom BGHS membership meeting will be on Thursday September 3 at 7 pm. Please contact Laurel Soper at laurel.soper@gmail.com to inform her that you plan to attend. She will send you an e-mail link to join the meeting. The agenda highlights for the September 3 meeting are: approve August 6, 2020 minutes (attached); decide status of future open houses at the Letourneau Home/Museum; discuss treasurer position, garden mulching, and west side border.

Log Schoolhouse Donations Reach \$58,617

The recent Village of Bourbonnais Chicago Bears banner fundraiser for the log schoolhouse restoration raised over \$4700. The BGHS is grateful to Mayor Paul Schore, Assistant Administrator Lauie Cyr, and the village staff for successfully implementing this fundraiser plan. Also, the “dinnerless” *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner fundraiser campaign continues. All proceeds go to the restoration of Bourbonnais Grove’s first log schoolhouse on the grounds of the Adrien M. Richard Heritage Preserve. Donations to date, including pledges, have reached \$58,617.54. The restoration fund raising goal is \$120,000. **A revised list of donors is attached to this e-mail.** If you have not made your donation for 2020 yet, it will be greatly appreciated and is fully tax deductible. Your donation may be by check to “BGHS” with memo Log Schoolhouse, mailed to Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society, P.O. Box 311, Bourbonnais, IL 60914 or pay online at <http://www.bourbonnaishistory.org/contribute.html>, scroll over to Log School Restoration Project, click Donate, and then follow the prompts. Thank you so much for contributing to the preservation of our community’s historical heritage. **Save the date: the next Fleur-de-Lis Celebration Dinner is scheduled for Friday September 17, 2021!**

Potawatomi Peril Class Scheduled for October 23, 2020

John and I are scheduled to team teach the KCC Lifelong Learning Institute class “Potawatomi Peril” on Friday October 23, 2020 from 9:00-11:30 am. I will still teach the class in John’s memory. The link for the class is <https://www.enrole.com/kcc/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=2020FA.LLLI-8241.001&courseId=LLLI-8241&categoryId=BF777290>.

Kudos for the Little Things that Keep Us Going

Special notes of gratitude go to Marcia and Larry Rabideau for arranging our August monthly Zoom meeting; to Daron Kinzinger for meeting the police at the Letourneau Home/Museum at 11:30 pm recently when the alarm went off (again, fortunately a false alarm); to Pam Perkins for weeding and mulching in the gardens; to Gary Seiner for weekly upkeep at the home and grounds; to Daron Kinzinger for weekly mail pick up from the post office, and to John Hassett for introducing a new model for us as treasurer, his donations to the BGHS, and for all the little things that he contributed to the society that none of us know about.

Please enjoy the rest of the summer and stay safe. Best wishes,

Jim Paul, President of the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society