

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—June 9, 2022 (action items are in red)

CALL TO ORDER: President Jim Paul called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He hosted, presided over the meeting, and took minutes. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE: In addition to Jim Paul, Charles Balesi, Bonnie Bergeron, Daron Kinzinger, Mary Ann Lambert, Christine and Max Michels, Steve Monts, Judy and Ken Ponton, Marcia Rabideau, Gary Seiner, Ellen Stringer, and attended.

PRESENTATION: The membership then discussed “Can you identify these local historical persons?”—from the May/June 2022 issue of BGHS News eletter). After several minutes of discussion among the members, Bonnie identified Father Charles Chiniquy as the individual in question. Mary Ann also answered correctly.

MINUTES: The minutes of the May 5, 2022 meeting were corrected and approved. The motion was made by Charles and seconded by Daron. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Steve provided the bank balances as of the end of May: general account \$22,050.72; log schoolhouse account \$64,046.92; and windows account \$466.03. The former CD (\$6,534.23) is part of the general account. After explaining the bills that were paid (notably the \$2400 Kankakee Fairgrounds rental fee for the craft shows), Bonnie made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills and seconded by Marcia. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: Christine reviewed the email about a donation of dolls. The membership consensus was that we not accept this donation. **Christine will reply to the donor accordingly.**

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT COLLECTION COMMITTEE REPORT: Ken reviewed several items offered to the society that were discussed last month: doll house made by Adrien Richard, apple press (both items belonging to Marcia and Larry Rabideau), and items from the Legris-Pekoc family (family portraits, ladder-back rocking chair, and travel trunk that Joseph Legris took to the California Gold Rush. The membership approved acquisition of all the items. Marcia and Ken will arrange moving her donations (doll house and apple press) to the Letourneau Home/Museum on June 18.

MEMBERSHIP: Bonnie stated that the data base includes 126 members (56 life members and 70 dues paying members).

WAYS AND MEANS:

- Daron is finalizing the transfer of BGHS funds to the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley’s Pass Through investment fund. The membership voted to invest the \$6,534.23 from the former CD—which is now in the general account.
- Ellen Stringer stated that 70 vendors are currently registered for the July 4 *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Show. She suggested a suggested entry donation of \$1 to the craft show. The membership concurred. The BGHS table will be served by the following volunteers: Jim (9-11 am), Christine and Max (11 am – 1 pm), and Gary and Bonnie (1-3 pm).

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- Jim promoted two upcoming work sessions at the Letourneau gardens for grooming and mulching on Saturdays June 11 and 18 from 9-11 am.
- **Laurel will put the garden information from Gary and Marcia on the website in the near future.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Judy Smead volunteered to chaperon the Letourneau Home open house on July 3. Gary plans to chaperon the July 17 open house.
- Ellen still plans to interview her Mom, Dad, and Aunt for the MBVM 175th anniversary history of the parish.
- Jim solicited volunteer tour guides for Sunday August 21 MBVM 175th Anniversary celebration. He has written the tour narrative.
- **Daron will edit the bylaws drafted by Jim. The draft provides language for restructuring of the BGHS.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- The members decided that the next BGHS membership meeting will be Zoom only at 7:00 pm on July 7, 2022.
- Mary Ann proposed to donate a bench and bird bath to her adopted garden in memory of Sister Madeleine LaMarre and the Congregation of Notre Dame. She said the nuns plan to leave the area after the MBVM 175th Anniversary celebration. Ken made a motion to this effect and it was seconded by Bonnie. Motion carried.
- Ken mentioned that Richard Courville died on May 12. He was born on September 22, 1922 in the Letourneau Home. Ken then told the story of the white rose bush (that had never bloomed) which bloomed for the first time after Richard's mother, Mariette (GrandPre) Courville, visited the Letourneau Home around 1995.
- Daron mentioned that the video in which Vic Johnson and Ken Ponton give a tour of the Letourneau Home no longer works.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul