

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—September 22, 2022 (action items are in red)

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Jim Paul called the in-person and 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, Daron Kinzinger, Max Michels, Steve Monts, and Ellen Stringer attended in-person; Bonnie Bergeron, Carl Moran, Jean Legris-Pekoc, Roy Pekoc, Gary Seiner attended via Zoom.

**PRESENTATION:** The membership then discussed “Who am I?”—from the August/September 2022 issue of BGHS News eletter). Daron, Carl, and Bonnie were the first to identify Bishop Fulton J. Sheen as the graduate of St. Viator College who went on to win Emmy awards for his television programs.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the August 4, 2022 meeting were approved. The motion was made by Bonnie and seconded by Carl. Motion carried.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Steve provided the bank balances as of the end of August: general account \$18,220.79; log schoolhouse account \$64,716.90; windows account \$481.05; and CFKRV pass through investment \$6,523.23. Steve distributed a detailed spreadsheet of all the income and expenses for the 2022 calendar year up through the end of August. Daron made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills and it was seconded by Max. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT:** None.

**EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT COLLECTION COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- Ken submitted his resignation as chair of the Collections Committee effective August 20, 2022. Jim thanked him for his service. **Jim has asked Mary Ann Lambert to consider this position;** and
- Jim mentioned that he, Mary Ann, and Ken had picked the artifacts to be loaned to the Village of Bourbonnais Municipal Building’s Community Center for display. The primary focus in the four display cases will be the Lesage-Letourneau-Legris families’ log schoolhouse and Letourneau Home/Museum connection. Jim again thanked Jean Legris-Pekoc and Roy Pekoc for the heirloom artifacts that will be used in this display. Other items in the display will be BGHS publicity signs, brochures, pamphlets, and books. Carl made a motion to approve the loaning of these artifacts, and Bonnie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Bonnie reported that to date we have 125 individuals in the data base (56 lifetime, 50 paid, 18 not paid, and 1 new). She read an article from the Quarterly for the Kankakee Valley Genealogical Society about a tidbit from the *Kankakee Gazette* of December 9, 1886 about how several French-Canadians (including George Letourneau) had enough wealth to float a bond. The type of bond was not known.

#### WAYS AND MEANS:

- Jim gave an update for the Tuesday November 15 log schoolhouse inauguration and *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner—individuals are encouraged to save the date and register for the celebration dinner;
- Ellen reported that the December 3, 2022 craft show is full. She delivered a bunch a crafters’ checks to Steve;
- Jim and Daron stated that the log walls of the schoolhouse would be going up in the next few days; and
- Jim stressed that the nomination deadline for the *Fleur-de-Lis* Award of Excellence is October 5—the BGHS officers and board members will pick the nominee after the October 6 membership meeting.

#### BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- Daron is soliciting board approval of Alex Salazar’s estimate for landscape pruning around the Letourneau Home/Museum and pruning of the River Birch tree;
- Jim stated that the pest control service took place on September 21 and that the furnace tune up was done on September 22; and
- Jim and Steve explained the bid process for landscaping the log schoolhouse. This work will be done next spring.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Daron stated that his editing of the bylaws (drafted by Jim) is ongoing. The draft provides language for restructuring of the BGHS.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- The next BGHS membership meeting will be in-person and Zoom at 7:00 pm on Thursday October 6, 2022. The meeting in November will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> instead of on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Carl reminded everyone that the BGHS will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025. He suggested that a dedication plaque be purchased. The membership then entered a discussion as to the exact date that the BGHS was formed. Jim stated that he could not find the inception date for the BGHS, and that until someone determines that exact date, it would be hard to determine the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary date. Ken stated that the only living original BGHS founder is Sherry Duncan.
- The schedule for volunteers to chaperone the Letourneau Home/Museum open house on
  - September 18—Gary
  - October 2—no one volunteered.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm with a motion made by Bonnie and seconded by Carl. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul