

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—April 4, 2024 (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 attending at the Letourneau Home/Museum, Ken Ponton, Steve Monts, Marsha Rabideau, Gary Seiner, Ellen Stringer, and Penelope and Phil Stickney attended via Zoom, and Mary Ann Lambert attended via telephone.

PRESENTATION: Jim posed the question in in the BGHS News Eletter of April/May 2024 “Who are We? No one knew the answer, so the question will roll over to next month’s meeting.

MINUTES: The March 7, 2024, meeting minutes were approved. The motion was made by Mary Ann and seconded by Ken. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Steve provided the bank balances as of the end of March: general account \$20, 484.19 which includes the Windows subaccount of \$576.37; and log schoolhouse account \$2540.99. Balance of the CFKRV pass through investment account on December 13, 2023 was \$7,268.48. A motion was made by Gary to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills. Motion was seconded by Marsha and carried.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: None. **Christine recommended at the last meeting that the Sign Up Genius volunteer sign up should be under “Members” on the BGHS website. This issue will be discussed further at a future meeting that Josue is able to attend.**

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT COLLECTION COMMITTEE REPORT: Ken stated that the Illinois History Day (June 15) resolution passed in the House on March 21, but has not been addressed in the Senate to date.

CURATOR’S REPORT: Gary stated that he, Mary Ann, and Jim reviewed the artifacts donated by Carl Moran. He will soon create a display dedicated to Carl. He has placed the buggy jack at the rear entry to the museum and has fixed the mannequin in the Fashion Room upstairs. He continues to work regularly on other displays.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: None.

WAYS AND MEANS:

- Ellen stated that the July 4 craft show is nearly 76% full and December 7 craft show is 100% full. Jim signed the contract for the 2025 shows on March 22. Ellen has updated the spreadsheet of vendors. The cost per booth is now \$60. The members thanked Ellen for her continuous hard work on this major fundraiser for the BGHS.
- Gary reiterated his suggestion for the design for the remnant log schoolhouse pieces to be used in fund raising. **Jim recommended that a subcommittee address this issue, but no one volunteered. The matter was tabled.**
- Jim encouraged everyone to publicize the Sign Up Genius as the easy way to volunteer for upcoming open houses. **Since no one has volunteered for the open house on Sunday April 21 from 1-4 pm, Jim will be the chaperone for that date.**

- Jim mentioned that he is almost done with the first draft of the 15-20 page booklet: *A Pictorial History of Bourbonnais Grove's First Log Schoolhouse (1837-48) and Home for French-Canadian Families from 1848-2010*. The booklet will be printed and for sale at a nominal price, placed online on the BGHS website, and a print copy available in the photo album in the log schoolhouse.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- Jim has not heard any further from Levi Lawson regarding his Eagle Scout Project.
- An extra log schoolhouse key will be requested to be located in the Letourneau Home/Museum.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Tabled: Daron and Jim met on September 21, 2023 to move the draft (created by Jim) forward so that it can be presented to the membership in 2024. **Daron is retyping the agreed upon language so that it can be presented to the membership.**
- Several chaperons (see below with links) have volunteered for open houses of the Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse and craft show. **However, there are many open dates in need of volunteers.**

(At the Letourneau Home/Museum, Ken Lewellen has volunteered for 4/7 and 5/6; Priscilla Dwyer has volunteered for 7/21)--Letourneau Home/Museum open house volunteer chaperon "sign up" link:

[Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society: Chaperoning Letourneau Home/Museum Open House--Meet and Greet, Hand Out Self-Guided Tours, Oversee Artifacts \(signupgenius.com\).](https://www.signupgenius.com)

(At the Log Schoolhouse; Cindy McBarnes has volunteered for 4/7)—Log Schoolhouse volunteer chaperon "sign up" link: [Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society: Chaperoning Log Schoolhouse Open House--Meet and Greet, Hand Out Self-Guided Tours, Oversee Artifacts \(signupgenius.com\).](https://www.signupgenius.com)

NEW BUSINESS:

- Next meeting will be on Thursday May 2, 2024 and via Zoom only since no one attended in-person at tonight's meeting—except Jim.
- Jim asked the members "Can we engage the community more in our museum campus with the iNaturalist app? The response was "great, cool", so he will pursue this idea.



- Jim announced special BGHS 2024 dates with links—**save the dates:**
 - Thursday April 4 at 7 pm—BGHS membership meeting;
 - Tuesday April 9 at 3:30 pm—Log Schoolhouse Advisory Committee meeting;
 - Thursday April 11 at 4 pm—log schoolhouse volunteers meeting;
 - Thursday April 18 at 7 pm—Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee meeting, Zoom only—link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89707536373?pwd=UVpxL1ErQkJrRHMrMFUrVGVHY2RjUT09> with

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89707536373?pwd=UVpxL1ErQkJrRHMrMFUrVGVHY2RjUT09> with Meeting ID 89707536373 and Passcode 905306;

- May 17-19—YOUR INVITATION TO THE Fourth Annual French Heritage Corridor Conference “What’s Cooking: Creating Collaboration in the French Heritage Corridor”, River Raisin National Battlefield Park, 333 N. Dixie Hwy, Monroe, MI, [French Heritage Corridor 4th Annual Conference - May 17-19, 2024 \(mailchi.mp\)](#);
 - Saturday June 15—possible first Illinois History Day;
 - Thursday July 4 from 9am – 3pm—*Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair [Les Artisans Fair \(bourbonnaishistory.org\)](#)
 - August 1—deadline for nomination for annual Fleur-de-Lis Award of Excellence [Fleur-de-Lis Celebration \(bourbonnaishistory.org\)](#)
 - August 30—reservation deadline for annual *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner [Fleur-de-Lis Celebration \(bourbonnaishistory.org\)](#)
 - Tuesday September 24, beginning at 5:30pm—*Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner [Fleur-de-Lis Celebration \(bourbonnaishistory.org\)](#)
 - Saturday December 7 from 9am – 3 pm—*Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair [Les Artisans Fair \(bourbonnaishistory.org\)](#)
- The Bradley Historical Society is trying to revive itself.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul