

Dear Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society members and friends,

Membership Zoom meeting on Thursday October 3 at 7 pm

Our next membership meeting will be a Zoom meeting on Thursday October 3 at 7 pm (meeting agenda is below). The Zoom meeting connections are: Passcode 456842, meeting ID 81490566694, and Zoom link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81490566694?pwd=mjnn7CmH1oGZzdP0LCkbWbe0raNGLZ.1>.

Chaperones needed for October student visits to Letourneau Home/Museum

Liberty Intermediate School children will visit the museum campus several days during the month of October. Cindy McBarnes (email mcbarnes@gmail.com), who chairs the BGHS Log Schoolhouse Education Committee, **requests chaperones for the Letourneau Home/Museum**--the log schoolhouse is covered--for the times/dates of:

- 9:15-10:45 am on **Monday October 7**--two groups of students;
- 11 :45 am-1 :15 pm on **Monday October 7**--two groups of students;
- 9:15-10:45 am on **Thursday October 10**--two groups of students;
- 11 :45 am-1 :15 pm on **Thursday October 10**--two groups of students;
- 9:15-10:45 am on **Tuesday October 15**--two groups of students; and
- 11:45 am-1:15 pm on **Tuesday October 15**--two groups of students.

So, if you can help during one or more of these time slots, please contact Cindy ASAP.

September 24th *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner and 2024 donations net \$2119 for log schoolhouse preservation



From left to right: at the September 24th *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner, BGHS Executive Vice-President Ken Ponton presented the *Fleur-de-Lis* Award of Excellence to Village of Bourbonnais Mayor Paul Schore; BGHS board member Josué Savoie (with violin) and Jon Middleton (with accordian) entertain the audience of 70 with Midwest French-Americana music; and Deputy Consul General of France Clément Calais addresses the celebration dinner audience.



From left to right: BGHS member Frank Koehler gives a summary of the September trip to Boucherville, Quebec Province fostering the creation of a “Sister City” between Bourbonnais and Boucherville; Quebec Delegation Chicago Public & Governmental Affairs Officer Jeanne Lamy-Belzil and Dr. Charles Balesi address the audience; and the audience enjoys the Midwest French-Americana music.

The *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner is a catalyst for the annual BGHS log schoolhouse preservation fundraising. This celebration dinner allows the BGHS to interact with its members, the local community, the French Heritage Society, the French Consulate, and the Quebec Delegation to Chicago. 2024 donations--over and above the celebration dinner costs--along with the silent auction, amounts to a net gain of \$2119 so far this year for the log schoolhouse preservation. The other two annual fundraisers sponsored by the BGHS, the *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fairs in July and December, provide funds for the Letourneau Home/Museum and the BGHS general fund. The log schoolhouse is a separate account.

Kudos to all our volunteers



Left to right: Gary Seiner stands next to his new creation, the memorial to Carl Moran display; Karen Duchene-Korup writes names on place cards for the *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner; and Ellen Stringer set up this BGHS witchy scarecrow at the Perry Farm publicizing the December 7 craft show.

In addition to those mentioned in the photographs above (Gary Seiner, Karen Duchene-Korup, and Ellen Stringer), more kudos go to: Josué Savoie and Jon Middleton for their wonderful Midwest French music entertainment at the celebration dinner; Daron Kinzinger for picking up our mail and chairing our Board of Directors; Cindy McBarnes for chairing the log schoolhouse Education Committee and organizing the October school visits to the museum campus; Christine Michels for her ongoing Corresponding Secretary work; Steve Monts for his

ongoing detailed treasurer's work; Gary Seiner and Mary Ann Lambert for their expert and detailed work as curator and assistant curator respectively; Ken Ponton for his oversight as executive vice-president; Ellen Stringer for organizing the craft show fundraisers; Log Schoolhouse Advisory Committee members Mayor Paul Schore, Laurie Cyr, Ken Ponton, Gary Seiner, Charles Balesi, Frank Koehler, Cindy McBarnes, Norm Strasma, Daron Kinzinger, and myself; Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee members: Mack Brza, Daron Kinzinger, Ken Lewellen, Max Michels, Rodney Miller, Doris O'Connor, Gary Seiner, Jorie Walters, and myself; Charles Bales for arranging the French-Canadian cuisine for the September 24 *Fleurs-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner; Doris O'Connor for chairing the Membership Committee and chaperoning the open houses at the museum campuses; Doris O'Connor for chaperoning the museum campus open house on September 1, Judy Smead for chaperoning the museum campus open houses on September 24 and October 6; Charles Balesi, Wal Schuller, Karen Duchene-Korup, Ken Ponton, and Jeanne Lamy-Belzil for donating silent action items for the *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner; and Ken Ponton, Doris O'Connor, Mary Ann Lambert, Daron Kinzinger, and Gary Seiner for conducting recent tours of the museum campus for Letourneau descendants—more about this in the next news eletter issue.

Volunteer slots remain open vacant for upcoming museum campus open houses and December 7 craft show

The open houses of the Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse continue on the first and third Sundays of every month from 1-4 pm. Chaperons greet visitors, hand out self-guided tour information at the door, and oversee artifacts. **If you have not volunteered before as an open house chaperon, no worries, a mentor will be present to train you—as well as open and close the sites—on the date you sign up for. By clicking on one or more of the links below, you may then click “Sign Up” for the date(s) you prefer. If both slots are filled for your site and date choice, just send me an email, and you can still come on your preferred date.**

Log schoolhouse open house volunteer chaperon link:

[Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society: Chaperoning Log Schoolhouse Open House--Meet and Greet, Hand Out Self-Guided Tours, Oversee Artifacts \(signupgenius.com\).](#)

Letourneau Home/Museum open house volunteer chaperon link:

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

Also, if you would like to volunteer as a BGHS table greeter at one of our *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fairs on December 7, please open this link for dates and times:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAE2BABFCC43-chaperoning1>.

Who are we?

We were both born in Bourbonnais Grove in 1859 and 1860, and died in 1934 and 1932 respectively. We knew each other from childhood and graduated from Northwestern University Medical School together. We were married on January 9, 1883. Who are we?

Thursday October 3 Zoom meeting agenda

- 7pm—Pledge of allegiance;
- Presentation based on October/November 2024 news eletter item “Who are we?”
- Approval of September 19, 2024 membership minutes (*attached*);
- Treasurer’s report (*attached*);
- Corresponding Secretary report;
- Executive Vice-President report;
- Curator report;
- Membership report;
- Ways and Means:
 - Website update;
 - Remnant log pieces;
 - Chaperones for Letourneau Home/Museum for school visits on October 7, October 10, and October 15;
 - Chaperons and “openers/closers” needed for open houses of the Letourneau Home/Museum and log schoolhouse. At the Letourneau Home/Museum, Doris O’Connor and Ken Lewellen have volunteered for October 20 and November 3 respectively, and Judy Smead has volunteered for Sunday October 6.
- Building and Grounds:
 - Southeast trees and shrubs need to be trimmed—Pete Gryzlak of B & S Yards Plus;
 - Walk around to appraise more tree/shrub work; and
 - Maintenance/Repair Fund
- Old Business
 - Restructuring of BGHS update, and
 - Chaperones for open houses.
- New Business
 - **Next meeting November 7 at 7 pm**—Zoom only;
 - Special BGHS 2024 dates with links—**save the dates:**
 - **October 17**—Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee meeting at 7 pm
 - **October 22**—Log Schoolhouse Advisory Committee meeting at 3:30 pm
 - Saturday December 7 from 9am – 3 pm—*Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair [Les Artisans Fair \(bourbonnaishistory.org\)](http://LesArtisansFair(bourbonnaishistory.org))

Log Schoolhouse Advisory Committee next meeting is Tuesday October 22

The next meeting of the BGHS Log Schoolhouse Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday October 22 at 3:30 pm.

Have a great fall! Best wishes,

Jim Paul, President of the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society