

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

Of Western Illinois

712 - 18th Avenue

Moline, Illinois

(309) 762-0167



June 1999

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Annual Dinner Meeting

Be sure to remember that the annual dinner meeting will be held at the Center on Tuesday June 8, 1999. Festivities start at 6:00pm with dinner starting at 6:30pm. Remember to bring a nice item to be auctioned. It can be new or used, the purpose is to have fun! We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Membership Renewal

Be watching your mail next month for your CBC membership renewal invoice.

Gift Counter - Thank You!

The gift counter could not go on or be as successful if it were not for all the volunteer workers. Your four hours has done volumes to keep the center going. Celie Donohue is in charge of our gift counter and does a wonderful job. She would like all volunteers to know how important they are and that their time spent at the center really makes a difference. Thank You volunteers!

Belgian Roots Workshop

Don't forget the Belgian Roots workshop is held the third Thursday of every month. Research your Belgian roots with the help of experienced genealogists. There will be **NO** Belgian Roots workshop in June, due to members' vacations.

The Center for Belgian Culture has donated its Belgian cookbook to the Ellis Island Museum.

Editor's Note

You may be receiving this newsletter a little late this month due to the fact that I have had numerous computer problems. I got a different computer and it's been in the shop more than at my house. Hopefully, all the problems are now resolved and the newsletter will be on time from now on. – Sharon Loete, Editor

CENTER ACTIVITIES

May Waffle Report

The May waffle breakfast was hosted by **Gene Fowler**. It was a beautiful sunny day. Our total receipts were \$466.00. Thank you goes out to the following workers: **Maxine Lambrecht, Jim Lambrecht, Mary Mortier, Gene Donohue, Georgia & Louis Slininger, Mike & Mary Hendricks, and Marian Knock.**

We also participated in Culturefest 1999 at the Family Museum of Arts & Science held April 17, 1999. Thanks to the following who worked that event: **Gene Fowler, Marvin & Mary Brunning, Lucy DeWaelche, Bob & Elaine Hendrickx, and Clara VanDeVeire.**

Gift Counter News

The Kleine Winkel will be featuring a Honeycake special this month. Look for the coupon in this newsletter and buy one at the regular price of \$4.00 and get \$1.00 off the second with coupon.

News in the Belgian Community

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Albert and Evelyn VanPuyvelde, Moline, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 23, 1999. The former Evelyn Accoe and Mr. VanPuyvelde were married May 28, 1949 in Christ the King Catholic Church, South Bend, Ind. Mr. VanPuyvelde retired in 1984 from Eagle Foods, and Mrs. VanPuyvelde also retired in 1984 from Government Service. They are both active members of the CBC and belong to Sacred Heart Church in Moline.

Belgian Born Deaths

Marcel 'Pete' Saelens, Rock Island, died Monday, May 3, 1999 in Rock Island. He was born Feb. 3, 1906 in Hulle, Belgium, the son of Emil Saelens and Leonie (DeClercq) Saelens. He married Marjorie Sheley in 1940. She preceded him in death. Survivors include brothers (and spouse), Julius Saelens, Chillicothe, Ohio and Leon (Ann) Saelens, Naples, Fla.

Augusta M. 'Gustie' Vincent, 91, Cambridge, died Friday, May 14, 1999 in Geneseo. The former Augusta Jodts was born Dec. 21, 1907 in St. Lawrence, Belgium, the daughter of Alphonse and Pharailde Maene Jodts. She married Harley E. Vincent in 1927. He died in 1985.

Godelieve 'Goldie' Raymond, 87, Silvis, died Tuesday April 29, 1999 at her home. She was born Oct. 9, 1911, in Dentergen, Belgium, the daughter of Camiel and Elisa "Meetie" (De Smet) Claeys. She married Joe Raymond in 1932. He died in 1987. Survivors include daughters and sons-in-law, Joann and Chuck Daniels, Hampton, and Mary Lou and Dr. Edward Kean, East Moline; and a son Ronald Raymond, Silvis.

Msgr. George A. Carton

Excerpts from an article that appeared in *The Catholic Post*, issue of May 16, 1999

This weekly series spotlights Catholics of this century from our diocese who have distinguished themselves in some way, usually through remarkable service to our local church. It will serve as a sampling of people of faith upon whose shoulders we stand as we enter the next century.

Name: Msgr. George August Carton

Born: Dec.12, 1917, Moline

Ordained: May 28, 1944, by Bishop Joseph H. Schlarman at St. Mary's Cathedral. He was named a domestic prelate with the title of monsignor in 1954 and a Protonotary Apostolic in 1967.

Notable Facts: Msgr. Carton, one of the "legendary" chancellors and vicars general of the Peoria diocese, served in various diocesan leadership positions for 40 years, from 1948 to 1988.

He received his first and only parish assignment immediately after ordination, as an assistant at the cathedral parish. In March 1947 he took on additional duties as diocesan bookkeeper. Shortly afterward Bishop Schlarman sent him to The Catholic University of America, from which he earned a licentiate degree in canon law in 1949.

Msgr. Carton was named diocesan vicechancellor in 1948 and chancellor in 1951. As chancellor he served as a consultant to clergy on matters of church law and had charge of diocesan archives and other records. He served as vicar general under Bishop John B. Franz from 1965 to 1971. He also served as chaplain to the Heading Avenue Franciscan community from 1953 to 1989.

In 1978 he stepped down as chancellor and was appointed Defender of the Bond for the diocesan Tribunal. He reviewed marriage cases and presented any reasonable arguments in favor of the validity of the marriages in question.

Msgr. Carton officially retired from the Tribunal in 1988 but continued for a few years afterward to assist with some of his former duties.

Until recently he was the only priest in the diocese to hold the title of Protonotary Apostolic, the highest honorary title that can be given to a diocesan priest. The designation is conferred upon Vatican notaries with the authority to certify papal documents.

Getting personal: Msgr. Carton, a native of Sacred Heart Parish in Moline, was one of six children of Adiel and Augusta (VanderMeersch) Carton, both Belgian immigrants. His parents operated a "mom and pop" grocery store at 301 -16th Avenue in Moline.

He attributes his vocation to the influence of his parents, whom he said "quietly and every day" lived their faith, and the example of Sacred Heart's founding pastor, Father J. B. Culemans. He was graduated from St. Ambrose College in 1940 and completed studies for the priesthood at St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

Deaths in the Belgian Community

Donald DeGrande, 72, of East Moline died Monday, May 3, 1999 in Rock Island. Don was born May 12, 1926 in East Moline, the son of Alfons and Augusta (DeCoker) DeGrande. He married Rosemary Floming in 1947. Survivors include his wife; daughters and sons in-law, Kathy and Gary Andersen of East Moline, Theresa and Tom Clarke of Bettendorf; a son and daughter in-law, Gary and Mary DeGrande of Minnesota, a sister and brother-in-law, Margaret and Joe Lodico Sr. Silvis; and a brother, Art DeGrande Sr. of Moline.

Elizabeth Dean, 69, Moline, died Sunday, April 25, 1999 in Maquoketa, Iowa. Elizabeth De Wispelaere was born Nov. 26, 1929 in Moline. She married Milton Dean in 1948. He died in 1980. Survivors include a daughter, Cindy Cornell, Peosta, Iowa; sons, Robert, Milton, and James, all of East Moline.

Augusta DeSutter, 96, Atkinson, died Thursday, April 29, 1999 in Geneseo. Augusta Martens was born April 1, 1903 in Cambridge, the daughter of Clement and Emma Minnaert Martens. She married August DeSutter in 1934. He preceded her in death in 1961. Survivors include sons and a daughter-in-law, Russell DeSutter, East Moline, and Eugene and Dianne DeSutter, McAllen, Texas; a daughter and son-in-law, MaryAnn and Gerald VanDeWoestyne, Geneseo.

Robert VanLancker, 79, Goodyear, Ariz., formerly of Moline, died Sunday, April 25, 1999 in Phoenix. He was born Feb. 17, 1920 in Osborn, IL the son of Joseph and Zoe VanHecke VanLancker. He married Mary Ellen Becker in 1943. She died in 1998. He was co-owner and pressman of Model Printers, Moline, retiring in 1984. He was proud of his Belgian heritage. Survivors include daughters and sons-in-law, Ellie VanLancker, Fort Wayne, Ind., Zoe and J.D. Carpenter, Goodyear, Mariette and Dr. Richard McGrath, Dillingham, Alaska, Anita and Harold Ziffren, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, and Melissa and Joe Padesky, Moline.

Daniel DeCoster, 54, died Wednesday, April 28, 1999 in Tempe, Ariz. He was born Feb. 10, 1945 in Moline, the son of Fred and Helen Miere DeCoster. Survivors include his parents, Fred and Helen DeCoster, Moline; a sister Corinne Allardyce, Moline; brothers and sisters-in-law, Thomas and Patricia DeCoster, Carmel, Ind., and William and Mary Kay DeCoster, Moline.

Martha V. Oltman, 86, Silvis, died Wednesday, May 5, 1999 in Moline. She was born April 15, 1913 in East Moline, the daughter of Rene and Mary (De Doncker) Van Puyvelde. She married John Vander Meersch in 1932. He died in 1939. She married Dewey Oltman in 1945. He died in 1961. Survivors include a son John H. "Ozzie" Oltman, Omaha, Neb; a sister and brother in-law, Irene and Morrie Elder, East Moline; and a brother and sister-in-law, Joseph and Betty Van Puyvelde, East Moline.

Honorary Consul's Comments

Belgian Prime Minister Dehaene attended the 50th anniversary of NATO in Washington DC April 23 – 25. He was among the longest serving country leaders present in Washington.

In the U.S., Belgian fashions can be found at Saks Fifth Avenue, Neiman Marcus, and Barney's in New York. Well-known Belgian designers today are Ann Demeulemeester, Dries Van Noten, "Belgium's Hermes" Delvaux, Kaat Tilley, and E. Pompilio.

Over 1,000 Belgians visited Louisiana in mid April. They came from 28 cities & towns of Belgium with "sister cities" in Louisiana. The southwestern part of Louisiana is celebrating the 300th anniversary of the 1st French speaking colony in that state. Many government and business representations came from the Walloon area for the occasion.

Ellis Island Immigration Museum will feature paintings and etchings depicting emigrants leaving Antwerp for New York by Eugene VanMieghem. The exhibit runs from April 24 to mid-October.


The peak year for Belgians emigrating to the U.S. was in 1913 when 9517 arrived. From 1882 to 1924, 111,864 largely Flemish-speaking Belgians moved to America totaling about 1.6% of the country's population. From 1951 to 1960, 18,575 Belgians emigrated to the U.S. From 1961 to 1970, 9,192 Belgians came.

Belgian happenings in Washington D.C. in May included a lecture by Michael Jackson on "The Great Beers of Belgium". On May 24th the Smithsonian Institution featured a lecture on diamonds from Antwerp.

The University of Pennsylvania is currently exhibiting "Leuven in Books – Books in Leuven". The University of Leuven was established in 1425; it is world renowned.

Liege University has established links with Raleigh, Chapel Hill and Duke Universities in North Carolina in the field of biotechnology.

Congratulations to Gen Vrombaut
for being named a Volunteer of the
Year for the Diocesan Council of
Catholic Women.



Honey Cake Special
Buy one for \$4.00
and get \$1.00 off
the second.
With coupon only.

Dates to Remember

The Center for Belgian Culture is open Wednesday and Saturday afternoons from 1 - 4. It is staffed by volunteers. We thank the following, who are serving in May:

Monday, May 31	Memorial Day – Waffle Breakfast 8 a.m. – noon
Wednesday, June 2	Dorene Mummert, Hostess; Gen Vrombaut, Gift Counter
Saturday, June 5	WAFFLE BREAKFAST – Maxine Lambrecht Hostess; Lynne Collier, Gift Counter Gene and Celie Donohue, Afternoon Host Couple and Gift Counter
Tuesday, June 8	Annual Dinner Meeting 6 pm at the Center
Wednesday, June 9	Al & Joann Loete, Host Couple and Gift Counter
Saturday, June 12	Clara VandeVeire, Hostess; Marian Knock, Gift Counter
Wednesday, June 16	Ruby DeKeyrel, Hostess; Maurine Schweitzer, Gift Counter
Thursday, June 17	No Belgian Roots Workshop this Month
Saturday, June 19	Bev & Stan Francque, Host Couple and Gift Counter
Wednesday, June 23	Bob Hendrickx & Lucy DeWaelche, Host and Hostess & Gift Counter
Saturday, June 26	Evelyn & Al VanPuyvelde, Host Couple and Gift Counter
Wednesday, June 30	Georgia & Louis Slininger, Host Couple and Gift Counter

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE
OF WESTERN ILLINOIS, INC.
712 - 18th Ave., Moline, IL 61265



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