

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

Of Western Illinois

712 - 18th Avenue

Moline, Illinois

(309) 762-0167

October 2000



EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Patrick Van Nevel

Bavn1@aol.com

Vice President

Bonnie Newman

jnewman@geneseo.net

Secretary

Lenore Knock

Treasurer

Scott Raes

Member at Large

Evelyn VanPuyvelde

aeoudestad@qconline.com

Past President

Bonnie Newman

Honorary Consul

Dolores Bultinck

Membership

Jill Rakus

Gift Shop

Celie Donohue

Waffle Chairman

Gene Fowler

Flemings in the

World

Art Holevoet

Newsletter

Lois DeCoster

ladecoster@juno.com

Publicity

Mary Lorensen

Historian

Kleine Winkel

The Kleine Winkel will soon be receiving fresh Belgian Treasure Biscuits (cookies) and Old Brussels coffee toppers in three flavors, apple cinnamon, caramel & tiramisu. The much-awaited Belgian Chocolates will arrive as soon as the weather cools down and they can be safely shipped. Also, Christmas ornaments have been ordered. Stop by and begin your Christmas shopping.

Irene DeClerck donated an antique wooden rolle bolle. The bolle belonged to her late husband, Prosper.



Dean VanVooren donated a wicker pigeon carrier. This is now on display in the Center window.

...for sharing!

Celie Donohue brought the Center a Raspberry Belgian beer bottle from Belgium for display.

Note: anyone going to Belgium, please have a beer or two and bring back the empty bottles for the Center. Call Celie @ 792-8246, if you have any now.

Celie also brought back a book, titled, The Low Countries, Arts & Society in Flanders and the Netherlands – a yearbook. The book was donated by Carine Serck., as well as two booklets; "Onze Voorouders" and "Death Memorial Cards" One of these booklets deals with genealogy and the other features many memorial cards, some of which have local connections. Both were compiled and donated by Paul Callens.

Thank you for all of the above articles. We appreciate any and all donations made to the center.

A special "Thank You" goes to Marlene Shattuck for the lace making demonstration she made at the Bettendorf Grant Wood School.



More travelers: August found Mr. & Mrs. Rene' Gusse touring Europe. Joining us were Rene's cousin, Achiel Dupont Jr. and his wife. First we visited Rene's aunts and uncles and cousins, the VanLandegehems (August, Robert, Nellie and their families), Eric Gusse and their families in Alter, Belgium. We were received by the Mayor of Alter, Mr. Peter DeCrem, who is a relative, by marriage. He gave us a tour of the newly constructed Administration Bldg. And also presented all with lovely gifts. The VanLandegehems and Gusse families gave us a lovely party at a local restaurant. Individual families also had dinners for us. It had been 20 years since Rene had visited his relatives. In the St. Cornelius Church in Alter, we viewed the beautiful stained glass window donated to the Church by the Gusses and Vanlandegehems. The Church had been fully restored from the bombings in World Wars one and two. Since Rene's last visit, Alter's population has risen to 18,000 people compared to the approximate 12,000 on his prior visit. Belgium is such a beautiful country and the people are very gracious and friendly. Later we went to Heule, Belgium, where the Dupont family graves are located. Rene's mother was Mary Dupont Gusse & Achiel Jr.'s father was Acheil Dupont, Sr. Mary and Achiel Sr. were sister and brother. They migrated from Belgium in 1913 and established their homes in Rock Island, on a farm where St. Pius Church now stands. The Dupont brewery, in a small town by Kortrik, Belgium, is now owned by some one else. When the Duponts owned it, it was a pub & resaurant. We also visited cities of Brugge, Ostende, Ghent & Brussels, moving on to Paris, taking tours of the city, Notre Dame for Sunday Mass, the Eiffel Tower on an evening tour. With all the lights, it was an awesome sight. There are so many things to see and do in Paris, as well as so much history. We then went to London, by Euro Rail, visiting Buckingham Palace, West Minster Abby and many beautiful historic buildings, which have been and are still being restored because of war damage. So, with sore feet, fatigue and jet lag, we returned to the U.S.A and our homes to dream of our many adventures. We hope to return someday.

Submitted by Wilma and Rene Gusse

The Lacemaker's Ten Commandments

1. All lace, of any type whether hand-made or machine-made is lovely, and therefore worthy.
2. It automatically follows that all lacemakers are worthy, and shalt never think otherwise.
3. Thou shalt wash thy hands thoroughly before sitting down to thy lace, and at frequent intervals thereafter.
4. Thou shalt share thy skills with other lacemakers, and thou shalt pass on they skills whenever the opportunity arises.
5. Thou shalt use whatever means possible to publish the good news that lace is not a lost art.
6. Lace is meant to be used and admired; therefore thou shalt not roll up thy lace and stuff it in a drawer.
7. Thou mayest make thy lace in any color thou desirest; or in white if thou preferest.
8. Whether a novice or master, thou shalt enjoy making thy lace, and thou shalt care for it properly that it may be a joy to future generations of lacemakers.
9. Thou shalt keep any competition with thy fellow lacemakers on a friendly basis; thou shalt remember that thou art all on the same side.
10. Thou shalt remember from Whom thy skills come, and thou shalt always use thy skills for good, to build a lovelier world.

Contributed by Dorothy Wolfe, NJ

Waffle Breakfast: The September breakfast was chaired by Gene Fowler. Those who helped were Maurine Schweitzer, Marvin & Mary Brunning, Dorene Mummert, Marian Knock, Ron & Bev LaSalle and Kim Kochuyt. For the first time, we used our new 6 quart mixer. There were no complaints from the batter makers!

The October Waffle Breakfast will be held October 7, from 8-12 and the Center.

Collections Management computer program workshop was sponsored by the Illinois Heritage Assoc. at the Early American Heritage Museum in Mahomet, Ill July 17, 2000. Evelyn and Albert Van Puyvelde attended the workshop, which demonstrated the use of "Past "Perfect" computer program, considered a comprehensive program used in all facets of collections management and conduct of business for small museums. The Center is hoping to put the system in place and has approved our efforts to request a grant to pay for a computer with more capacity and also to pay for the program. It will take the knowledge of many persons to set up this system. **IF YOU CAN ASSIST US, PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE PHONE AT THE CENTER (309-762-0167). A BOARD MEMBER WILL THEN CONTACT YOU.**

Quad City Heritage League Educational Scholarship Program

Two individual scholarships will be awarded to volunteers who are pursuing studies to promote interest in and understanding of the history and heritage of the Quad Cities. Deadline is May 31st, 2001. The maximum amount will be \$300 and a joint check will be issued to the learning institution and the recipient. Forms for application may be requested from Evelyn Van Puyvelde,, Member-at-Large, Center for Belgian Culture, 712 18th Ave., Moline, IL 61265.

We, Pat and Barb Van Nevel, went to Belgium during the second part of Aug., visiting many sites. We were very impressed with the Flanders Field Museum in Leper. This is a must see! The displays, pictures, etc. provide a real insight into the 1914-1918 war. While it was a real eye-opener for Barb, it brought back memories of some of the stories my grandfather and some of his fellow WW1 veterans (reluctantly) told me when I grew up. They never wanted to talk about it much, but occasionally, around Armistice, they would tell an anecdote. After seeing the museum, and traveling through the countryside, I am able to visualize what it was like to live in the trenches for **four** years, defending the small area, most of it flooded to keep the enemy from advancing.

Thinking about taking a trip to Belgium? Bonnie Newman is planning to put together a trip in 2001. Watch the Newsletter for more information

FYI

Augustana College awarded 137 Honor Scholarships to first-year students. Selection is based on academic ability, intellectual curiosity, and the capacity for effective and thoughtful expression. Among area students selected was Thomas (Tad) DePorter, Jr. grandson of Judy and Al DePorter.

Invitation to all "Flemish for the Traveler Classes": Come to the Nov. 4, 2000 Waffle Breakfast. Plan to be there by 12:30 to eat waffles and then have a Flemish class reunion/follow up class. Bring your picture albums of your recent trip(s) to share. We will have a "refresher class" at the Center until 2:30. We will have some exercises, practice the hard to pronounce vowels, and other things that look or sound weird. As with past classes, bring your questions or submit them to Pat Van Nevel, addressed to the Center or e-mail him directly at Bavn1@aol.com.



If you haven't sent in your membership renewal, be sure to get it in by the end of this month, Oct. 31, or your name will be removed from our newsletter list and you will no longer receive it. Just complete the form below and mail it to the Center or drop it off.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

Single Membership \$15.00 _____
Family Membership \$20.00 _____

SPECIAL RATE FOR THOSE OVER 70 YEARS OLD

Single Membership \$10.00 _____
Family Membership \$15.00 _____

Make check payable to: Center for Belgian Culture

Mail to:

**MEMBERSHIP
CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE
712-18TH AVENUE
MOLINE, IL 61265**

The October schedule for gift counter and host/hostess volunteers is as follows:

Date	Gift Counter	Host/Hostess
Wednesday, Oct. 4	Gen Vrombaut	Dorene Mummert
Saturday, Oct. 7	Celie Donohue, am Barb VanNevel pm	Gene Donohue am Pat VanNevel pm
Wednesday, Oct. 11	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara VanDeViere
Saturday, Oct. 14	Marian Knock	Mary Rose DeCoster
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Bev Francque	Stan Francque
Saturday, Oct. 21	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Lucy DeWaelsche	Bob Hendrickx
Saturday, Oct. 28	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS: Joanne & Alan Hoyt of Moline
 If **YOU** would like to be a volunteer, please call Celie Donohue @ 792-8246 or Norma Manning @ 788-8586.

Bloemen Van Vlaanderen

Marvin & Mary Brunning made a donation to the Bloemen Vlaanderen Fund.



In August, Lady Celie and Gene Donohue traveled to Belgium. While there, they met and visited with Paul and Marie Callens and their 3 children, Mauro – 5, Sigo – 4 and Laurien – 2. Paul, an engineer in Pittem, is very involved with Belgian genealogy. He is especially interested in the connection of his area in Belgium with Michigan and the Illinois, Moline area. He has compiled a book of memorial cards and other related information that will help in the genealogy research of those interested. We are, at present, trying to obtain copies to be sold at the Center for Belgian Culture. Paul also stated that he would be happy to try to help with research via E-Mail. His address is Pin18290@pi.be.

Celie and Gene also had the privilege of visiting with Carine and Thierry Serck of Waardamme. Carine’s mother, Noella, and Dolores Bultinck are cousins. Carine gave Celie the above-mentioned book of the low lands of Belgium to be donated to the center.

The Oct. Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, Oct. 10th at the Center at 7 pm.

Last March, I published a book called *De Vlamingen op de Titanic* (The Flemish on board the Titanic) (see www.lannoo.be). Second print is out now. I am already working on a new book. It will be about Flemish people who emigrated to the U.S. and Canada between 1850 and 1940. Who can help me find some good stories of people who went overseas to find a new life? If interested, you can get in touch with me;

Dirk Musschoot Molenwalstraat 27B B 9030 Gent, Belgium. Ph. 0032 9 227.84.94, e-mail: dirk.musschoot@planetinternet.be fax: 0032 9 236.38.49.

PLEASE NOTIFY US WHENEVER A MEMBER OR RELATIVE GETS MARRIED, GIVES BIRTH, BECOMES ILL, OR DIES, SO WE CAN PUBLISH IT IN THE NEWSLETTER. Call or e-mail Lois DeCoster @ 799-3433 or leave the information in the Newsletter drawer at the Center. Please submit any information you wish to have published in the newsletter by the 15th of the month in order to have it in the next issue.

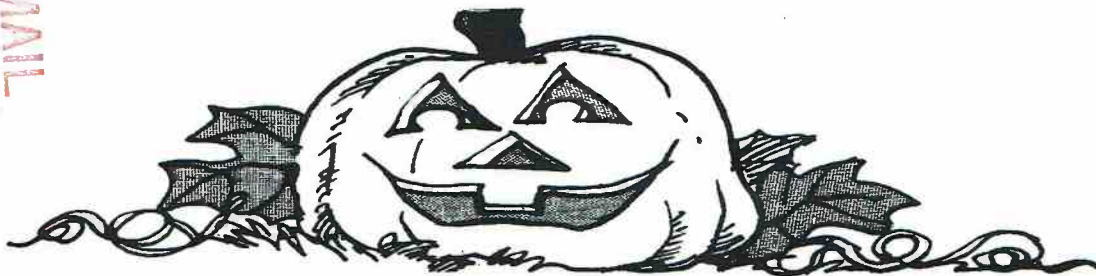
Please **note** the change in the deadline, from the 20th of the month to the 15th. We've made that change to make certain the newsletter is in your homes by the 1st of each month. Thank you.

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



AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Paul & Marie Callens
Waterstraat 18
8740 Pittem
Belgium,



00132/0000

