

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

Of Western Illinois

712 - 18th Avenue

Moline, Illinois

(309) 762-0167

November 2000



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Bavn1@aol.com

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We have some beautiful Belgian Christmas ornaments that would be great for your tree or as gifts. They are either red or white and sell for \$7.95 an ornament.

If you are looking for a bargain, our beer mugs are now on sale. Originally they sold for \$6.00 a piece or 2 for \$10.00. They now can be purchased for only \$3.00 each. Printed on the mugs: Laat ons pintjes Paaken (Let us drink beer). Het is Lijkee enjol op de tong. It (Belgian beer) is like angel ___ on your tongue!! For a translation of that one, ask an old Belgian!!



Thanks to following:

Ernie, Lois, Chuck and Pam Hauman for the pewter plate from Brugge and Stella Artois beer can.

John T. Vrombaut donated tools used by his grandfather, John Vrombaut, to make wooden shoes in Belgium and brought to America in the early 1900s and used at many world fairs to make wooden shoes.

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



Get Well wishes go out to Blanche DeWitte, Mary Carmack, Celie Donohue and Grace Verpaele, Merlyn Boostrom and Marian Dupont.

Did you know? More than half the settlers to Nieuw Amsterdam (first called New Belgium) hailed from Belgium. If you're descended from an old New York family, there's a 50/50 chance you're part Belgian. Jean Claude VanDamme is Belgian, as well as Audrey Hepburn. French fries are not a French invention, but a Belgian one. The national dish of Belgium is steamed mussels, french fries and a beer.



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

Date	Gift Counter	Host/Hostess
Wednesday, Nov. 1	Gen Vrombaut	Dorene Mummert
Saturday, Nov. 4	Celie Donohue, am Barb VanNevel pm	Gene Donohue am Pat VanNevel pm
Wednesday, Nov. 8	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara VanDeViere
Saturday, Nov. 11	Marian Knock	Mary Rose DeCoster
Wednesday, Nov. 15	Bev Francque	Stan Francque
Saturday, Nov. 18	Joanne Hoyt	Alan Hoyt
Wednesday, Nov. 22	Lucy DeWaelche	Bob Hendrickx
Saturday, Nov. 25	Evelyn Van Puyvelde	Al Van Puyvelde
Wednesday, Nov. 29	Kay Verstraete	Gabe Verstraete

Welcome to two new volunteers : Kay and Gabe Verstraete

If **YOU** would like to be a volunteer, please call Celie Donohue @ 792-8246 or Norma Manning @ 788-8586.

The Lacemakers will be at the Center St., Nov. 11 and Sat., Dec. 9 in the afternoon. Come and witness their fascinating art. You will be amazed.

Rolle Bolle



Pictured are: Clyde Minnaert, Bob Verstraete and Gerry Verstraete, Members of the 2000 Team – Center Belgian Culture. 10th place in league. Bob VandeVoorde, Art Borgonjon, Denny Maenhout also bollen for the Center. The standings for the Western League were as follows: 1st, Friends Circle, 2nd, Annawan, 3rd, Geneseo, 4th, Belgian Village Inn, 5th, East End, 6th, Kewanee, 7th, Hand n Hand, 8th, Atkinson, 9th, Mineral, 10th, Center Belgian Culture, 11th, Manlius.

Submitted by Gerry Verstraete



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Rik Veys – a son, John, born September 30, 2000. Grandson of Jan Veys and Great Grandson of Marjorie Lannoo.

Congratulations, too, to Jennifer Francque, freshman at Augustana College, , was awarded a Carver Scholarship. Jennifer is the granddaughter of Stan and Bev Francque and John and Marge Lannoo

Congratulations Al and Marie VandeWalle were married 60 years on Aug. 31. There were honored at a family celebration on Sept. 1. Their children are Andrea Johannsen, Bettendorf, Curtis VandeWalle, San Luis Obispo, CA and Dr. Denise VandeWalle, Alamosa, CO. They have eight grandchildren

Eugene and Margaret Horton celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, Oct. 19. Their two daughters are Patricia Goodrum, St. Cloud, MN And Kathryn DeMeyer, Kansas City, MO. There are 12 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

Father Richard Soseman, a Center member, is one of the 10 priests from our diocese that have been named prelates or chaplains of honor, with the title of Reverend Monsignor. by Pope John Paul II.

Belgian Trip

The Center for Belgian Culture of Western Illinois is promoting a new tour to Belgium, departing April 23, 2001. The Great Belgian Beer Journey is an 11-day tour, offering passengers a fun opportunity to study the different styles of Belgian-beer. We will visit breweries, including those that produce lambics, Trappist and the best known Belgian export, Duvel. The tour has been carefully planned to enjoy stops at specialty bars and cafes chosen for their ambiance or beer list. This tour was designed with an emphasis on Belgian beer, but will not overlook the wonderful art, history and scenery of the country. The itinerary includes 4 nights in beautiful Brugges, a stop in the quaint village of Durbuy, nestled in the Ardennes and Bastogne, the area where the Battle of the Bulge was fought. The group will travel with an experienced host and, while in Belgium, enjoy the services of a tour manager with an extensive knowledge of Belgian Beer. Rates begin at \$2, 285 and features include round trip airfare from Chicago, first class and superior tourist class accommodations and 17 meals. For more information and a day to day itinerary please call center member, Bonnie Taets-Newman, at 309-476-8604, fax 309-476-8806 or e0mail at jnewman@geneseo.net.

NOTE: "Highlights of Belgium " in the works for Sept. 2001. Watch the newsletter for more information.

The next board meeting will take place Tuesday, November 14th at 7 p.m. at the Center.

Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde win over New York

There were smiles all around as Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde met with hundreds of New Yorkers in September in a non-stop, action-packed tour to promote Belgian fashion, diamonds, cuisine, art and business.

Bits and Pieces

On Sept. 5th, six members of the Hauman family; Ernie, Lois, Chuck, Pam, Eric and Jason flew to Belgium. Upon arrival, we took a train to Brugge, Ernie's birthplace.

Canals surround the old city, circular in shape. You must cross one of five bridges to enter the city center. The Market Square holds one of the most famous Belfries in all of Europe. The Belfry tower holds 47 bronze bells, which play music every 15 minutes. To reach the top of the tower, you must ascend 366 steps. On a clear day, you can see the coast and the North Sea.

On this trip, we had rented 2 Holiday Flats about three blocks from the Burg Square. These apartments were wonderful. We had enough space to entertain relatives, even hosting them to a chili supper one evening. We also enjoyed being able to make a "breakfast run" every morning to the great bakeries and meat markets in the neighborhood.

We took a day trip, by train to Zeebrugge. There, we viewed the Great Sand Sculptures. This year, they were in the theme of Africa. They were truly awesome. We also visited Blankenburg, a beautiful city on the North Sea. Ernie's cousin, Rosemary Barais Noe, used to own a small resort hotel on the beach in this city.

On that day, we witness the protest over high fuel prices. In the morning, the truckers had the roads to the train station blocked. We had to leave the bus and walk the last mile to the train station. It was a beautiful evening for a walk into the city center!

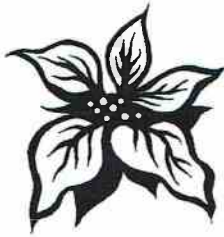
One day, we visited Antwerp, which is Belgium's largest city. Some of our family members joined other travelers in shopping for jewelry. We also enjoyed the beautiful buildings, as well as a harbor cruise.

On Sunday, Sept. 17th, we attended a family dinner with 35 relatives attending. It was a very enjoyable evening, which included great food and wonderful conversation. We flew home on Sept. 19th with much extra luggage, some lace, some beer, sketches to be framed, and a vast amount of Belgian chocolate. *Submitted by Lois Hauman*

In early October, some of our Belgian relatives visited the Quad-Cities.

Yolande Depredomme and Roger DeBacker, who live in Brugge, Belgium, traveled to the United States for the first time. They stayed with Lucille Coopman, in Silvis. While they were in the Quad-Cities, they visited the Center for Belgian Culture, among other area attractions. Lucille also arranged a family picnic so we could all meet Yolande and Roger. They were in the United States until the end of the month –visiting other Coopman relations in Minnesota, Arizona, Texas, and Florida.

Yolande is the granddaughter of Maria-Alida Coopman. Several Quad-Cities residents are descendants of August Coopman – Maria-Alida's brother. (I am his great-granddaughter). *Submitted by Linda Polich*



Belgian Center Annual Christmas Potluck !!

Raffles - Door Prizes - Good Food - Good fun !!

Place: Butterworth Center Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2000
Social Hour: 5:30 pm Dinner: 6:30 pm.

Cost: \$5.00 per person. Includes meat, rolls, punch and coffee. **Please bring a dish to share.**

If you would like to donate a door prize, bring it with you the night of the party. You may also volunteer to help with the dinner by contacting Bonnie Newman @ 309-476-8604

Space is limited, so make your reservations today by returning the form below to the Center or call Bonnie Newman at 309-476-8604 , or e-mail her at jnewman@geneseo.net.

NAMES: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

MAIL OR BRING TO: BELGIAN CENTER - 712 18TH AVENUE, MOLINE, IL 61265



Besides the beautiful 28" St. Nicholas, valued at over \$100, there are two more raffle items, one of which is a \$25 gift certificate from the Center's Gift Counter. Cost of the raffle tickets are: \$3.00 a piece or 2 for \$5.00. The winners will be announced at the above-mentioned Christmas party, Dec. 5. Chances are available at the Center or cut off ones below, mail them to the Center or drop them off. You do not need to be present to win.

Name _____

Name _____

Phone No. _____

Phone No: _____

Name _____

Name _____

Phone No. _____

Phone No. _____

Name _____

Name _____

Phone No. _____

Phone No: _____

Waffle Breakfast: The Oct. 7th breakfast was chaired by Gene Fowler. Those who helped make it run smoothly were: Mary Mortier, Stan & Bev Francque, Kim Kochuyt, Marian Knock, Marving & Mary Brunning and Clara VanDeViere. Thanks again to everyone.

The November Waffle Breakfast will be held November 4, from 8-12 at the Center.

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.



Paul & Marie Callens
8740 Pittem
Belgium,



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