



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

Of Western Illinois

712 - 18th Avenue

Moline, Illinois

(309) 762-0167

[www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org](http://www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org)

August, 2001

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

### President

Patrick Van Nevel

[bavnl@aol.com](mailto:bavnl@aol.com)

### Vice President

Bonnie Newman

[jnewman@geneseo.net](mailto:jnewman@geneseo.net)

### Secretary

Lenore Knock

[knockl@bhcl.bhc.edu](mailto:knockl@bhcl.bhc.edu)

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Scott Raes

### Member at Large

Evelyn VanPuyvelde

[aeoudestad@qconline.com](mailto:aeoudestad@qconline.com)

### Past President

Bonnie Newman

### Honorary Consul

Dolores Bultinck

### Membership

Gabe Verstraete

[belgie\\_1@msn.com](mailto:belgie_1@msn.com)

### Gift Shop

Celie Donohue

[c.j.donohue@att.net](mailto:c.j.donohue@att.net)

### Waffle Chairman

Gene Fowler

### Flemings in the

### World

Art Holevoet

### Newsletter

Lois DeCoster

[ldecoster@juno.com](mailto:ldecoster@juno.com)

### Publicity

Mary Lorensen

## Center's Activities

-Waffle Breakfast-

1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of each month (except Jan.)

8:00 - 12 noon

Open: Wed. & Sat.

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



The CBC Board wishes to thank the members,

who made tax-deductible donations to the Center.

These donations totaled \$150 and will be used for the purpose of furthering its educational and service related goals. Contributors were: *Glenda and Irma*

*Baldwin, Evelyn VanAcker, Marian Knock, John Kelly, Don and Laurie Dussliere, Gabe and Kay Verstraete, Alice VanQuekelberghe, Lillian DeClerck and Marcella DeBuysere.*

**Other members have made donations to the Center that will be used to further educate visitors about the Belgian heritage we are proud to foster.**

Mary Rose DeCoster donated a linen handkerchief for the lacemakers to use; Georgia (VanHecke) Slininger donated Belgian records; Joan Greko donated books: A Masterpiece Called Belgium and the larger book, Belgium, Europe's Historic Host; Angie DePaepe donated 1924 Pigeon Diplomas and Leona & John Rakus donated an antique waffle iron, given to them by Todd Duyvejonck, stationed in the Air Force in Ghent, Belgium.

**The Board would also like to express our appreciation to Mary & Larry**

Lorensen for putting together the beautiful potted plants that are at the entrance of the Center. They are a pleasant site for all who pass by or enter the Center.

**Area bolders appreciate the efforts of the city of Moline Park**

Department for the construction of backstops on the Rolle Bolle courts at Stephens Park. A group of bolders voluntarily assisted with this project. Currently, the bolders community is considering the construction of a memorial pavilion, near the Bolle courts in honor of deceased, as well as living bolders and supporters.

Members who represent the Center in bolders activities are Gerry Verstraete, Clyde Minnaert, Art Borgonjon, Joe Claeys and Bill Fisher. Bill Fisher, placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the Mid-States Rolle Bolle Championships, held July 13<sup>th</sup> at Empire Park. Gerry Verstraete placed 7<sup>th</sup>.

Gerry also placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the Ill. State Team Tournament at the East End Club.

***Congratulations!!***

## ***Did You Know?***

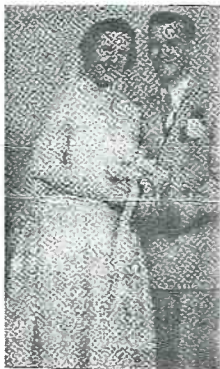
The 'B' in Belgium is starting to represent Big Business, according to USA Today. The Belgium Boom is bubbling and having a cultural impact on everything from fashion to food to art to entertainment. Most Americans have heard of Belgian waffles and chocolates, and some have zoomed through Belgium on their trips through Europe. Belgian beer, considered the world's most distinctive, has already gained a foothold in bars across the U.S. in the past few years and now the Belgian chic food trend is following. Belgian restaurants are gradually cutting a swath through the U.S. New Belgian restaurants are already hot spots in Washington, D.C., New York, Atlanta and also now present as well in the Rockies

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Gift Counter</b>	<b>Host/Hostess</b>
Wednesday, Aug. 1	Gen Vrombaut	Dorene Mummert
Saturday, Aug. 4	Celie & Gene Donohue (a.m.)	Barb & Pat Van Nevel (p.m.)
Wednesday, Aug. 8	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara VanDeViere
Saturday, Aug. 11	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wednesday, Aug. 15	Bev Francque	Stan Francque
Saturday, Aug. 18	Marian Knock	Georganne Benson
Wednesday, Aug. 22	Lucy DeWaeltsche	Bob Hendrickx
Saturday, Aug. 25	Kay Verstraete	Gabe Verstraete
Wednesday, Aug. 29	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger

For those volunteer who have access to e-mail, you may now record your volunteer hours by sending them to Gen Vrombaut at [gvrombaut@webtv.net](mailto:gvrombaut@webtv.net) . The volunteer hours may still be recorded in the book by the telephone.

Get well wishes to Dorene Mummert and to all members experiencing health problems.



**Recognize this couple? This is how John and Genevieve Vrombaut** looked 50 years ago, on July 21, 1951, when they were married at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Moline. The bride is the former Genevieve M. Loete. She and John are parents of Mary Crapnell, Davenport, IA; Susan Bellville, Holland, MI; Thomas Vrombaut, LeClaire, IA and James Vrombaut, Moline. There are nine grandchildren. They celebrated this occasion with relatives and friend at a reception in the Garden Center at Riverside Park, Moline. July 21.

**Congratulations also go out to Marcel and Helen Kerckhove. They celebrated their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 19<sup>th</sup>.**

**The waffle breakfast July 7, was well attended, even though it was hot and humid!** The volunteers that helped were: Marv & Mary Brunning, Gene Donohue, Helen Foote, Gene Fowler, Ken Heir, Elaine Hendrickx, Art, John and Paul Holevoet, Norma Manning Mary Mortier, Dorene Mummert, Scott Raes and Mary Lou Robinson.

**The next waffle breakfast will be August 4<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to noon** The lacemakers will be at the Center in the afternoon, demonstrating their art.

**The August Board meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. August 13<sup>th</sup> and the Center.**

❖ *Watch for a story in the next newsletter about our Scholarship winners for 2001*

## In Memoriam



**Julian A. DeGreve, 83, Sherrard, died June 19, 2001.** Julian was born in 1918 in Brooklyn, Iowa. He married Leota Belford in June of 1941. She died in 2000. He played baseball for various teams in the Quad-Cities and was the first person to hit a home run into the Mississippi River from John O'Donnell Stadium. He also was active in bowling, hunting, rolle bolle and many other outdoor activities. Survivors (and spouses) include daughters, Carol (Dan) Hiesterman, Boulder, CO, Diane (Dick) Buysse, West Liberty, IA, Jan LaDue, Linda (Bruce) Breiby, and Peggy Bullock, all of Sherrard and Julie (Ron) Grymonprez, Andover; a son, Bob (Cynthia) DeGreve, Billings, MO; 20 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and sisters, Irene (Merlyn) Boostrom, and Marguerite Errico, both of Moline.

**Diane Kay Hugaert, 45, Oakland California, formerly of Moline, died June 21, 2001, after a lengthy illness.** Diane was the daughter of Betty and Eugene Hugaert. Her grand parents are Juanita Johnson and Maurice Hugaert and Philimon and Louise Hugaert are her great-grand parents. Her grandfather and great grand parents were born in Ghent, Belgium

**Madeline "Madge" Coppens, 90, of Sarasota, FL, formerly of Moline, died June 26, 2001, in Sarasota.** She was born in 1910 in Moline. She married Charles E. "Coy" Coppens in 1935 in Moline. She was active member of many organizations and was past president of the Center for Belgian Culture, Moline. She was an avid golfer and bridge player and was a life member of Oakwood Country Club. Survivors (and spouses) include daughters, Kay (George) Dellos, Moline and Connie (Jim) Dolan, Scottsdale, AZ; sons, David (Sue) Coppens, Collinsville, IL and Paul (Nina) Coppens, Nashua, NH; 9 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren; and a sister Lucy DeWaelche, Moline.

**Frank P. Coopman, Jr., 69, Bettendorf, died July 5, 2001. He was born April 20, 1932, in Moline.** He married Marlene M. Karlix in 1955. He retired from John Deere Plow Planter after 35 years, later worked at Miller Container, for 16 years. Survivors include his wife, daughter and son-in-law, Michelle and Aaron Cullor, Bettendorf, sons and daughters-in-law, Mark and Vicki Coopman, Bettendorf, Mitchell and Donette Coopman, Rock Island, Michael and Denise Coopman, Orlando, FL; 9 grandchildren, 2 sisters; Alice (Jim) Klarkowski, Moline, Delores Scott, Bettendorf; others; Peter (Betty) Coopman, East Moline and Robert (Nancy) Coopman, Largo, FL.

**Marian L. Plunkett, 73, East Moline died July 8, 2001. Marian Sevenandt was born in 1928 in Moline and married Robert L. Verneire in 1946.** She later married J. Patrick Plunkett in 1989 and he died in 1990. She had worked at the former First National Bank of Moline and the former Bank of Silvis, and most recently was employed by the Butterworth Center, Moline. Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Rebecca and Scott Bitting, East Moline; sons and Daughters-in-law, Jon Vermeire, Black River Falls, WI, James and Holly Vermeire, Moline and Patricia Vermeire, Moline, and 5 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her sons, Jeffrey and Stephen Vermeire and her brother, Jack C. Sevenandt.

**Alois A. "Al" Duyvejonck, 84, of Rock Island died July 15, 2001. He was born in 1916 in Rock Island and married Mary Jo Kinsley in 1938 in Rock Island.** She died in 1996. His working years were spent at John Deere, 24<sup>th</sup> St. Tavern and Restaurant, Rock Island Arsenal, and Cele Whan Academy of Beauty. He was co-owner of the Magic Wand Long View Salon, retiring in 1985. Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Katherine and Jack Whan, Rock Island; 3 grandsons; 7 great-grandchildren; a sister and brother-in-law, Leona and John Rakus and sister-in-law, Jane Duyvejonck, all of Rock Island.

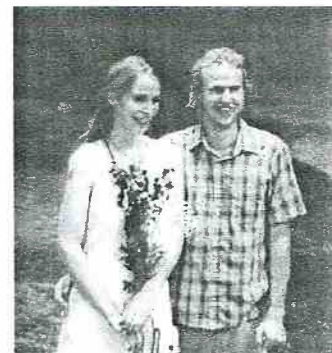
AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION



Pictured on the left are Frank and Madeline Sercu.

On May 20<sup>th</sup> there was 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday celebration for Madeline Sercu at the home where she resides in Moline. The party was given by her son, Frank, of Dubuque. Center members, members of her church in Rock Island, former neighbors and friends attended the gathering.

Kate Altermatt and Scott Holevoet were wed June 15 at St. Louis Canyon in Starved Rock State Park. Scott will be a senior at Southern Ill. University, Carbondale, studying to be a park ranger. Kate is majoring in art there. Scott was on the dean's list last year, and was one the recipients of the Al Loete scholarship. He is the son of Paul and Kathy Holevoet of Atkinson. Kate is the daughter of Tom and Linda Altermatt of Geneseo. Uncle and godfather, Art Holevoet, with the help of family, made 20 dozen of Lukken cookies which were served at the reception. The couple is pictured on the right.



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Paul & Marie Callens \*  
Watersstraat 18 8740 Pittem  
Belgium,

AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

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

