



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois

712 - 18th Avenue
Moline, Illinois
(309) 762-0167

April 2004

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org

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Center for Belgian Culture
Open Wed. + Sat.
1:00-4:00 p.m.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

Apr 3	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 am-12:00 pm
Apr 3	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00-4:00 pm
Apr 11	HAPPY EASTER	
Apr 19	Board Meeting	5:30-6:30 pm
Apr 19	Scholar Award Deadline	
May 1	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 am-12:00 pm
May 1	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00-4:00 pm



They're back.....

If the sausages were the reason you weren't joining us at the waffle breakfast or if you have never tried the sausages, you are in for a treat. The sausages that everyone loves are coming back at the April waffle breakfast. See you there!



Birdies for Charity.....

Are you familiar with the **John Deere Classic Birdies for Charity?** It is a way to raise funds for your favorite charity: the CBC scholarship program. Individuals can pledge and promise to donate any dollar amount for each birdie made during the John Deere Classic which is played in July. Mary and Larry Lorensen are the co-chairs of the CBC Birdies for Charity. Watch your mail in early April for additional information.



The CBC has adopted Stephens Park in Moline which is located on 7th street and 16th avenue. Bill Fisher is organizing a volunteer clean up day for June. Watch for details.



Quad City leaders meet with Ambassador van Daele

On March 11th, a number of Quad City leaders who participated in the Quad City Development Group annual Washington DC trip were invited for drinks at the Ambassador's residence in Washington D.C. The following comments to CBC president Scott Raes and Patrick Van Nevel show the appreciation of our area community and business leaders:

"It was impressive for a boy from Iowa to see how ambassadors and diplomats live in Washington, DC. The ambassador and his wife could not have more like Iowans, open and friendly and cordial" – Charles Brooke, Mayor of Davenport;

"The Ambassador and his wife, along with his staff, were extremely gracious in hosting our group at his home on Thursday evening. These type of discussions certainly help build positive relationships between our two countries. We hope to be able to further dialog and certainly would like to invite the Ambassador back to the Quad Cities" - Myron K. Scheibe, Chairman of the Quad City Development Group and V.P. Shive-Hattery, Inc.;

"From the moment we pulled into the driveway, I knew we were in for something special. The ambassador, his wife and the staff were most gracious and made us feel like they were truly honored by our visit. I enjoyed a fascinating conversation with Luc Devolder, minister-counselor for economic affairs. This was one of those very rare WOW experiences one can have in life. I am very grateful to Patrick Van Nevel for arranging this event" – John Stavnes, Regional President Wells Fargo Bank;

"Just wanted to say thanks for including me in the group and for the opportunity to experience meeting the Belgian Ambassador. The Belgian Ambassador and his wife were wonderful people, easy to talk with and very hospitable. I enjoyed meeting them, as well as all of the other Belgian Officials at the gathering. Again, thanks for all the effort that you put in to getting this set up for us to experience." - Chris Thompson, Chairman Geneseo Chamber of Commerce.

"Thank you so much for arranging the visit with the Ambassador. I had a great time! It is always interesting to meet and discuss various issues with people from different backgrounds. Quickly, one learns just how much we have in common. Within moments of arrival, I felt as if I was visiting an old friend. Thank you again for inviting me. When the Ambassador visits our area, please extend a warm invitation to visit Bettendorf." - Mike Freemire, Mayor of Bettendorf.

"A group of Quad Citians enjoyed a wonderful evening visiting with the Belgian Ambassador and his wife on Thursday, March 11. Conversation covered a myriad of subjects of common interest to the United States and Belgium. The selection of hors d'oeuvres and domestic brews combined most enjoyably. We hope to reciprocate the hospitality to the Ambassador and his wife in the near future". - Mark Schiebert, Mayor of Rock Island.

"The visit to the residence of the Belgian Ambassador was indeed a once in a lifetime opportunity that I enjoyed considerably. The embassy setting was beautiful.

The ornate iron gates securing the residence entrance opened to a beautiful landscaped property and turn of the century two story residence. Tapestry rugs and wonderful art pieces were among the appointments to the home. The ambassador and his wife were most gracious hosts as were the deputy ambassador and their staff. Although there are 350 different varieties of Belgian beer, I was only able to try two during my visit. Both delicious!" – Don Welvaert, Moline Alderman and CBC member.

"Our recent visit served to strengthen the long-standing bonds of friendship and goodwill which have in the past and continue to exist between the citizens of Belgium and the citizens of United States of America. In these challenging times of world unrest and turmoil, direct communication between people of goodwill and diverse backgrounds has become more important than ever. The great nations and citizens of Belgium and the United States of America will weather this current challenging period in world history. I believe that contrary to what some may currently think, the relationship between the citizens of Belgium and the United States will be strengthened by those ideals we hold in common, not weakened by the differences that may temporarily occur between us." - Robert Imler

Honorary Consul Patrick Van Nevel stated: "I was truly honored to be invited to bring a delegation of Quad City leaders to meet with Ambassador and Mrs. Van Daele. We had a wonderful exchange of ideas with the Belgian diplomats which also included Deputy Chief of Mission Jan Luykx, Minister-Counselor Luc Devolder en Secretary and Consul Leo Cortens. The meeting was a great opportunity to get the Quad City leaders better acquainted with Belgium and get the Belgian Diplomats familiar with the Quad Cities. We look forward to host Ambassador and Mrs. van Daele in the Quad Cities in the near future"



Get involved! Come to our Board Meetings! Our meeting date (currently the third Monday of the month) is always published in the newsletter. Want to know more? Please join us at the CBC monthly board meeting at 5:30 p.m. located at the CBC building. Remember, this is **your** organization and the Board invites **your** input. We welcome ideas and inquiries. You will now find the board meeting minutes on the Bulletin Board.



Snowbirds, please remember to let us know when you want your address switched. All other members, please let us know if you have a change of address. You may either e-mail Marlene Shattuck at mglshattuck@qconline.com or write to: CBC Membership, 712 – 18th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265



Help us with the news items: E-mail your article to the newsletter editor, drop it off or mail it to the CBC attn: Newsletter editor. We will try to accommodate your requests.



Scholar Award Program . The deadline for the Scholar Award is April 19, 2004. The purpose of the award is to encourage students of fine character, personality and ability to persist in achieving their educational goals. This fund may be used for college tuition and/or expenses. The award is \$500 and may be awarded to three

individuals. Application packages have been delivered to area high schools. If your high school doesn't have an application and you are interested in the Scholar Award, you may pick up an application at the Center. If you have any questions, you may call Bob VandeWiele, Scholar Award Chairman at 792-8237.



Obituaries.... Albert VanErstvelde, 83, of Moline died Saturday, January 31, 2004, at Trinity Medical Center, Rock Island. Albert was born September 30, 1920, in Brooklyn, Iowa, the son of Camiel and Marie VanAcker VanErstvelde. He married Doris R. Emery July 7, 1951 in Moline. He was a veteran of the Army, having served during World War II. Mr. VanErstvelde retired as an assembler in 1974, after 33 years at the former John Deere Harvester Works, Moline. Survivors include his wife, Doris; a daughter, Theresa Mach, Moline; sons, David, Galesburg, Michael, Lynn Center, Steven, Wickenburg, Ariz., James, Colona, Gregory, Moline, Timothy, Fort Lupton, Colo., and Thomas, Moline. There are 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a sister, Anna Goossens, Moline.



Waffle Breakfast..... A big "Thank You!" goes out to our intrepid February waffle volunteers; Mary Mortier, Roger Verschraegen, Donna Weeks, Ellonyia Yenny, Marlene Shattuck, Scott Raes, Bev Franque and Sandy DeSchinckel. Our March waffle volunteers were Tom Taets, Marlene Shattuck, Mary Mortier, Marti Davenport, Marian Knock, Sandy DeSchinckel, Scott Raes and Werner Gonnison. Thanks again for all you hard work.



The monthly Waffle Breakfast continues to be an excellent revenue source as well as an opportunity to share cultural/communal experiences. We solicit your help in any way that you can - set up, tear down, serving, kitchen duty, whatever. Anyone willing to help can email Jim DeSchinckel at deschinc@mchsi.com or phone Jim at 757-8911. A volunteer sheet will also be available at all waffle breakfasts from now on. Jim is more than happy to accommodate any scheduling needs or requests for a specific time, job, date or anything else to help our members help the Center.



Belgian Bits



Bad news for Belgian cafes; In 1995, there were 14,700 cafes in Belgium. Today, 2003 there are only 11,300. In 2003, 1,200 cafes went bankrupt. From the Gazette Van Detroit, 2-19-04



In Flanders, the most popular baby boys name is "Robbe". The 2nd most popular is Thomas, 3rd is Seanne, 4th is Honas and 5th is Seppe. The most popular girls names are Amber, 2nd is Emma and 3rd is Hulie. From the Gazette Von Detroit 2-19-04.



Belgium's Interbrew and Brazil's AmBev reached an \$11.4 billion deal Wednesday to form the second-largest brewer behind Anheuser-Busch. The companies said their stock transaction is an "alliance," not a merger, because they will operate in different hemispheres, maintain separate stock listings and name four directors each to a combined board. InterbrewAmBev - InterBev for short - will produce 15% of the world's beer, including such brands as Stella Artois, Beck's Bass Ale, Labatt Blue and Rolling Rock. Article from USA Today, March 4, 2004.



1891 - Congressman Ben Coble had Paul DeVigne of Belgium to make a bronze statue for the Coble Monument in Chippianiack Cemetery in Rock Island.



1903 - The Belgian - Holland club was formed at the St. Mary's, Moline, IL. It was the first Belgian social club. In 1970, it became the Belgian - American Club.



1930 - Rolle bolles sold for \$5-7. Thirty one businesses of the "Southwest bluff" (7th street and 18th ave. area) in Moline formed an association with Maurice Goethals as president. Dues were .50 a month.



1904 - The Moline Pigeons Club was formed but pigeon racing came to Moline with the Belgians back in the late 1890's. In the middle 1930's, the high point in the Moline Pigeon Club's history, the organization boasted of over 100 regular fliers. Vic VandeVoorde has been active in this sport for many, many years.



1911 - The Independent Band of East Moline was organized by Cyciel Verbeke. They played for parades and concerts in the bandstand in front of East Moline City Hall.



1915 - Friends Circle Club, Moline, was formed in Note's Band Hall on 18th Ave. The Ladies Auxiliary was organized in 1941.



1941 - The East End Club, Moline, was formed as a social organization.

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



AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Paul & Marie Callens
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00132/0001



Volunteer Information ...

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

Date	Gift Counter	Host/Hostess
Saturday, Apr. 3	Mary Rose De Coster a.m.	Maureen Schweitzer p.m.
Wednesday, Apr 7	Gen Vrombaut	Jon Vrombaut
Saturday, Apr. 10	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wednesday, Apr. 14	Mary Lou Andrea	Clara Van De Veire
Saturday, Apr. 17	Joanne Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wednesday, Apr. 21	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger
Saturday, Apr. 24	Barb Van Nevel	Patrick Van Nevel
Wednesday, Apr. 28	Bev Francque	Stan Francque

Please call Pat Van Nevel at 332-8752 as soon as possible if there is a conflict or if you need to change your scheduled time.