



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org

December

2004

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Genealogy

Bev Fracque

Center for Belgian Culture

OPEN

Wednesday & Saturday

1:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

December 4	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
December 4	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
December 7	Christmas Party	5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
December 20	Board Meeting	5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
December 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS	
January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR	

PLEASE NOTE . . .

There will be no Waffle Breakfast or Lacemakers on January 1, 2005, due to the holiday.



*Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year!*

Birdies for Charity Update

Mary & Larry Lorensen, on behalf of the Center, would like to thank all members who participated in the Birdies for Charity event, which benefited our Center's Scholarship Fund. We have 100%+ fulfillment of pledges for a total, including \$190.72 bonus bucks, of \$2,097.96.



This has been our most successful year to date! Without your participation, this effort would not have been a success. We hope that in 2005 we can once again have your assistance in this endeavor. Thank you again and Happy Holidays!

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 in 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.

Thank You!



The CBC would like to thank **MARY & LARRY LORENSEN** for all their hard work to make the Birdies for Charity event a great success. Thanks again!

November Waffle Report

Art & Linda Van Hecke were the crew chiefs for the month of November. A big THANK YOU goes out to the following helpers:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Art Van Hecke | Bob Bailey |
| Linda Van Hecke | Joan DeCap |
| Barb Van Hecke | Gary DeDecker |
| Al Van Hecke | Janet DeDecker |
| Catherine Van Hecke | Marion Mortier |
| Theresa Bailey | Marion Knock |

Thanks to everyone who helped!

Change of Address

If you have a change of address, please e-mail Marlene Shattuck at mglshattuck@qconline.com



In Memory of . . .

Edward Castelein

January 24, 1909 - October 25, 2004
age 95 of Milan, Illinois
Husband of Marie Mortier Castelein

Anna Brouwers

March 11, 1923 - October 27, 2004
age 81 of East Moline, Illinois
Wife of Edward Brouwers

Victor Standaert

February 19, 1914 - October 28, 2004
age 90 of East Moline, Illinois

Preceded in death by his wife Alice (1/3/98). Victor, a past president of the Center and tireless volunteer, was awarded the honor of Knight in the Order of King Leopold II for his service to the Belgian community. Victor carried that honor with pride, dignity and modesty.

Doris (DePauw) Driessens

April 12, 1914 - November 19, 2004
age 90 of Moline, Illinois

Doris was a former member of the Center and is survived by daughters: Anna Mae Wetzel, Gerri Gerken and Judy Lindner. We thank the family for considering the Center for memorials in Doris' memory.

We sincerely apologize for the late receipt of this newsletter due to technical problems and time constraints. We also seek assistance with the newsletter and ask you to contact President Bob Vande Wiele if you can help.

Thank you!

"Battle of the Bulge" 60th Anniversary

December 16, 2004, will mark the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge. The Battle of the Bulge, which lasted from December 16, 1944, to January 25, 1945, was the largest land battle of World War II in which the United States participated.

More than a million men fought in this battle including some 600,000 Germans, 500,000 Americans, and 55,000 British. The

German military force consisted of two Armies with ten corps (equal to 29 divisions). While the American military force consisted of a total of three armies with six corps (equal to 31 divisions).

At the conclusion of the battle, the casualties were as follows: 81,000 U.S. with 19,000 killed; 1,400 British with 200 killed; and 100,000 Germans killed, wounded or captured.

A Poem titled

"SOME 58 DISTANT YEARS AGO"

The hills of Bastogne were covered in snow.
 The Battle of the Bulge got its start
 As a battle of sacrifices which would never depart
 From the hearts and souls of the young men and women that fought
 The most famous of battles that taught us a lot.

"There is nothing to report",
 "Don't give up," and "Nuts to you"
 these words would follow the soldiers
 through and through.
 Young Americans in foxholes take their command
 It is a lot to expect and much to demand.

Persevere, push on and conquer they did
 With lack of supplies and the conditions torrid.
 The wintry snows and fog would persevere
 Hungry and scared they continued with fear.

In the foxholes they waited for the bombardiers
 To attack the enemy and defend the Belgian frontier.
 Many left blood on the hills of Bastogne
 fighting to protect the freedom of their own.
 The Ardennes, Malmedy and St. Vith to name a few
 Were where the Allies finally flew.

Mothers and fathers waited in the states
 For the news good or bad
 and learn of their son's or daughter's fate.

From December 16 in '44
 To January 25 in '45
 The soldiers fought on to stay alive
 The battle raged on while they held their positions
 The Allies determined to complete their mission.

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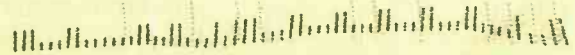
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which was the largest by far,
It surpassed Gettysburg, Vicksburg and Normandy afar
It now holds its place in the history books today
As a battle of courage, that symbolizes the freedom
WE enjoy on this very day.

by Kathy Israelian-Fleming

Cent. Mass. Chapter 22 (Associate Member); V.B.O.B.; Feb. 10, 2003

from: <http://www.battleofthebulge.org/index.html>

December Schedule for Volunteers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Wednesday, December 1st	Joanne Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Saturday, December 4th	Mary Rose DeCoster (a.m.)	Maurine Schweitzer (p.m.)
Wednesday, December 8th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Saturday, December 11th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wednesday, December 15th	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger
Saturday, December 18th	Barbara Van Nevel	Patrick Van Nevel
Wednesday, December 22nd	Al Van Puyvelde	Evelyn Van Puyvelde
Saturday, December 25th	CLOSED	
Wednesday, December 29th	Mary Bruning	Marvin Bruning

Contact Margaret Wadsworth (786-5791) if there is a conflict with your scheduled time.