



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org

July
2005

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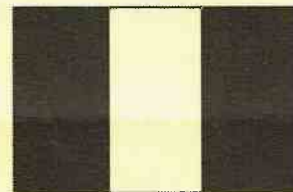
**OPEN Wednesday
& Saturday
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

From the Newsletter Editor

Thank you to all who have so generously given me information to include in the newsletter! Remember, I only know about things if you supply information. My phone number is (563) 322-5436 and my e-mail is Ellonyia@bierbaskets.com.



Happy Anniversary Belgium



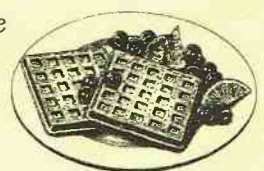
July is the 175th Anniversary of Belgium's Independence and the 25th Anniversary of the federal state! The various entities of the country (i.e. the federal government, the Communities and Regions) are all involved in the organization of some exceptional celebrations. This festive year, which is dedicated to looking forward to the future, encourages and provides many opportunities for coming together. It's all about exchanging ideas between cultures, between generations, between the political, economic and social worlds, and between citizens.

Belgians celebrate a rich national history in which, over a period of 175 years, two major population groups from the Latin and Germanic cultures have learned to live with each other and build a federal state. There are the occasional sparks and splutters, but fireworks are part of any good celebration!

Art Holevoet has planned a new window display at the Center in honor of these anniversaries. Make sure you check it out!

Waffle Chairman Urgently Needed!

Jim DeSchinckel has stepped down as Waffle Chairman. A new Chairman is needed **immediately!** Please contact the Center to volunteer (even on a temporary basis). Thank you!



Ruth Lambrick Van Tieghem Scholarship Fund

The first recipient of the
Ruth Lambrick Van Tieghem Scholarship
was awarded to
SARAH E. CORNELIS.



The scholarship was bestowed at the June meeting and was awarded in the amount of \$1,000.⁰⁰. This scholarship is given to a student who has completed two years of college to help them continue their education. Thanks to the Van Tieghem family for their generous award.

Gift Counter Merchandise

The gift counter has just received a shipment of NEW merchandise. Stop by and see what we have that is new. Remember, t-shirts are a good purchase anytime.



Brussels Museum Exhibit

The Gazette van Detroit reported on an exciting new exhibit. Brussels is host to a new exhibit celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Belgium's independence.

"Made in Belgium" is comprised of over 4,000 rare objects and 72 paintings. The themes are: freedom, music, sports, comics, decorative arts, paintings, adventure, literature, science & technology, folklore & tradition, and the art of living.

Belgian Webcam

Thanks so much to Bill Coopman for supplying the following Belgian webcam site:

www.meteokust.be/meteokust.php?p=210

Birdies for Charity



Mary & Larry Lorensen report that pledges for "Birdies for Charity" are down this year. If you plan to pledge, remember that your form must be turned-in before the start of the John Deere Classic on July 4th. If you have any questions, please call Mary or Larry at 762-6218.

Annual Dinner Thanks

A huge "thank you" goes out to Marlene Shattuck for coordinating the food for the June dinner meeting!



Rolle Bolle at Stephens Park

Come play Rolle Bolle at Stephens Park. There are 16 courts open 8:00 a.m. to dark. It's great exercise and you get to enjoy the outdoors!

Did You Know . . .

Belgium is the largest exporter
of carpets in the world?

In Memory of . . .

Madelaine Wingert, passed on February 12, 2005. She will be dearly missed by those who knew her best.



Memorials Received

The Center would like to thankfully and respectfully acknowledge those individuals who have made contributions to the Center on behalf of a memorial.

In memory of Doris Driessens

- Julius & Judy Lindner
- James & Roberta Moran
- Robert & Carole Lindner
- Frank & Elizabeth Kulas
- East End Ladies Auxiliary

In memory of Earl Witte

- Larry & Mary Lorensen

In memory of Joanne Hoyt

- Bob & Chris Anderson
- Patricia Anderson
- Delores Bultinik
- David & Laura Dellos
- Jo Ann Greko
- Catherine Hartman
- Larry & Mary Lorensen
- Scott & Debbie Raes
- Joe & Alta Reminger
- Maurine Schweitzer
- Marlene & Lon Shattuck
- Gabe & Kay Verstraete
- Pat & Barb Van Nevel
- Albert & Evelyn Van Puyville

The Begonia

Every summer the area around Lochristi, Destelbergen and Laarne undergoes a real metamorphosis. These towns are clothed in a colourful floral dress that attracts crowds of tourists. The reason for this is begonias and azaleas, destined for export. The biggest customer is the Netherlands. Begonias are also much loved in Great Britain, France, the USA, Canada and Russia.

Originally the begonia only grew in subtropical areas of Asia, Africa and America. More than 1,000 wild varieties flower in these areas. The begonia owes its name to Michel Begon, the governor of Haiti, who brought the flower to Great Britain in the 17th century. From there it came to Belgium. At first it came as a pot plant, but then Louis Van Houtte, from Ghent, discovered that this exotic beauty could also survive very well in open beds. This discovery, in the late 19th century, gave the signal for begonia-growing to begin in East Flanders.

The special quality of this flower is that it survives very well in very bad weather and direct sunshine. These characteristics make it perfectly suited for open-air carpets of flowers. Every year begonias from Lochristi have pride of place in carpets of flowers both in Belgium and abroad. Also in Lochristi, Begonia festivals used to be organised with carpets of flowers, but this tradition came to an end with the introduction of new growing techniques.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
AMERICA!**

Celebrate safely
on July 4th



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Paul & Marie Callens
Waterstraat 18
8740 Pittem, Belgium

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

July 2005

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 2	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
July 2	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
August 6	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
August 6	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.



July Schedule for Volunteers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Saturday, July 2nd	Mary Rose DeCoster	Wilma Gusse
Wednesday, July 6th	Evelyn Van Puyvelde	Al Van Puyvelde
Saturday, July 9th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wednesday, July 13th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Saturday, July 16th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wednesday, July 20th	Georgia Slinginger	Louie Slinginger
Saturday, July 23rd	Barbara Van Nevel	Patrick Van Nevel
Wednesday, July 27th	Marvin Brunning	Mary Brunning
Saturday, July 30th	Margaret Wadsworth	Marlene Brown

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