



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265
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www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



August, 2005

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OPEN Wed. & Sat.

1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Waffle Breakfast

1st Sat. of each month

Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 2nd	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
September 2nd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
September 19th	Board Meeting	5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Visit the Center for more information and to stay updated on current events.

Diplomat in the QCA!

The Quad City area notices its fair share of tourists and visitors during the spring and summer months. However, during April 27th through the 30th, the Quad Cities and Augustana College received a visit from not just anybody. His Excellency Frans Baron van Daele, Ambassador of Belgium to the United States, paid a visit to Augustana College. During his stay, he was given many tours of the college, the Quad Cities, John Deere, PB Liner, and many other areas of this great area we all call home.

I come from a strong Belgian heritage, play Rolle Bolle, love Belgian Waffles, and still have relatives in Belgium. So you could picture how excited I was. As soon as I found out, I called my grandmother who was also incredibly excited as I invited her to listen to his lecture at Augustana College on April 28th. She was expecting to go see the Ambassador and listen to his lecture, but nothing more. However, after his speech, I did what she wasn't expecting and introduced her to the Ambassador. They stood there for a few moments and talked of their homeland in Flemish nonetheless. My grandmother, Elsie Lyphout, said afterwards It was nice to brush up on my Flemish!

The night concluded with a reception after the Ambassador's most eloquent speech with drinks and Danish cookies in the lobby. Everybody mingled with the Ambassador a little and had a great time. But soon, it would be time to go home, as the Ambassador had a very long day. Everybody started to go their separate ways, as did my family. I walked them to their car, and wouldn't you know it, the Ambassador and Patrick Van Nevel were right behind us. My grandmother turned around and said Had I been prepared, I would have brought you some homemade Lukken.

Well, any Belgian isn't going to pass up a chance to have homemade lukken, so the Ambassador replied that he would still be there in the morning. Thus, my grandmother went home and prepared a little bag full of lukken for the Ambassador which I had to go pick up and deliver to him before my classes began that morning. He did not waste any time opening the bag. It was like a kid in a candy shop.

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Prince Philippe & Princess Mathilde Visit Washington

From April 18th to 21st, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde were in Washington for a working visit. It was a busy, intense, and at times a tiring week, especially for Princess Mathilde who is expecting a third child.

Since 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, the first stop on the Royal Couple's itinerary was the National Mall where they laid a wreath at the World War II memorial. By this ceremony, which was attended by many veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, the Belgian Royal Family and the Belgian government wished to commemorate and honor the American soldiers who gave their lives for the liberation of Belgium.

The next day, Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde participated in the Conference of the Belgian Network in the U.S., which was organized by the Embassy. Belgium's image in the media and public opinion, developments in the consular sector, trade and investment, and military and judicial cooperation between Belgium and the United States were discussed at the conference. This conference wasn't only attended by heads of states, but our very own Honorary Consul, Patrick Van Nevel, attended this event.

The Royal Couple also attended a panel discussion on microfinance, organized by the faculty and students of Georgetown University's School of Business. Princess Mathilde who is a United Nations Emissary for the International Year of Microcredit in 2005, wrapped up the session by emphasizing the importance of small loans to would-be entrepreneurs in the fight against poverty and discrimination.

A visit to the World Bank was on their program for April 20th. The Prince and Princess were briefed extensively on the development work of this international institution. In the evening, in a ceremony at the Residence of Ambassador van Daele, Prince Philippe bestowed the "Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown" upon Mr. James Wolfensohn, the outgoing President of the World Bank, in recognition of his tireless work over the past ten years to promote development and poverty reduction.

On their last day in Washington, Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde attended a board meeting of the King Baudouin Foundation – United States, which facilitates transatlantic philanthropy and seeks to increase understanding between the U.S. and Europe. Afterwards, while the Prince continued his discussion with the Foundation,

Princess Mathilde, who is a speech therapist, paid a visit to Gallaudet University, the only university in the world for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

Article from Belgium Today, vol 10.3

Have an article you would like to see put in the newsletter? Have a Belgian human interest story? Have an event that you would like to promote? Simply send your ideas to the newsletter editor at belgiannewsletter@yahoo.com.

DIPLOMAT

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It was an exciting event, being able to meet and talk with a diplomat of such a high status. For me, it was more than just an experience I received through college. It was a part of my heritage, to which I am so proud of. Augustana College and the Quad Cities is so grateful to have entertained Ambassador van Daele. His Excellency was grateful to the hospitality of my grandmother that night as well, when just a few weeks later she received a handwritten thank-you letter from his residence in Washington, DC. Needless to say, she has framed both the picture of us three and the letter from the Ambassador to treasure always.



Elsie Lyphout, Josh Lyphout and His Excellency Frans Baron van Daele

Scholarship Winners

Katie Sleaford, Jennifer Raes, and Jacob Schrader are the winners of the Center's college scholarship. Congratulations to these three students who have worked hard all through high school and will pursue with great effort during their next level of academia.

Jacob Schrader, from Alleman High School in Rock Island, will be attending Iowa State in Ames, Iowa, this fall. As of right now, his intended major is computer engineering. He is a member of Kiwanis and Key Club, as well as many sports and charity events. He was captain of the sophomore basketball team and a junior Rotarian. He has been awarded with the National Honor Roll, National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American Students, Who's Who in Sports, Chamber of Commerce, Illinois State Scholar, and many more. He enjoys lifting weights, basketball, video games and playing cards in his free time.

Jennifer Raes, from Moline Senior High School, will be attending University of Iowa with an intended major of elementary education. She has been a member of Key Club, Crime Stoppers, Adopt a Park, Moline Kiwanis, and Sacred Heart Church. She also volunteers at our very own waffle breakfasts. She has been awarded with the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, and a letter winner and active member of the Moline Girls Tennis team.

Katie Sleaford, from Annawan High School, will be attending St. Ambrose University with an intended Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and a minor in Biology. She has been a member of the Kewanee Elks and a D.A.R.E. role model. She has been awarded with a nomination to the National Youth Leadership Forum on Nursing, National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American Students, and the United States Achievement Academy.

Stay tuned for further information on these fine young students. For the next three months, one of their essays will appear in the newsletter. Congratulations to them once again on a job well done.

Holland, Belgium & Paris Trip

Tulip time in Amsterdam! Come along with Diane Gelaude on a fabulous 10-Day leisurely Collette Tour of Holland, Belgium, and Paris featuring historic Bruges April 20-29, 2006. Meet the people. Experience the charm and culture of three countries! Cruise the canals; visit the countryside. Highlights in Amsterdam include the Royal Palace, Anne Frank's house, the Royal Delft Pottery Factory, the beautiful Keukenhof Gardens & the world's largest flower market in Aslmeer. Step back in time in mediaval Bruges.

Wander the streets & canals, visit the shops, see the lace-makers at work, sample the chocolate. Explore Brussels. See the Royal residences, the Atomium and the splendor of the Grand Place. Then it's all aboard the high speed train for the exciting city of Paris. See the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame, the Champs-Elysees, the Louvre museum and the famed Mona Lisa painting. End with a special dinner at the Eiffel Tour and cruise along the River Seine. Optional Paris nights available.

The price is \$3,099 per person based on double occupancy. Rate includes air from Moline or Chicago, 1st class hotels, most meals, taxes and airport transfers. Optional travel insurance is \$180 per person. Space is limited. This is a very popular tour. Reservations need to be made as soon as possible. Deposit is only \$250 per person plus the insurance.

For reservations contact Diane Gelaude at Blue Horizon Travel 800-939-4334 (e-mail: vacation@bluehorizon.net) or Marlene Shattuck 309-234-5486.



Schedule for Volunteers

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Wednesday, August 17th	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger
Saturday, August 20th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wednesday, August 24th	Mary Brunning	Marvin Brunning
Saturday, August 27th	Barbara Van Nevel	Patrick Van Nevel
Wednesday, August 31st	Barbara Michalek	Lillian DeClerck

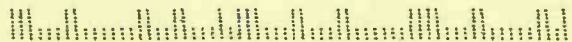
Contact Margaret Wadsworth (786-5791) if there is a conflict with your scheduled time.

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712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265



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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

August, 2005

Time for Rolle Bolle

Have you been yearning for a taste of the "old country?" Well you are in luck. The United Bolder Club of Western Illinois is halfway through its 83rd season. You still have plenty of time to participate and enjoy a tradition that is older than Belgium itself. Listed below is the schedule for the remainder of the season. The center has a more detailed schedule as well.

– Western League Games –

Games are at 1:00 p.m. unless otherwise stated

Aug. 21st East End
Aug. 28th Geneseo Moose
Sept. 4th Belgian Center – Stephens Park
Sept. 5th Hand N' Hand – Empire Park
Sept. 11th Championship – Empire Park
(11:00 a.m.)

– Other Games –

Aug. 13th Manlius Fun Days
Sept. 3rd Kewanee Hog Days
Sept. 5th Dispatch Mixed – Stephens Park
(9:00 a.m.)
Sept. 17th Atkinson Fall Fest

A Brief History of Rolle Bolle:

Rolle Bolle is an old-aged tradition for Belgians. It is said to have developed around the same time as Horseshoes and Bocce Ball. All of these games were developed to practice a persons skill and luck. These games were part of old church gatherings and was enhanced into a secular game. Today, people all over participate in this game for fun and fellowship.

**Don't forget to visit the Belgian Culture Center for all of your Gift Ideas.
With new Arrivals, you won't want to miss out!**