



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



September, 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 3rd	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
September 3rd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
September 19th	Board Meeting	5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
October 1st	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
October 1st	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
October 17th	Board Meeting	5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

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

Happy Anniversary Belgium

From Skyteam.com

In 2005 Belgium celebrates the 175th anniversary of its independence and its 25th anniversary as a federal state. To mark the occasion, Brussels' Dexia Art Centre is hosting the 300-day long exhibit "Made in Belgium."

If you think Belgium is only famous for beer and chocolate, think again. As the title suggests, this impressive exhibition draws on Belgium's artistic heritage and talent - past and present. Showcasing traditional and contemporary works by renowned artists, inventors, scientists and explorers, the event turns the spotlight on the country's prominent cultural and linguistic diversity.

Twelve themes pinpoint Belgium's unique character - including music, plastic arts, literature, leisure and folklore, cartoons and technology. There are also special focuses on distant horizons, national tastes and the Belgian institutional model.

National stars making an appearance range from physicist Ernest Solvay and architect Victor Horta to cartoon favourite Tintin.

For more information, visit www.events.skyteam.com

Planning a trip to Belgium? Feel like you need a trip to Belgium? Contact our members Bonnie Newman or Diane Gelaude for information concerning traveling and just what to do when you arrive in Belgium.

For those who have been to Belgium and would like to share their stories of interest, please write to us or email at belgiannewsletter@yahoo.com

Thank You!!!!

There are many people that the Center for Belgian Culture wishes to thank. First and foremost, a huge thank you goes out to all the Volunteers who spend so much time to keep the Center for Belgian Culture of Western Illinois going month after month. Without them, we would have no organization to call our own.

Second, thank you to all those who donated to the Birdies for Charities and Mary Kay & Larry Lorensen who organized our birdies campaign. As you might know already, this is how we funded the scholarship awards to Katie Sleaford, Jennifer Raes and Jacob Schrader.

A big thanks to Arthur Holevoet for the outstanding work he did with the window display at the Center. It's sure to catch people's eyes as they walk by.

Also, be sure to thank the workers at the waffle breakfast and the Wednesday & Saturday volunteers. Once again, thank you to all those great people who keep us going. The Center greatly appreciates it!

If you are interested in helping the Center out and volunteering your time and talents, please sign up at the Center or contact Margaret Wadsorth (786-5791).

In order to continue to serve the Western Illinois Belgian community, we must have the support of its members. After all, the Club is yours!

Don't forget to visit the Center for your Clothing & Gift Needs!
With new items arriving, you won't want to miss out!

A Taste of Home

from Starpoint.net

Now is the time for all loyal Flemish Americans to rally behind their "lukijzers" and bake the traditional New Year's treat called "lukken." Not found in the standard Dutch dictionaries, the word "lukke" is listed in DeBo's "West-vlaam-sch Idioticon," a two-volumes dictionary of typical West Flemish words and expressions, published in 1870. The word "lukke" is defined as a "thin, solid little wafer, usually oval-shaped, baked of flour, butter and sugar." Lukken are given mostly as New Year's treats, and therefore, they are also called "Nieuwjaarswafeltjes." The expression "Het gaat lijk lukken bakken," it goes like baking lukken, is said of something that can be done fast and easily.

The word "luk" is derived from the word "geluk," which can be translated *good luck, good fortune, happiness*, as in the expression "luk of raak" *hit or miss*. Similarly the verb "lukken" is a form of "gelukken," *to succeed*, whereas "mis-lukken" means *to fail*. The adjective "gelukkig" means *happy* and is the usual Dutch word in greetings and good wishes for New Years, birthdays, feast days, etc., such as "Gelukkig Nieuwjaar," *Happy New Year*.

To treat or greet someone on the occasion of the New Year was also called "lukken," as in the saying "Ik ga morgen gaan lukken," *tomorrow I'm going "lukken,"* or "Hij heeft zijn meter gelukt," *he has "gelukt" his godmother*.

So don't forget to wish your loved ones happiness with "lukken" by ordering **electric lukken irons which will be on sale starting September 3rd at the Waffle Breakfast**. What a great way to kick off fall, by baking the traditional good luck cookie of the place we call home.

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Scholarship Recipient's Essay

This month and for the next two months, we have a treat for our readers. We are publishing the essays of the students who were awarded with the Center for Belgian Culture's Scholarships. This month, we present Katie Sledford's essay. (The order in which they appear are in no particular manner or rank.) Congratulations once again to these fine young students for their dedication and hard work.

FAMILY HERITAGE

by Katie E. Sleaford

In order to understand the world around us, I feel we must understand our heritage. Our heritage is the status acquired by a person through birth. Heritage is passed from one generation to another. Heritage can take many forms including affluence, social position, character, religion, morals, dress, foods, traditions, and most important story telling. By understanding some important ideas of the past, it will help us understand the world around us and continue to independently develop for future generations.

There are many factors that go into determining the path we take; the most significant of these is the heritage we are born into. I was born into a very strong Catholic Belgium family. In order to understand your heritage, you must know your family tree. The following is a brief explanation of my ancestors. My great-great grandfather, Philemon Van DeVoorde, 5th generation, was born in Bouchoute, Belgium. My great grandfather, Cyriel DeFauw, 4th generation, was born in Ruiselede, Belgium. They were very brave and independent young men who immigrated to the United States and settled in Henry County. They were farmers who worked very hard to make a better life for their children. Their descendents are my great grandfather, Henry Van De Voorde, and my grandparents, Howard and Roberta (DeFauw) Van De Voorde. My mother's name is Carolyn (Van De Voorde) Sleaford.

The land that was settled and farmed by my family has been passed down from generation to generation and is a huge part of my heritage. It is very important to my family to continue to see this happen. Currently, my mom and I live on a piece of this land. The land signifies the pride and accomplishments our family has achieved. It has provided income and security for our family for many years and will continue to in the future.

My opinion of my heritage has been highly influenced by my large family and their strong bonds. Our large family gatherings always include many varieties of food including my favorite, raisin bread. Those who attend always entertain themselves with playing cards and rolle bolle. During this time there are many stories told of old times. Some bring much laughter to the party and some tell of

hard times and work. I listen to the stories that tell about their history, characters, personal struggles and accomplishments, and the hope for the future.

Our home is filled with reminders of our heritage. My mom displays lace doillies and quilts. She shares with me which relative handmade the item and the history behind them. We also have many antique pieces which are constant reminders of our heritage.

Finally, I feel very fortunate that my family has chosen to share their heritage with me. I find it as a meaningful tool to understand them and their faith, beliefs, customs and culture. My mom has organized an ancestor chart so I will always know my heritage and to share the information with my children. I feel much of the knowledge I have acquired from family, about our heritage, has influenced who I am and my career choices. I especially know I have acquired my determination to fulfill my career goals and aspiration from my driven family heritage.

A little bit about Katie . . .

A native of Annawan, Illinois, she attended Annawan High School with achievements in National Youth Leadership Forum of Nursing, National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American High School Students, United States Achievement Academy, and D.A.R.E. It's easy to see why she is going to St. Ambrose University to receive a degree in nursing because she describes her favorite school course work as anything in the sciences and history. She enjoys learning about the human body, both physically and mentally, and enjoys learning history with an emphasis on difference cultures. Her Great Uncle Hubert Van De Voorde is a member of the Center for Belgian Culture and has every right to be very proud of his great niece. Congratulations to Katie once again.

Sept. Schedule for Volunteers

Date	Gift Counter	Host/Hostess
Sept. 3rd	Mary Rose DeCoster	Barbara Michalek
Sept. 7th	Evelyn Van Puyvelde	Al Van Puyvelde
Sept. 10th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Sept. 14th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sept. 17th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Sept. 21st	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger
Sept. 24th	Barbara Van Nevel	Patrick Van Nevel
Sept. 28th	Mary Brunning	Marvin Brunning

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

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Paul & Marie Callens
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8740 Pittem, Belgium



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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

September, 2005

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Compared to the large waves of emigration from other countries, emigration from Belgium to the U.S. and Canada has always been on a small scale. Yet, the heritage of the organizations for Belgian emigrants abroad is part of a history that deserves to be remembered. Over the last few decades, several attempts have been made to collect documentation relating to Belgian emigration to the U.S. and scholarly body. As part of its research into the migration of Belgians to different parts of the world, KADOC would like to offer its experience and knowledge to coordinate the collection and preservation of the archives of the Belgian Clubs in the U.S. and Canada.

KADOC, which is a heritage and research centre, collects records on religion, culture and society in Belgium from 1750 to the present. These records are very diverse both in form and content and cover many topics. They include the records of organizations and individuals, books, brochures, journals and magazines, digital publications, audiovisual materials, etc. These records are professionally stored and promotes and supports research based on these sources and makes it available to a wide public through its

own publications, exhibitions and consultancy. KADOC is part of the K.U.Leuven, the largest university in Belgium, and is recognized as a private archive by the Flemish Community Government.

For some time, KADOC has been interested in scholarly research into migration, work and inculturation. The initiative for this project on the archives of Belgian Clubs in the U.S. and Canada grew out of KADOC's contacts in the midwest U.S. KADOC would like to investigate further the extent to which similar archive materials is available in other places in the U.S. and Canada, and how this could be collected, eventually microfilmed and evaluated for research.

This is truly a great opportunity for our organization, as well as others in the U.S. and Canada to participate in a database that will forever have information on our ancestors and the ancestors that will be. For more information, visit www.kadoc.kuleuven.ac.be or email postmaster@kadoc.kuleuven.be.