



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265
(309) 762-0167
www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



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March, 2007

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 3rd	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
March 3rd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
March 12th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
April 7th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
April 7th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
April 9th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

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

Schedule for Volunteers

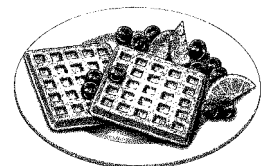
The March schedule is as follows:

Date	Gift Counter	Host/Hostess
Sat., March 3rd	Celie Donohue (AM)	Maurine Schweitzer (PM)
Wed., March 7th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., March 10th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., March 14th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sat., March 17th	Al Hoyt	Gene Donohue
Wed., March 21st	Celie Donohue	Marvin Brunning
Sat., March 24th	Mary Brunning	Mary Rose DeCoster
Wed., March 28th	Mary Rose DeCoster	Mary Rose DeCoster
Sat., March 31st	Millie Kale	Millie Kale

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

DON'T FORGET "BENEFIT" WAFFLE BREAKFAST

Our March waffle breakfast, March 3rd, will benefit Travis Hearn, to help offset his rehabilitation costs. If you can't come to the breakfast, a box for donations is located on the gift counter at the CBC.



Center OPEN Wednesday & Saturday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Waffle Breakfast 1st Sat. of each month

With Deepest Sympathies . . .

Mary L. Coopmans, 100, of Chesterfield, MO, formerly of Moline, died Wednesday, January 24, 2007, at Sunrise Assisted Living in Chesterfield. Services were held on January 27th at Trimble Funeral Home and Christ the King Church, both in Moline. Burial was in Moline Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to Unity Health Hospice Memorial Fund, 1000 Des Peres Road, #200-B, St. Louis, MO 63131.

Mrs. Coopmans was born November 2, 1906, in Atkinson, IL, the daughter of Leopold and Emma Lecleir Cauwels. She married Louis P.J. Coopmans on November 8, 1927, in Atkinson. He passed away May 3, 2000.

Mary worked as a beautician in Moline for many years and she and her husband were longtime Moline residents.

Survivors include her grandchildren and their spouses, Howard and Diane Coopmans, Rochester Hills, MI, Carrie and Kevin Harrison, Wildwood, MO, and Corry and Vicki Coopmans, Wildwood, and four great-grandchildren. Her husband; son and daughter-in-law, Lloyd and Kathleen Coopmans; a nephew, three brothers and one sister preceded her in death.

Jean . DeRoo, 96, of Moline, died Friday, January 19, 2007, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, 2007, at DeRoo Funeral Home and Sacred Heart Church, both in Moline. Entombment was at St. Mary's Mausoleum, East Moline. Memorials may be made to Seton School or Alleman High School.

Jean was born October 20, 1910, in Rock Island, the daughter of Charles and Mary Allen Tonn. She married Eugene DeRoo on February 13, 1934, in Rock Island. He preceded her in death on September 3, 1990.

Jean was a graduate of St. Joseph's High School and a 1931 graduate of St. Anthony's School of Nursing, Rock Island. She practiced as a nurse at the former St. Anthony's Hospital. She was a committed parishioner at Sacred Heart Church in Moline, as well as a member of the National Catholic Society of Foresters, Sacred Heart Court 956, Sacred Heart Altar and Rosary Society, was an active member of Short Hills Country Club, and an avid bridge player.

Together with her husband, Gene, they established DeRoo Funeral Home in 1936. They served their community and volunteered for many decades at the former Sacred Heart School in Moline, Alleman High School, and Seton School.

Her survivors include daughters and sons-in-laws Carol and Bill Hanrahan, Toledo, OH, Patricia and Larry Rafferty, Moline, Pamela and Dr. Paul O Conner, Oshkosh, WI, Katherine and Wayne Peterson, Moline, Janet and Tim Hufford, Moline; and son and daughter-in-law Kevin and Janis DeRoo, Moline, 25 grandchildren and 37 great-grandchildren.

Rose Marie VanderMeersch, 82, of Sheffield, IL, passed away Tuesday, January 30, 2007, at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. Services were held at Vandemore Funeral Home, Atkinson, and at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Sheffield. Burial was in St. Anthony's Cemetery, Atkinson. Memorials can be made to St. Patrick's Church, Sheffield Rescue Unit, or the American Diabetes Association.

Rose was born on December 3, 1924, in Moline, the daughter of Rene and Maria Goethals Lootens. She was a graduate of Sacred Heart School in Moline and was salutatorian of the class. She married Robert VanderMeersch on November 25, 1944, in Moline.

She started her working career at Modern Woodmen of America, where she established its news bulletin. Later she worked in the advertising department of the Kewanee Star-Courier, and most recently was a press setter at the Sheffield Bulletin. She was a member of St. Patrick's Church, Sheffield, and its Altar and Rosary Society and Bible Study Club.

Survivors include her husband, Robert; one daughter (and spouse), Mary Jane (Richard) Carlucci, Plainfield, IN; sons (and spouses) Joseph (fianc e Amy), Princeton, IL, Allan (Sandra), Ladd, IL, Thomas (Jacqueline), Rock Island, Keith (Wendee), Sheffield, Randall (Karla), Yorkville, IL, Lynn, Sheffield, Terry (Cressi), Gurney, IL, Dennis, Springfield, Timothy (Darcy), Knoxville, TN; 21 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. One brother and two sisters preceded her in death.

Robert F. Van De Castele, 84, of East Moline and formerly of Moline, died Friday, February 2, 2007, at Trinity Medical Center, Rock Island. Funeral services were February 6th, at DeRoo Funeral Home and Sacred Heart Church, both Moline. Burial was in National Cemetery, Arsenal Island, Rock Island, IL. Memorials may be made to the church.

The President's Corner

Try as we may, sometimes we just forget to thank people for what they do for us. One of those people is Bev Franque, our genealogist. I came upon a Thank You from Willy VanSevenant of Canada, thanking Bev for all she had done for him and his donation to the Center. Bev has had some health problems, but continues to serve the Center well.

Also, a big thank you to Debbie Raes. Debbie was the buyer for the Kleine Winkel for several years. She managed to "find" some rather nice pieces of linen and lace for the Center. In particular are tissue box covers with different designs in lace. I have the Brussels tape lace one, only I had to go to Belgium to buy it. Just think of that . . . you can have choice lace and don't have to purchase a plane ticket.

Thank you to Josh Lyphout, who was our Newsletter editor for some time and did a fine job. He is a student at Augustana College

Margaret Wadsworth deserves a round of applause, as she has been the coordinator for the weekly gift counter workers and host/hostess teams. Margaret has been doing this for many years. If you can volunteer for one of these spots, don't hesitate to contact her.

Thank you to our "behind-the-scenes" Belgian Leprechauns!!!

Celie Donohue

Congratulations

Bishop Daniel Jenky has appointed longtime CBC member Mary Welling as president of the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. As president, Mary will conduct the group's monthly meetings in Peoria and will oversee committees on legislature, church, family and international concerns, and prison ministry.

Mary has been a teacher, coach, and athletic director at St. Anne's School in East Moline, a special education teacher at Rock Island High School, and a very active member of Sacred Heart Parish. At Sacred Heart she serves as lector, "extraordinary minister of Holy Communion," National Catholic Order of Foresters president, Altar and Rosary Society president, and pastoral care giver. She received the Pere Marquette Award for outstanding service to her church in 2004.

Time to Apply for Scholar Awards

Applications are available at area schools and at the CBC for three \$500 scholar awards for high school seniors. The purpose of the award is to encourage students of fine character, personality, and ability to persist in achieving their educational goals and can be used towards college tuition and/or expenses. The applications should be returned by April 9th and the awards will be given to the recipients at the CBC Annual Meeting. See application for complete details.

College and Graduate students, the Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem scholarship could help you with your college expenses. Applicants must have completed at least two years of college and plan to continue their education. This \$1,000 scholarship is offered in memory of Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem. Ruth was a loving wife, devoted mother, and grandmother. She valued family and knew the importance of a good education. Applications are available at the CBC and will be delivered to area colleges for distribution.

THANK YOU To WIMAN TRUST

A special Thank You to the C.D. Wiman Memorial Trust for its recent gift of \$1,000. This award is available to tax exempt organizations that provide services to the citizens of Moline. The money will be used to offset costs for updates to the Center's electrical system.

Sympathies

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Robert was born February 18, 1922, to Rene and Mary Maere Van De Castele. He married Francis J. Joie Meersman in 1947. He was a member of Sacred Heart Church, Moline American Legion Post 246, the Catholic Order of Foresters, and the Ex-Servicemen's Club.

Survivors (and spouses) include his wife, Joie; children Mary (Col. John) Hotchens, North Richland Hills, TX, James (Susan), Bettendorf, IA, Michael (Teri), Norfolk, VA, Gary (Rhonda), Coal Valley, Mark (Barbara), Plano, TX, and Jeffrey (Karen) Eldridge, IA; sisters Joyce Ullmark, Moline, and Joan Mulliken, Stockton, CA; brothers Raymond and Ralph, both of Moline; 16 grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Mrs. Louis Van De Castele. Son John, sister Marian Plavak and brothers Louis and Francis Van De Castele preceded him in death.

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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

March, 2007

Lotenhulle Never Forgot

Eduard (later Edward) Coryn was born in Lotenhulle, Belgium in 1857 to Leonard Coryn and Jeanne Catharine Schatteman.

Until the age of 11 or 12, he attended the local school in Lotenhulle. The façade of that former boys' school bears a plaque in Edward's honor.

The Coryn family moved to Aalter and eventually to America in 1881. Edward's first job was at a Moline sawmill, but he later rose to the position of assistant manager and board member of the Moline Trust and Savings Bank. He married Maria DeVoghelaere in 1898.

In 1914, he was appointed postmaster for Moline and in 1919 he became Consul for Belgium.

The Coryns had five children: Catharine, Mary, Anna, Joseph, and Anthony. Mary married Celest Verbeke and settled in Brugge (in-laws of former Belgian premier Jean-Luc Dehaaene).

On June 19, 1971, Edward Coryn was honored in Lotenhulle on the 50th anniversary of his death. A plaque by sculptor Gerard Mestdagh was installed as a

permanent memorial to the man who had assisted so many Belgians coming to western Illinois.

Consul Ralph DePorter of Moline unveiled the plaque in the presence of two of Edward's daughters, Marie from Brugge and Catharine from Moline.

Recently, a street in a new subdivision of Lotenhulle, which is now part of Aalter, was named after Edward Coryn. The town has never forgotten one of its important native sons.

Thanks to the Gazette Van Detroit



Text on Plaque:

**EDWARD CORYN
LOTENHULLE 1857
MOLINE USA 1927
BELGIAN CONSUL
HE WAS A FATHER TO
OUR PEOPLE IN AMERICA**

photo by Paul Callens