



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



July, 2007

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 7th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
July 7th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
July 9th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
August 4th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
August 4th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
August 13th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
August 13th	Volunteer Dinner	5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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

## Schedule for Volunteers

The July schedule is as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Wed., July 4th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., July 7th	Celie Donohue (AM)	Maurine Schweitzer (PM)
Wed., July 11th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sat., July 14th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., July 18th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., July 21st	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., July 25th	Georgia Slininger	Louis Slininger
Sat., July 28th	Mary Rose DeCoster	Mary Rose DeCoster

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

## The Kleine Winkel

Coming this fall . . . new BELGIAN COOKBOOKS! This will be the third addition of those wonderful recipes of the first Belgians to settle in this area. The book has a new "old world" look and a hard cover. Cost of the book will be \$14.95.

FYI, the Center still has about six of the second addition cookbooks for sale at \$12.00/ea. If you'd like to purchase a book at the old price, hurry while the supply lasts.

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

## The President's Corner

As July 31st is the end of our fiscal year, we will hold our Annual Meeting on July 16th at 7:00 pm. Any member of the CBC may attend this meeting and light refreshment will be provided. If you are interested in the Center's fiscal health and future direction, please join us.

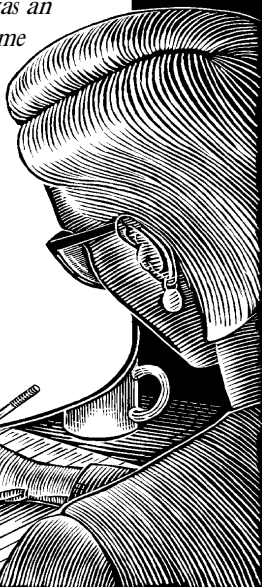
It's been said many, many times, but never enough. *Thank You Volunteers*, one and all!! Without you there would be no Center for Belgian Culture.

To pay tribute to the many helping hands, there will be a Volunteers Dinner, August 13th. It will begin at 5:30 pm with sandwiches provided by the Belgian Village. There is no cost to volunteers. A donation box for those who attend as a guest will be available, so if a friend or spouse drives you, don't let that stop you from enjoying the evening. Please call Evelyn VanPuyvelde (764-8042) for reservations by August 8th.

Dolores Bultnick deserves a special Thank You for re-organizing over 3,000 death/memorial cards. All are in alphabetical order in plastic sleeves on the top shelf of the bookcase in the middle of the room at the CBC. They're a tremendous help in a genealogy search. Delores did this from her home. If anyone else would like to volunteer for an "at home" project, please call me at 792-8246.

Also, I'd like to send a very special "Get Well" to Mary Mortier from all of us at the CBC!

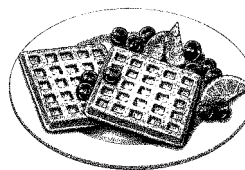
Celie Donohue



*On Saturday June 2nd, we visited the Center for Belgian Culture and had a delicious Belgian waffle breakfast. Sitting at the large table and exchanging stories with Belgian locals was an added treat. After breakfast, we spent time looking through the ring binders with material on Belgian-American history. The binders have one-of-a-kind documents and clippings, and we may come back to study them more.*

*Thank you and tot wederziens,*

*Marie Bousfield  
400 E. Randolph, Apt 2609  
Chicago, IL 60601*



## Waffle Volunteer Recognition

**Your Memorial Day waffle volunteers were Lou and Georgia Slininger, Art and Paul Holevoet, Gene Donohue, Theresa and Bob Bailey, Art and Linda VanHecke, Louise Stritesky, Joan DeCap, and Georgia VanMelkebeke.**

**June waffle volunteers were Catherine VanHecke, Mike Kerchove, Bob and Elaine Hendrickx, Ralph Vroman, Mary and Larry Lorensen, Mille Kale, Joan DeCap, Barb Michalek, and Gene Fowler.**

**THANK YOU to all of you for handling two waffle breakfasts in one week!**

## Congratulations

CBC member Gene Fowler's daughter and son-in-law, Wendi Fowler and Jack Voth, have been awarded the 2007 Small Business of the Year Award by the Bonita Springs, Florida, Chamber of Commerce. Their company, The Client Server, provides technology solutions for a growing list of customers. The firm has also been awarded Microsoft Corporation's Gold Partner designation.

Father Mark DeSutter celebrated his 25th anniversary of ordination on June 10th with a Mass and reception at Blessed Sacrament Church in Morton. The son of Joseph and Mary DeSutter, Father Mark grew up in St. Joseph's Parish in Kewanee, Illinois. He graduated from St. Meinrad College and St. Meinrad School of Theology. He was ordained on May 29, 1982, by Bishop Edward O'Rourke at St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria. He has served as an assistant pastor at St. Pius X in Rock Island and Holy Trinity in Bloomington. He ministered at the Newman Foundation at the University of Illinois and served as chaplain at the Newman Center at Western Illinois University. He was named pastor at Blessed Sacrament in Morton in 2000.

## Scholarship Evening Success

The Center's annual Scholarship Dinner was a huge success with a full house of members, along with all four recipients and their families in attendance. The CBC winners were Laura Cornelis, Amy Nelson, and



(l-r) Courtney VandeWiele, Amy Nelson, Laura Cornelis, and Ryan Mendoza

Courtney VandeWiele. Presenting the awards was Bob VandeWiele, the CBC's dedicated Scholarship Chairman, who also happened to be the proud grandfather of Courtney. In case you are wondering, Bob goes to great lengths to secure judges who are in no way connected with the CBC.

The Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem winner was Ryan Mendoza. This scholarship is awarded to a deserving student who has completed at least two years of college and plans to continue his or her education. The award was presented by Rick VanTieghem, who along with his sister Carol Haines, choose the winner. Ryan's proud grandfather is CBC Treasurer Al Hoyt.

Diane DeBord catered the meal, prepared with Belgian recipes. Many thanks go to all members who treated the diners and guests with their favorite deserts.

After the meal, everyone enjoyed the lively auction led by Jim and Al DeCap and their assistant Pam. Hot items were the hand crocheted purses, made in Belgium, and donated by Evelyn VanPuyvelde. Laura Cornelis and Sally Mendoza were the high bidders for those. A huge basket of dishware, donated by Margaret Fogel, brought a tidy sum, as did the 1938 National Geographic magazine with page after page of every region of Belgium. Art Holevoet snagged that item. It seemed like Art and Sally were the big "check writers" of the evening. Celie Donohue even managed to go home with two more Anton Pieck prints for her collection.

Through the efforts of the DeCap Auction Co., the bidders added \$300 to the CBC treasury. And special thanks go to Mary and Larry Lorensen and Bob VandeWiele. The Lorensens work all year promoting this event through Birdies for Charity and Bob works tirelessly with the Center and area schools. All three donate countless hours towards the betterment of young people and in making this annual event happen.

In this and further issues of the Newsletter, we will publish each recipients heritage essay.

## Scholarship Recipients

Over the next four months, we will publish the heritage essays of our scholarship winners. Our first installment was written by Laura Cornelis. Laura is the daughter of Mary and Bill Cornelis and a graduate of Alleman High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society, was both on the Principal's List and a Rev. John O'Conner Scholar for four years. She has won many awards during her high school career including excellent and superior ratings in IHSA vocal music competitions. Laura will attend Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa.

### LAURA CORNELIS HERITAGE ESSAY

Even though my Belgian father likes to think otherwise, my Irish roots run deep in my heart and soul. My heritage is, however, a mix. I have Irish, Belgian, and Norwegian blood in me, and my family celebrates them all. From rolle bolle to wearing green, celebrating our culture is a great part of my family's joy.

My mother is very Irish and Saint Paddy's Day has always been a big day of celebration for us. Green is worn and the parade is great entertainment. The Irish flag was often flown outside my grandparents' home. It was there at my grandparents' that I first heard my grandfather humming the tune "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling." As a child, I questioned him about it. And then I questioned him further on how eyes could smile. My Grandpa Larry tried his best to explain it to me, but I did not realize the full meaning of the song until I was in high school. Part of the song reads:

For your smile is a part of the love in your heart,  
and it makes even sunshine more bright . . .  
Let us smile each chance we get.  
When Irish eyes are smiling, sure 'tis like  
the morn in Spring.  
In the lilt of Irish laughter, you can hear the angels sing.  
When Irish hearts are happy, all the world seems  
bright and gay,  
And when Irish eyes are smiling, sure, they steal  
your heart away.

This song is a traditional part of my heritage, but it is also a philosophy of life, one that I have taken as my own. The song's message is to try one's best to be a light. Try and let your little light shine constantly, from the inside of your heart out. A twinkle of the eye and a great big smile

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### Laura Cornelis Heritage Essay

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are true signs of the love in your heart. Smiles and laughter seem to have an unseen power. They show one's light of love to the world!

Although I do feel very much an Irish girl, I am also Belgian and Norwegian. I learned what a rolle bolle was at a very young age. The stakes were always set up at Cornelis family gatherings. A rolle bolle has become tradition in my own immediate family as a graduation gift. My two older sisters have both received theirs. Being a senior this year, I am looking forward to my very own rolle bolle with my name engraved on it. Memorial Day has become a celebration of my Belgian heritage. Usually the whole family walks to the Belgian Culture Center for waffles. My mom makes special Belgian waffles for the family on Christmas and Easter mornings. She has also taught us how to make fattimann, a traditional Norwegian Christmas cookie. My grandmother made them with her, and now we look forward each year to making them together.

This coming fall, I will be heading off to school. While Belgian waffles and Norwegian cookies will not be possible in my dorm, I will take my heritage and traditions with

me. I am very excited about the chance to abroad as well. I have watched my sisters venture off to Europe and have only gotten to hear of the many sites and enchanting cultural experiences. I have seen pictures and have been given mementos from many countries, but I have my hopes set on Ireland. I plan to study there for a semester, but I also plan to travel to many countries, including Belgium, to see our cousins.

I will miss celebrating special heritage days with my family while I am away at school, but I will bring my heritage and traditions with me to learn and celebrate even more with others. I am rooted here, in the Quad Cities, in my family, in our cultural traditions, but I am anxious to see the world. I look forward to many opportunities to learn more about the Irish, Belgian, and Norwegian cultures, which will enable me to embrace them further.

#### REMEMBER . . .

Catherine VanHecke is still looking for someone to help fry sausages for the waffle breakfasts. If you can help, please call Catherine at 755-8363 for the details.

And if you haven't made a pledge to Birdies for Charity, please consider doing so.