



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



October, 2007

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Celie Donohue

Vice President

Evelyn Van Puyvelde

Secretary

JoAnn Greko

Treasurer

Alan Hoyt
backhome1@mchsi.com

Member at Large

Art Holevoet

Grant Committee Chair

Scott Raes

Past President

Scholarship Committee

Robert VandeWiele

Honorary Consul

Patrick Van Nevel
pvannevel@msn.com

Membership

Bill Coopman

Waffle Chairman

Catherine VanHecke

Flemings in the World

Marlene Shattuck

Genealogy

Bev Franque

Newsletter Editor

Dave Coopman
d.coopman@mchsi.com

Publicity

Chris Van Lancker

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 6th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
October 6th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
October 8th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
October 13th	Stephens Park Cleanup	10:00 a.m.
October 17th	Raisin Bread Bake-Off	5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
October 20th	Jewelry Sale	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
November 3rd	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
November 3rd	Salute to Vets Bake Sale	8:00 a.m. to noon
November 3rd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
November 12th	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 October schedule is as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Wed., October 3rd	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., October 6th	Celie Donohue (AM)	Maurine Schweitzer (PM)
Wed., October 10th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sat., October 13th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., October 17th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., October 20th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., October 24th	Georgia Slininger	Louis Slininger
Sat., October 27th	Mary Brunning	Marvin Brunning
Wed., October 31st	Mary Rose DeCoster	Mary Rose DeCoster

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

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

The President's Corner

With Deepest Sympathies . . .

I'll start with a reminder for the Raisin Bread Bake-Off, Jewelry Sale and the Salute to the Vets Bake Sale. See the Calendar for times and dates. I would ask that you bring your bake sale items as early as possible on November 3rd. Also, please bring your Xmas raffle donations to the Center during October so they can be displayed. Winners will be announced at the dinner on December 4th at Butterworth Center.

A "thank you" to Martha Vroman for her sewing repairs at the Center.

As most of you know, Gene and I love to travel. We have seen a lot of God's world and started to realize that we needed to check out areas close to home. What prompted this was the "we were always going to take" a jaunt to Walnut, Illinois, a town between Moline and Ottawa. We've been going to do this for the last 40 years. This was our "dating" stop for pie and coffee 52 years ago. Off we went. No coffee shop and the town is even smaller than it was in 1955. From there we explored Dixon and Pres. Reagan's boyhood home, then on to Tampico where he was born. We traveled the back roads and ate at "down home" restaurants.

Yet exploring more of Illinois and Iowa, we headed to Fulton and the famous Dutch windmill and display of wooden shoes. It was worth the trip. Would you believe upon hearing that I was from the CBC, I was asked if I knew Art Holevoet! From there we ventured along the river to Davenport and the German Society Museum. I'm in awe of what they have.

This past Sunday, we drove the back cornfield roads to Hooppole, Illinois, (a Belgian area to the east) to attend the St. Mary of the Fields Church and pray the "living" rosary at the Rolle Bolle Rosary. It was an awesome sight. The Knights of Columbus in full regalia were standing at all the "beads." Hymns like "Holy God," and "Immaculate Mary," in Latin with incenses, brought back childhood memories. An outdoor event is held once a month from May to October. The last event for this year is October 14th. I will be happy to give you directions.

It's fun to explore – everywhere! You always run into someone that knows someone you know, and you always run into a Belgian!

CELIE DONOHUE

Marie L. Wells, 99, of Rock Island, died August 17, 2007, at Trinity Pathway Hospice, Bettendorf, Iowa. Services were held August 20th at St. Pius X Church, Rock Island, and entombment was at St. Mary's Cemetery, East Moline. Memorials can be made to Alleman High School or the Multiple Sclerosis Association.

Marie was born November 16, 1907, in Vliemaaroot, Limburg Province, Belgium, the daughter of Frans and Leonie (DeCoster) Jacobs. She came to America in 1913. She married Thomas L. Wells, February 10, 1934, in Rock Island. He preceded her in death February 3, 1989. She was employed at Alleman High School for 20 years, retiring in 1974.

Survivors include sons (spouses) James (Marie), Rock Island, and Jerry (Mary), Jerseyville, IL; and sister Beatrice (Lee) DeBrabender, Rock Island. Three sisters and three brothers preceded her in death.

Mildred B. Anderson, 94, of Oak Glen Home in Coal Valley, Illinois, passed away August 31, 2007, at the home. Services were held September 3rd at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church, Coal Valley, with burial in Beulah Cemetery, Orion, Illinois. Memorials can be made to the Life and Family Center, Bettendorf, Iowa.

Mildred was born January 22, 1913, in Decatur, Illinois, the daughter of Otto and Clara (Behrmann) Fitzgerald. She married George T. Anderson August 13, 1932, in Decatur. He died May 31, 2004.

Mildred had been active with an AARP group that provided music at area nursing homes.

Survivors (and spouse) include daughter Judith (Allen) DePorter, Milan; 13 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and four great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by son Dennis, two grandchildren, and one grandson-in-law.

Robert M. Vande Moortel, 84, of Moline, died Saturday, September 8, 2007, at Trinity Pathway Hospice in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Services were held September 13th at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Moline. Burial was in National Cemetery, Rock Island Arsenal, with military honors. Memorials may be made to the Ex-Servicemen's Club, Moline.

Bob was born May 7, 1923, in Moline. He was the son of Maurice and Mary Maria Gotelaere Vande Moortel. He married Geraldine Guske on January 31, 1948, in Moline. She preceded him in death on January 7, 2006.



Scholarship Essay

Our final scholarship essay was written by Courtney VandeWiele. Courtney graduated from Alleman High School and has begun her first year at Augustana. At Alleman, Courtney was Student Council president, varsity girls' golf captain, and a member of Key Club, National Honors Society, and Student Ambassadors. Some of her honors included: Principal's List; Honor Roll; Rev. John O'Connor Scholar and Western Big Six Academic All-Conference. She was ranked 5th in her class

MY BELGIAN HERITAGE by Courtney VandeWiele

My Belgian heritage has greatly influenced my life. My great-grandfather, Albrick VandeWiele, came to the United States from Belgium as a young man. After moving here, he married a young woman named Mary Martins. Mary's parents had also come to the United States from Belgium. Albrick and Mary had three boys. The oldest of these boys is my grandfather, Robert VandeWiele. "Grandpa Bob" married Ruth Ann Donelson and they had three children. The oldest child, Mark, is my father. My aunt Nancy was born next, followed by my aunt Sue. My dad also had three children. I am the oldest, followed by three-year-old sister Alison and my eight-month-old brother Jacob. My aunt Nancy has two sons and my aunt Sue has four daughters. My family has always been very close. I love going over to my grandparents' house for family dinners so I can catch up and relax with all my cousins.

My family is definitely a stereotypical Belgian family; we are hard workers and extremely frugal. My dad has always told me, "Belgians know how to fix a lot of stuff because they are too cheap to pay to have it fixed." This is definitely true in my family. After someone broke into our house three years ago, my dad decided we should have a security system. Instead of paying a company to install one, my dad decided to order his own system and installed it by himself. He also set up eight security cameras that he also wired to three different televisions in our house. I'm not complaining about this frugality, since I have definitely benefited from it. When we moved into our house, the

basement was unfinished. After finding out my stepmother was expecting my little sister, I was in need of a new bedroom. In less than nine months, my dad and my grandpa designed and constructed me a downstairs suite. Their frugality and hard work gave me my own quiet place so I wouldn't have to share a bedroom with the new baby.

The Belgian work ethic is also apparent in my family's college history. Neither my Grandpa Bob nor his brothers had the opportunity to go to college. My dad was the first in the family to attend college. Since his graduation from the Univ. of Illinois and then from law school at the Univ. of Tulsa, many more members of my family have graduated from college. Some have gone on and received doctorate degrees. Currently, my cousin Jandie is attending Florida Southern College and will be graduating at the end of April. Jandie is such a hard worker that she is graduating from college after only three years.

In the coming years, I hope to follow in my older cousin's footsteps. I will be attending Augustana College in the fall. I plan on majoring in biology with a pre-dental concentration. Augustana's pre-dental program allows for its students to start dental school after completing three years there. I will apply for this program after my freshman year. The competition is really fierce, but I know that my good Belgian work ethic will allow me to gain a spot in the program. I know that I will also be able to excel in dental school. I am very grateful for my family's hard work. I know I will be able to achieve great things thanks to my family's positive Belgian influences.

SYMPATHIES *continued from page 2*

Bob was a Navy veteran serving during WW II and the Korean Conflict. He was a clinical lab supervisor, microbiologist and health officer at the former East Moline Mental Health Center, retiring in 1982 after 35 years of service. He was East Moline's first health inspector.

He was past president of several organizations including the CBC and East Moline Rotary. He was a past chief ranger of the COF, Court 1691, and a Legion of Honor Award recipient. He was a lifelong member of Sacred Heart Church in Moline.

Survivors (and spouses) include daughters, Lynne (Dave) Rumler, Moline; Dawn Vande Moortel (Steve Morenz), Rock Island; sons, Craig, Moline, Mark, Macomb, and Jon, Seattle; six grandchildren and one great grandchild; sister, Maurine Schweitzer, Moline, and brother and sister-in-law, Joseph and Marilyn Vande Moortel, Moline.

**CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE
of Western Illinois, Inc.**

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265

PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
PERMIT NO. 93
Moline, IL 61265

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

October, 2007

Stevens Park Clean-Up

CBC member Bill Fisher is LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS to help with a clean-up of Stevens Park. He will provide plastic bags and sharp sticks. Bill has done this

clean-up six times before and only had help twice. Since the CBC sponsors this park, we should make every effort to help with this endeavor. The date is SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13th, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

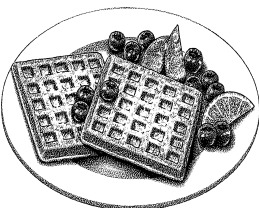
Let's get some volunteers there and make quick work of this cleaning!



BLOEMEN VAN VLAANDEREN

The newest addition to the memorial board was donated by Charlie Van Ooteghem and Margaret Wadsworth.

In Memory of
CAMIEL & CELINA VAN OOTEGHEM
nee Pieters



Waffle Volunteer Recognition

A hardy "well done" to our waffle workers for September: Catherine VanHecke, Mike Kerckhove, Bob and Elaine Hendrickx, Helen Foote, Marjorie Fiers, Art and Paul Holevoet, Mary Lou Robinson, Bob and Betty Van De Voorde, Fred and Lois DeCoster, Gene Fowler, and Bonnie Newman.