



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

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



November, 2007

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

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.
December 1st	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
December 1st	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
December 4th	Christmas Party @ Butterworth Center	5:30 p.m.
December 8th	Christkindlemarkt @ Sky Bridge, Davenport	10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
December 10th	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 November schedule is as follows:

Date	Gift Counter	Host/Hostess
Sat., November 3rd	Celie Donohue (AM)	Maurine Schweitzer (PM)
Wed., November 7th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., November 10th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., November 14th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sat., November 17th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., November 21st	Georgia Slininger	Louis Slininger
Sat., November 24th	Elaine Hendrickx	Bob Hendrickx
Wed., November 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.



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

The President's Corner

It was a busy summer for the CBC with visitors from all corners of the US and beyond. The guest book reflects guests from Wintersville, OH; Huntsville, AL; Ocean City, MD; Creston, IA; Austin, TX; Wichita, KS; Ontario, Canada; Guarrajuto, Mexico; and, of course, Belgium.

Carl Wittevrongel of Minneapolis paid a visit. Carl and I attended Sacred Heart Grade School and Alleman High School together. Another "blast from the past," LaVone (VanDaele) Slead and her husband from Sun Lakes, AZ, visited on a Wednesday. They were in town for a class reunion. They stopped so LaVone could purchase another copy of the Center's famous cookbook. Our parents were good friends and LaVone and I have known each other since we were very young. As we were catching up on old times, three men came into the Center looking for maps. One was named VanDaele, so there was a lively discussion for the remainder of the afternoon.

It's always fun to see and hear from old friends. Volunteering at the CBC give you that bonus opportunity.

I'm excited to let you know that the Center has been invited and is going to participate in the Christkindlemarkt on December 8th at the Skybridge in downtown Davenport. Hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is a spin-off of the famous Christkindlemarkt that originated in Frankfort, Germany many, many years ago. In the past two winters, I was fortunate to have visited the markets in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, France, and Holland.

The Center will distribute brochures and sell items from the Kleine Winkel, lace, cookbooks, Belgian chocolates and cookies, St. Nicks, flags, and T-shirts.

We hope all of you can come and enjoy the day with the many ethnic groups, and enjoy the "taste" of Europe.

Please remember the bake sale on Waffle Saturday, November 3rd. Last year's Raisin Bread Bake-off winner Joe VanVooren is baking 40 loaves of raisin bread for the sale, so there should be plenty. And don't forget the CBC Christmas Party at Butterworth Center on December 4th. A sign-up sheet and the raffle prize display are at the Center.

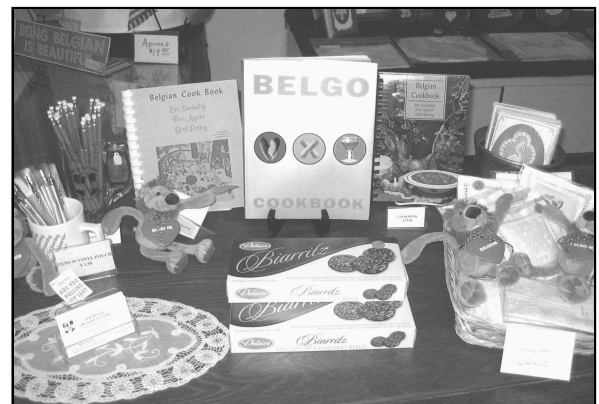
And one more thought . . . please save any Belgian cookie and candy boxes that you might have, so they can be used in a window display. You can bring them to the CBC or call me at 792-8246.

CELIE DONOHUE



**November
Waffle
Volunteers**

The November waffle workers will be: Norma & Ev Manning, Gene Donohue, Bill & Sandy Coopman, Ralph Vroman, Bill Fisher, Catherine Van Hecke, Bob & Theresa Bailey, Joan DeCap and Mike Kerckhove.



The KLEINE WINKEL has a nice supply of St. Nicks, Belgian cookies, and chocolates that will make nice gifts. Our Belgian cookbooks are always a great gift idea, as well as the Bloemen van Vlaanderen plaques.

Newsletter via E-Mail



If members would like to receive the CBC Newsletter and activity reminders via e-mail, and are not already receiving them this way, send your e-mail address to Belgium32@mchsi.com.

OUR THANKS goes to Steve & Chris Van Lancker for loading and delivering the last of the Flemish language books and novels to the Door County Library in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. Thank you also to Tom Hendrickx for his help with the clean-up at Stephens Park.

History & Geography 101

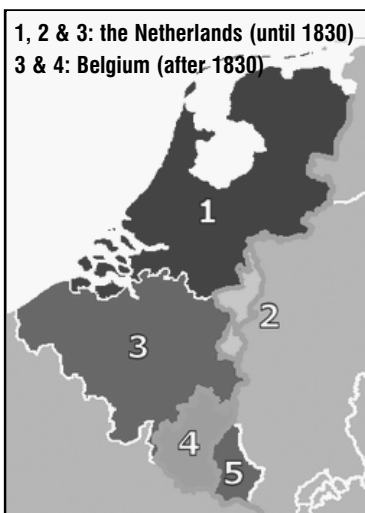
Have you ever heard someone say, “I’m Dutch because my ancestors were born in the Netherlands?” Or, “I’m Belgian because my ancestors were born in the Netherlands?” Can both be correct? The short answer is yes. But it’s a somewhat convoluted path to get to that answer and we should first define “the Netherlands.”

The correct name of the country that many call Holland is Netherlands (Nederland). Holland isn’t a country at all. In languages other than Dutch, Holland is used synonymously for modern-day Netherlands as a whole. Actually, Holland refers to two of Netherlands’ twelve provinces – North and South Holland. Those two were the most powerful and successful, and that prominence led to the whole country often being referred to as Holland.

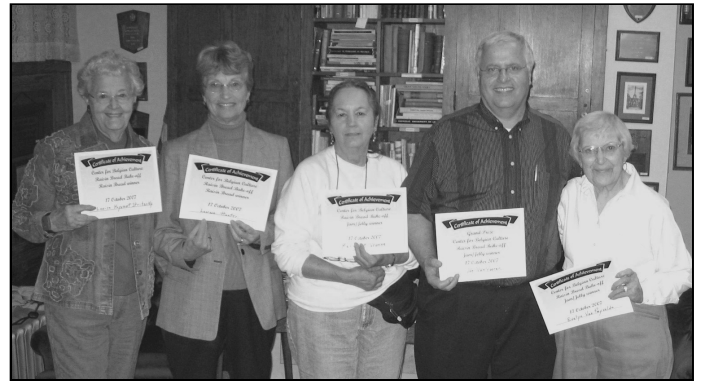
“The Netherlands” refers to the historical region de Nederlanden: the principalities located on and around the most low-lying land around the delta of the Rhine, Scheldt, and Meuse rivers. This roughly corresponds to the countries of Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg, as we know them today. Most of the area’s basic language was Dutch – a Germanic variant.

Wars and alliances controlled various parts or all of the Low Countries (the Netherlands) for hundreds of years. The Belgae (a Celtic tribe), Romans, Germanic tribes, the Burgundys and Hapsburgs, the Spanish, Austrians and French all ruled. Following the French Revolution and the defeat of Napoleon, the United Kingdom of the Netherlands was formed, made up of what was then called Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg. In 1830, the southern provinces of Holland broke away to form the Kingdom of Belgium. Luxembourg followed in 1890.

So where are we in answering the question of ancestry? The Netherlands was once a very large region that included modern day Belgium. Many of us can trace our ancestry back before 1830; the date Belgium declared independence from the United Kingdom of the Netherlands. Therefore, if someone says they’re Belgian because their



Bake-Off Winners



Our Bake-Off Winners (l-r):
Louise Huyvaert Stritesky, Lucrese Hunter, Margaret Vroman, Joe Van Vooren and Evelyn VanPuyvelde

A nearly full house enjoyed the efforts of the Center’s Raisin Bread Bake-Off and Jams and Jellies, Too entrants. With many loaves and some excellent jams to sample, judges Lori Wilson and Lois Marsoun did not have an easy job. After carefully sampling a piece from each loaf and a dab from each jam jar, the two judges arrived at their decision. And probably none too soon from the way the crowd advanced on its sandwich making missions. By the time the evening was over, there were only heels and crumbs remaining.

Winners for their bread-baking were: Louise Huyvaert Stritesky, third place; Lucrese Hunter, second place; and Joe VanVooren, repeating a first place win. Margaret Vroman and Evelyn VanPuyvelde tied for first place for their fruity jams. The winners received prizes provided by Mike Cornelis of Chicago Metallic. All three bread winners used their mother’s recipe: Marguerite Van Vooren (Joe), Martha Bultinck (Lucrese) and Marguerite Heyvaert (Louise).

Thanks to all who baked and all who attended. It was an enjoyable evening of fellowship and good eating. Special thanks go to Evelyn VanPuyvelde for spearheading this event again, and to Joe VanVooren for donating 20 loaves to the Center to sell. Needless to say they went fast. Joe will also be providing 40 loaves of raisin bread for the bake sale on November 3rd.

ancestors were born in the Netherlands, they would technically be correct. If they had no lineage until after 1830, they would be wrong.

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The Name of the Game

Since at least 1792, "Vogelpik," an early version of the modern game of Belgian Darts was popular in Flanders. At that time, it consisted of a stuffed bird hanging from the ceiling. In its bill, a wire was suspended to which a needle in a horizontal position was attached. Balancing the wire, the player had to spear a wooden board hanging against the wall.

The Belgians retained the name "Vogelpik," but play a game now called "Picks." It is a modern version of darts employing a wooden board of vary-colored circles of numerical value. The dart, now called a "Pick," is thrown against the "Pickboard." The development of Picks appears to be a natural outgrowth of archery skills of the Middle Ages.

Picks has become a popular pastime in the US since WW II. Along with being relaxing (leading to drinking various amounts of beer), it develops coor-

dination, precision, and self-control (the beer notwithstanding). As an added note, you can purchase a Pickboard set at the CBC.

With help from Standard Target and Dart Co.

