



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

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



January, 2008

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| January 5th | Waffle Breakfast | 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon |
| January 5th | Belgian Lacemakers | 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| January 14th | Board Meeting | 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. |
| February 2nd | Waffle Breakfast | 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon |
| February 2nd | Belgian Lacemakers | 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| February 11th | 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:

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Gift Counter</i> | <i>Host/Hostess</i> |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Wed., January 2nd | Evelyn VanPuyvelde | Al VanPuyvelde |
| Sat., January 5th | Celie Donohue (AM) | |
| | Martha Vroman (PM) | Ralph Vroman (PM) |
| Wed., January 9th | Mary Lou Andrae | Clara Van De Veire |
| Sat., January 12th | Margaret Wadsworth | Bill Wadsworth |
| Wed., January 16th | Celie Donohue | Gene Donohue |
| Sat., January 19th | Al Hoyt | Al Hoyt |
| Wed., January 23rd | Mary Rose DeCoster | Mary Rose DeCoster |
| Sat., January 26th | Elaine Hendrickx | Bob Hendrickx |
| Wed., January 30th | Millie Kale | Millie Kale |

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

WAFFLE NEWS . . . Volunteering to man the irons and serving counter for our first Waffle Breakfast of the new year will be: Pat & Karen VandeKerckhove, Bonnie & Joel Newman, Gene Donohue, Margaret & Bill Wadsworth, Charles VanOoteghem, and Betty & Bob VandeVoorde. Mike Kerckhove will be mixin' the batter.

See you over waffles on the 5th of January!

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

The President's Corner

Welcome to 2008. December is over and what a month it was. The CBC must have had a weather angel watching over us. The first day of the month was the waffle breakfast, complete with St. Nicholas (Gene Fowler) listening to the children's wishes and passing out oranges and candy. The sleet didn't come 'til mid-morning, so the Center had a good waffle turnout. In the afternoon, however, the weather caused an early close.

Then came our annual Christmas party in the elegant Butterworth Center. Again bad weather was predicted, but a good crowd enjoyed some great food. And speaking of great food . . . thanks to all the members who brought in salads and desserts. I especially enjoyed the two cranberry dishes. If whomever made them would send along the recipe, I would certainly appreciate it.

The evening's entertainment by Karen Manning & Company was so very enjoyable. The "Sister Act plus Fr. Richard" was funny and got everyone in the mood for Christmas. All are still buzzing about how great it was.

The raffle was a success with prizes going to Delores Bultinck (JOY candle holders), Mary Mortier (St. Nick in white velvet), Georgia Slininger (pen and pencil set), Al DeCap (punch set), Grace Fisher (Snowman), and Gloria Miller (the beautiful Faberge pendent and chain). Thank you to Fred DeCoster for the door-prize donation of wine from the Valley – Coal, not Napa.

The Christkindmarkt was held on December 8th at the Skywalk in Davenport. Again, bad weather was in the reports. We made it through the day and did very well selling merchandise and doing PR for the Center. Art Holevoet and myself set up for the event. It was a long day, but we did have help from Gene Donohue and Georgia & Louie Slininger. Already plans are being made for next year. Eighteen countries were represented and we even made the news on WHBF-TV that evening. The camera panned China, Norway and Belgium, and we got great coverage.

We say "good-bye to 2007," but feel it was a very good year for the CBC. We look forward to more special times in 2008 – especially the 45th anniversary.

As I walked the Christkindmarkt, with all the countries represented and everyone smiling as they bought and sold, it just made me say another prayer that in the real world there would be that great harmony and all could enjoy the difference.

God love you and Happy New Year!!

CELIE DONOHUE



St. Nicholas (Gene Fowler) attended December's Waffle Breakfast. He's shown here greeting two visitors from Florida – Wendi and Annie Voth.

Kleine Winkel

Stop by the Winkel and see our offerings in lace!

- lace doilies, \$6.00 and \$12.00
- tape lace hankies (some w/initials), \$12.00
- bobbin lace hankies in ecru and white, \$25.00
- these are the hankies all the mothers and grandmothers have been waiting for, for the bride-to-be in the family – hurry, they're long awaited and will go fast
- two pillow shams, ecru and white, \$40.00 (with pillow, \$45.00)
- three medium size bobbin lace oval doilies, \$45.00
- one large doilie for \$75.00



CBC and the Quad Cities make Appearances in Belgium

In March of 2007, Dr. Marion Huibrechts, history professor at Lueven University, asked Consul Patrick Van Nevel for assistance with the University's yearly Fanfare music celebration. The theme of the 2007 Fanfare was "America," but with the closing of the U.S. Center in Brussels, Dr. Huibrechts was in need of some Americana. Consul Van Nevel brought her request to the CBC Board. Feeling that it would be great PR, Dave Coopman made a motion that the Board assist with Dr. Huibrechts' request and the Board approved. Consul Van Nevel also asked our local communities for city flags or posters to include with the material sent by the Center.

In April, the Center shipped appropriate bunting; U.S., Illinois and Iowa State flags; and city flags and posters from Davenport and Bettendorf, Iowa, and Moline. The city of East Moline made a monetary donation to the effort. All of the material was used to decorate the backdrop, stage, walls and tables of the auditorium, giving American and a Quad-Cities flair to the event. And the CBC was duly noted in the Fanfare program. As a note, Fanfare will celebrate its 150th Anniversary in 2010.

That same material used at Fanfare was later forwarded to Lt. Colonel John Boyd in Brussels, for a NATO reception featuring its various member countries. Lt. Colonel Boyd also wanted some unique material representative of European immigration to the U.S. The Center was happy to oblige with photos of the Center and many of its artifacts.



Dignitaries at Fanfare 2007 include (l-r): Dr. Marion Huibrechts; Marc De Smet, alderman of Kapellen and president of Fanfare and its band, XXXIV; Dirk Van Mechelen, Cabinet Secretary of the Flemish Community; Luc Janssens, mayor of Kapellen; and Maarten Dewaelheyns, conductor.

Even Miss Belgium is a Problem

Those of you who follow the news in Belgium know that bickering between leaders of the main Flemish and French political parties has stymied the government for the last 6 months. Demands for more autonomy from the Flemish have been resisted by the Walloons, and a government coalition has been impossible. Now the "make-up" has hit the fan, so to speak.

It was revealed that the new Miss Belgium, Alizee Pouliceck, who hails from Wallonia, cannot speak Dutch. She was jeered by some of the 4,000 in attendance at the Miss Belgium contest in Antwerp, when she admitted that she



could not understand a question put to her in Dutch.

To be fair, the 20-year-old language student speaks fluent French, Czech and English, and promised to improve her skills in Dutch. The televised event did not hurt her image with viewers, but Flemish journalists berated her for deficiencies in their language.

According to the Flemish tabloid *Het Laatste Nieuws*, this only underscores the governmental crisis that is creeping in to every sector of Belgian life.

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With Deepest Sympathies . . .

Albert DeJaegher died December 7, 2007, at Illini Restorative Care in Silvis, Illinois. Services were held December 10th at Christ the King Catholic Church in Moline, with burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, East Moline. Memorials may be made to St. Mary's Church, East Moline, or Alleman High School, Rock Island, Illinois.

Albert was born Sept. 28, 1922, in Adegem, Belgium. He married Margaret DeCook June 21, 1947, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, East Moline.

He retired as a production supervisor in 1979 after 37 years of service at John Deere Harvester Works, East Moline. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, East Moline, COF Court 1790, the East Moline/Moline Pigeon Club and the East End Bolders Club.

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Margaret; daughters (and spouses) Roberta (Orville) Shields, East Moline, and Becky (Stuart) Smith, Bettendorf, Ia; sons (and spouses) Edward (Debra) DeJaegher, Granger, Ind., John DeJaegher, Redford, Mich., and David (Sue) DeJaegher, Moline; 11 grandchildren; and 6 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Gerald, and sister, Madeline Driessens.

DANK U THANK YOU DANK U

A Thank You goes to FLORA COOK of Perrysburg, Ohio, for her donation of a very old book: "JEEP'S Miniatuur Engelsch Woorden Boek: Engelsch-Nederlandsch, Nederlandsch-Engelsch," and another Thank You to PAMELA BAILEY for her donation of two Belgian prayer books that had belonged to Irma VandenBerghe Claeys.