



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



September, 2008

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 6th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
September 6th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
September 8th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
October 4th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
October 4th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
October 11th	45th Anniversary Dinner @ Oakwood C.C.	5:30 p.m.
October 13th	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 September schedule is as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Wed., September 3rd	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., September 6th	Celie Donohue (AM) Martha Vroman (PM)	Ralph Vroman (PM)
Wed., September 10th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sat., September 13th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., September 17th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., September 20th	Mary Rose DeCoster	Mary Rose DeCoster
Wed., September 24th	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger
Sat., September 27th	Elaine Hendrickx	Bob Hendrickx

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**

Thank You

Thank you to Dr. Tim Ducey for helping light the back of the CBC with a kerosene lantern during the cleaning of the refrigerator and freezer after the recent storm and power outage. Unfortunately many waffle supplies had to be thrown away for safety's sake (and the odor, too).

Thanks also to Mike Kerchove for the floral arrangement in the Center's outside planter.

A Hoover Fest

On July 2nd, a group of 32 members and guests enjoyed a trip to West Branch, Iowa, for a Hoover Library Day. They toured the Library, birthplace, school, Quaker meetinghouse, blacksmith shop and statue of Isis, a gift to Herbert Hoover from the children and citizens of Belgium. The group was also treated to viewing some of the Hoover Archives, which included scrapbooks about Hoover's life and a collection of embroidered flour sacks left over from the foodstuffs sent to the starving Belgians after World War I. These sacks were a gift to Hoover from the grateful citizens.

Thanks go to Bonnie Newman for coordinating the trip; Kathy Grace, Hoover volunteer coordinator; archivist Matt Schaefer and assistant archivist Marcus Eckhardt; and park ranger Jennifer for their making this a great outing for the CBC group.

If you've never been to the Hoover Library, you'll learn a lot about Hoover's life, how he assisted Belgium after the War, and his term as our president. It's a great day trip, one everyone will enjoy!

A New Book Coming

Your newsletter editor has a pictorial book coming out September 29th, titled Rock Island County. The book is part of Arcadia Publishing's series "Images of America," a group of over 4000 titles highlighting local and regional histories.

The 128-page book features early photos of rural and urban Rock Island County, including historical people, places, businesses, organizations, and events. Nearly 80% of the 210 photos or views used in the book have not been published before.

Rock Island County by David Coopman will be available at various local bookstores and through on-line booksellers like amazon.com and arcadiapublishing.com. (End of this shameless self-promotion.)

With Deepest Sympathies . . .

Albert H. DeGrauwe, 91, of Rock Island, died August 8, 2008, at Trinity Medical Center, Rock Island. A Mass of Christian Burial was held August 13th at St. Mary's Church, Rock Island. Burial was at National Cemetery, Arsenal Island, with American Legion Post 246 providing military honors.

Albert was born May 20, 1917, in Rock Island, the son of August and Mary Lucy VandenHeede DeGrauwe. He married Bertha Huys on January 4, 1947, in Moline. He retired from the former John Deere Plow-Planter Works in Moline. He was a World War II Army veteran.

Mr. DeGrauwe was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Catholic Order of Foresters Sacred Heart Court 1691, Moline American Legion, CBC, and Deere UAW Retirees.

He is survived by his wife, Bertha; sons and daughters-in-law, Ronald DeGrauwe, Chicago, Joseph and Nancy DeGrauwe, Coal Valley, and Debi CeGrauwe, Rock Island; five grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and a brother, Richard DeGrauwe, Moline. A son, Steven, and sisters Ann DeGrauwe and Jeanette Lootens preceded him in death.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Patricia Horton Goodrum, 71, of St. Cloud, Minnesota, died August 4, 2008, as the result of an auto accident. Services were held August 8th, at St. Paul's Catholic Church in St. Cloud. Burial was in Moline.

Pat was born March 30, 1937, in Moline, to Eugene and Margaret Schelstraete Horton. She married James Goodrum in 1965.

She was active in many St. Cloud community and civic organizations and was a realtor in the St. Cloud area.

Pat is survived by children, Michael, Litchfield, Minn., Gary (Joli), New Hope, Minn., Jami (Dave) Schwartz, Monticello, Minn., Tom (Janice), Bloomington, Minn., Tim (Marla), Shakopee, Minn., Sara (Michael) Doyle, Avon, Minn., Kelly (Gordon) Caspers, Avon; 23 grandchildren; mother, Peg, St. Cloud; sister, Kay (Bob) McMickell, Kansas City, Mo. Her father preceded her in death.

Memorials may be made to the Epilepsy Foundation.

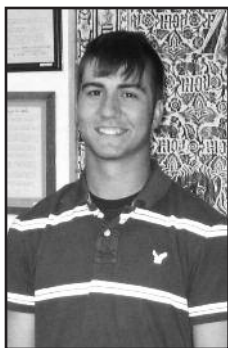


Scholarship Essay

Our scholarship essayist for this month is Cal DePorter of Orion, Illinois. Cal graduated first in his class at Orion High School and maintained a 4.0 out of 4 grade point average. He was an Illinois State Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, and a member of the Orion Honor Roll with 7 semesters of straight A's. He was named to Academic All-State for football in 2007 and Academic All-Conference for football and baseball during each of his four years of high school. Cal will be attending Notre Dame and studying pre-med.

Callahan DePorter Belgian Heritage Essay

Heritage is defined as something that comes to one from one's ancestors; or tradition. My last name defines my Belgian heritage – DePorter. I am proud to be a descendant of the DePorter family and proud of my Belgian ancestry.



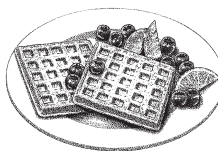
The earliest known ancestor on my father's side is Guellemus DePoorter. Guellemus is Latin for William. He was born in Zwynaerde, Belgium, in 1590 and was a wagon maker by trade. Guellemus married Elizabeth Boone in 1627. Their son Pieter was born in 1628. Pieter married Barbara VanLangerae and they had a son named Carolus in 1679. Carolus married Jeanne Thienpont and they had a son, Joannes II. Joannes married Philippina VanOverbeke and they had a son, Ivo, who was born in the year 1827. Ivo's son was Alberic DePoorter. Alberic was born in 1860 and he married Elodie Van Hecke in 1888 in Poeke, Belgium. For their honeymoon, Alberic and Elodie made their voyage to America. When they arrived at Ellis Island, the registrar wrote their surname as DePorter, with only one "o." Alberic was too frightened to correct the spelling, so today my last name is spelled DePorter. Alberic and Elodie were my grandfather's grandparents. My grandpa, Allen Joseph DePorter, was born in 1935 to George and Alice DeWaele DePorter. George was one of twelve children born to Alberic and Elodie after they arrived in the United States. Allen married Judith Anderson (of non-Belgian descent!) in 1954. My father, Jeffrey, was born in 1961. In America, with its large melting pot, it is rare to be a full-blooded Belgian – but my Grandpa Al is!

Grandpa Al instilled in me the importance of both my family name and my heritage. He has taught me to be proud of who I am, and to be proud of those that came before me. The Belgian flag waves proudly beneath the

American flag at my grandparent's home. I have been the recipient of many "Being Belgian is Beautiful" t-shirts and bumper stickers. Grandpa Al is proud of his Belgian blood and is never shy about boasting his heritage.

It is obvious that the DePorter family is proud of their ancestors. Ralph DePorter was my relative most responsible for compiling our family's history. In his travels, he constantly researched the DePorter line. It is amazing to me that we can trace our family back as far as the 1500s. Ralph was knighted by the King of Belgium in 1973 with the title, "Chevalier of the Order of the Crown" for his meritorious service to Belgium. There were two dominating professions for the DePorter family: religious and medical. The medical profession can be traced back to August DePoorter, a medical specialist from Brugge, Belgium. I hope to carry on that tradition and to also become a physician. While researching my ancestors, I learned numerous interesting facts. I also heard stories that were still "alive" and told to me by my grandparents. I was grateful to know that the stories had remained intact from generation to generation. Some day, I'll be the one responsible for telling these same stories to my children and grandchildren.

My descendants migrated to the United States from all over Western Europe: Belgium, England, Germany, Ireland, and France. If I was a dog and had to state my pedigree, I guess I would have to say I was a "mutt:" but Grandpa Al is a purebred. My last name defines me as a person of Belgian descent. I will always carry the DePorter name, and I will proudly pass down both my name and my heritage to my children some day.



September Waffle Volunteers

September's waffle volunteers are first shift: Margaret and Bill Wadsworth, Judy and Al DePorter, and Ran Vroman; and second shift: Barb Michalek, Mary Lou Andrae, and Georgia and Louie Slininger. As always, Mike Kerchove will mix the waffle batter, Gene Donohue will be in charge of the kitchen, and Catherine Van Hecke will oversee everyone.

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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

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Volunteers

Many of you have signed up for RSVP, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, but there are still many who have not.

RSVP is part of a nationwide program administered by the Corporation for National Service, which enables people 55 and older to remain active by providing meaningful volunteer opportunities.

Registered volunteers are provided with a check, several times per year, to cover some of their gasoline costs for driving to and from the CBC while volunteering. Volunteers also receive a newsletter and an annual recognition dinner and program.

There is no cost to register with RSVP. Registration sheets are in the RSVP binder at the Center. Please check it out the next time you volunteer at the CBC. If you have any questions, call Margaret Wadsworth at 786-5791.

*Where there's a Will, there's a way.
Please remember the CBC in your estate planning.*



JEWELRY SALE at the Center

The CBC jewelry sale was so well received last fall, it will be repeated again starting September 17th and continuing until Christmas.

A box will be near the gift counter for you to bring in your jewelry donations, ASAP. We will also have some New jewelry, as Celie Donohue visited the Denver Merchandise Mart this past summer and came back with "very affordable treasures" that will add \$\$\$ to the CBC treasury.