



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



January, 2009

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 1st	Happy New Year!	
January 3rd	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
January 3rd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
January 12th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
February 7th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
February 7th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
February 9th	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 January schedule is as follows:

<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Gift Counter</b></i>	<i><b>Host/Hostess</b></i>
Sat., January 3rd	Celie Donohue (AM) Martha Vroman (PM)	Ralph Vroman
Wed., January 7th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., January 10th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., January 14th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sat., January 17th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., January 21st	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., January 24th	Mary Rose DeCoster	Mary Rose DeCoster
Wed., January 28th	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Sat., January 31st	Elaine Hendrickx	Bob Hendrickx

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

## Congrats and Get Wells

Congratulations go to Louise Huyvaert Stritesky on celebrating her 80th birthday. Wishes for a speedy recovery go to John Mossage, Louise Doering, Pat Rafferty, and Mary Welling.

**Center OPEN Wednesday & Saturday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

**Waffle Breakfast 1st Sat. of each month**

## A Little Local Trivia

This past month, a piece of Moline history went dark. The historic downtown Moline Carnegie Library closed its doors as a library. The city's new library, dwindling attendance downtown, and a pressured budget were all listed as reasons for the closing.

In 1901, Andrew Carnegie agreed to donate funds to build Moline a new library. Mr. Carnegie, who later gained the title "Patron Saint of Libraries," was making financial gifts to hundreds of communities towards the building of public libraries. He had sold his Carnegie Steel Company in 1900 for the sum of \$225 million, and had created a foundation that would disburse much of that wealth to those in need.

But here's an interesting bit of trivia that many do not know. In honor of the gift by Carnegie, the board of Moline's Carnegie Library had his name carved above the doorway, and sent a photograph to the Carnegie trustees. Moline, the trustees wrote back, was the first city to give Mr. Carnegie such a distinction.

*Thanks to the Moline Preservation Society*

## And Speaking of Libraries

It used to be when you gave a service away for free, people would be lining up at your door. But libraries today find themselves having to recruit their customers. They conduct consumer research, devise marketing strategies, promote user-friendliness and even offer free gifts to those who register. Still, it's a misconception – and a common one – that the library is a dying institution.

Libraries in Flanders, which count more than 1.5 million members and 18 million visits per year, are most certainly not becoming a thing of the past. But having offered more or less the same service for many decades (and in some cases, centuries), there is a very noticeable shift in their approach. As they put it: they are "repositioning themselves in the market."

There are obvious changes already happening. Flemish libraries offer new members and returning patrons a book bag. "That's not bribery," insists the director of the Flemish Center for Public Libraries (VCOB), "that's marketing."

Director Jan Braeckman explains that gimmicks such as this are necessary if the libraries want to remain competitive. "There's a big turnover of library users. Membership numbers remain the same, but one third is made of new members, which means that one third leave," Braeckman stated.

Books used to be central to libraries, but not anymore. Music CDs, movie and television DVDs and video games are now some of

## Christmas Party Recap

From reports given by those attending, the annual CBC Christmas Party held at Butterworth Center was an absolute success. Decorations were festive, food was fantastic, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment provided by Dick Sabbe, Terry Tingwald, Dennis Longlett, and Karen Manning, known collectively as "Whatever Four."

Raffle prize winners were: Joan DeClerck, the holiday pillow; Eleanor DeBuysere, wooden snowman; Al VanHecke, Belgian beer; and Gene Fowler, St. Nicholas.

Thanks go to Diane DeBord for the great food; Catherine VanHecke for providing chocolates for everyone; Lois and Fred DeCoster for the bottles of wine door prize; Evelyn VanPuyvelde for arranging a great evening; and to all the cooks and bakers.



## Brussels Airlines is Soaring

Brussels Airlines is joining Star Alliance, the largest umbrella alliance of the airline sector. Formed in 1997, Star Alliance airline network offers travelers worldwide reach and (supposedly) a smooth travel experience. Some of the larger airlines in the alliance include: Air Canada, Lufthansa, Singapore, United, and USAir. Brussels was invited to become a member because of its part ownership by Lufthansa. The airline's primary hub at Brussels was also said to be "strategic."

Advantages include better connections to points around the world, code-sharing with member airlines, frequent flyer privileges on member airlines, and not having to worry about baggage or ticketing on alliance members.

the mainstream offerings found in libraries. Flemish libraries are experimenting with game rooms where young visitors can play popular video games. Some even stage competitions.

According to Belgium's De Standaard bookshop chain, more books are sold in communities with a good library. The possibilities for the future library are myriad. But change is imperative, or it's definitely "game over."

*From Flanders Today*

*With Deepest Sympathies . . .*

**Lorette Devriendt**, 84, of Moline, died November 12, 2008, in Milan, Illinois. Services were held at the Rafferty Funeral Home on November 17th. Lorette was born May 16, 1924, in Beervelde, Belgium, the daughter of Joris and Celica Ganesman Cantineau. She married Willy Devriendt on July 8, 1958, in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He preceded her in death on July 16, 2007. Survivors include son, Leon Devriendt of Moline; and brother, Maurice Cantineau, Liege, Belgium.

**Marguerite Errico**, 94, of Moline, died November 25, 2008, at Trinity Pathway Hospital, Bettendorf, Iowa. Entombment was at St. Mary’s Mausoleum, East Moline, Illinois. She was born October 12, 1914, in Moline, the daughter of Camiel and Emma DeRoosze DeGreve. She married Dr. Silvio Errico on May 4, 1939, in Moline. He preceded her in death March 28, 1981. Survivors include daughter (spouse) Therese (David) Terlap, Lake Forest, Illinois; son Michael (Rebecca) Errico, Santa Barbara, California; and sister Irene (Merlyn) Boostrom, Moline. Her husband, parents, and brother, Julian DeGreve, preceded Marguerite in death.

**A Beer for Every Season**

The advent of autumn and the holidays that follow brings a flood of seasonal beers to market. But it turns out that seasonal beer – the latest popular offshoot of the craft and microbrew phenomenon – isn’t all that new.

Christmas beer is a tradition that actually predates Christmas. It really goes back to the earliest days of brewing. Whatever holiday was being celebrated, brewers would have made special beers for that holiday. The practice allowed the occasion to be celebrated with something special.



About a year ago, seasonal beers passed pale ales as the number-one growth in craft brews. The craft beer drinker tends to like to have different beers in the fridge from different brewers on different occasions. Just as wine drinkers vary their selections by season and what they are eating, a growing number of beer drinkers want their beverage to work with what and when they eat.

Corsendonk’s Christmas beer from Belgium is an excellent choice for a winter beer.

*From the Associated Press*

**Belgian Presidency of the U.N. Security Council**

In August 2008, Belgium took over the monthly presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the second time in its 2007-08 mandate.

Under the Belgian presidency, the Security Council held 29 meetings and 17 consultations on issues including the security and humanitarian situations in Sudan and Somalia, and the conflicts in Iraq, Lebanon, and Georgia. During this period, the Council adopted four resolutions and four presidential statements.

At Belgium’s initiative, a public debate was held on the working methods of the Council, the first such debate since 1994. Forty-seven countries participated in the discussion, focused on making the Security Council more efficient, effective, transparent, accountable and accessible.

Belgium was a member of the Security Council until the end of 2008. Five newly elected members will join the Council in 2009. The final weeks of Belgium’s mandate was used to further issues pertaining to world peace and security, while underscoring the country’s foreign policy goals of strong attachment to effective multilateralism, promotion of sustainable democracy, and commitment to an even more integrated Europe.

*From Belgium Today*

**Flanders Brand is “Lively”**

Flanders is regarded by the public as the “liveliest” of the four regional brands – Flanders, Wallonia, Brussels and Belgium – according to an online survey of more than 10,000 people carried out by Vlerick Brand Management Center, a research group linked to Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School.

The center was carrying out a brand-awareness survey and included Belgian regional brands for the first time. Not unexpectedly, people tended to favor their home region and to attribute it a stronger personality, as expressed by various characteristics such as liveliness, simplicity and emotional appeal.

Flanders was considered the liveliest of the four and was rated highly for its established quality. Belgium, on the other hand, showed a less well-developed personality, described as “grayer” than the home regions. Wallonia was described as less aggressive and an unchanging value.

*From Flanders Today*

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## CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

*January, 2009*

### **Please Check Ahead**

*With all the bad weather we're having and will probably continue to have during the winter months, please check ahead before visiting the CBC. We want everyone – visitors and volunteers – to be safe.*



### *January Waffle Volunteers*

Serving waffles during our first breakfast of the new year will be on first shift: Mary and Joe DeMeyer, Margaret and Bill Wadsworth, and Charlie VanOoteghem; and on second shift will be Mary and Larry Lorensen, Millie Kale, and Bonnie and Jason Tanamore. Mike Kerchove will mix the batter, Gene Donohue will watch over the kitchen, Evelyn VanPuyvelde and Marian Knock will mind the money, and while Catherine VanHecke vacations in Hawaii, Theresa Bailey will make sure all runs well.

### **Belgian Honesty**

Belgian companies are the least likely to resort to bribery when dealing with foreign officials, according to the corruption watchdog group Transparency International. The report surveyed executives from 22 leading trading nations on their use of bribery to grease the wheels of foreign trade. Belgium is the least likely to bribe, coming in ahead of Canada, the Netherlands and Switzerland. Mexico, China and Russia were the most likely to engage in this practice.

The report looked at three common types of bribery: money paid to high-level politicians and parties; money paid to low-level officials to "speed things up;" and using personal family contacts to win public contracts.

