



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



May, 2009

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764-8068

### Newsletter Editor

Dave Coopman  
d.coopman@mchsi.com

### Chaplain

Rev. Jim DeBisschop

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 2nd	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
May 2nd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
May 11th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
May 25th	Memorial Day Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
June 6th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
June 6th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
June 8th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
June 17th	Scholarship Dinner	5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
October 11th	Belgian Dinner	details tba

Visit the Center for more information and to stay updated on current events.

## Schedule for Volunteers

The May schedule is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Gift Counter</b>	<b>Host/Hostess</b>
Sat., May 2nd	Celie Donohue (AM) Martha Vroman (PM)	Ralph Vroman
Wed., May 6th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., May 9th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., May 13th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van De Veire
Sat., May 16th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., May 20th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., May 23rd	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Wed., May 27th	Georgia Slininger	Louie Slininger
Sat., May 30th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue

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



*Happy Mother's Day!*



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

**The President's Corner**

This past month I was privileged to be able to attend three special occasions. The first was at Christ the King Parish. The Women of the Well organization invited Karen Manning to entertain and enlighten. Those of you who attended the past two Christmas dinners at Butterworth Center will remember Karen and "What Ever Four." Needless to say, Karen did a bang-up job of doing both entertaining and enlightening. She had the attention of a packed house. Her singing, keyboard playing, and story telling left all in awe. Karen had her CD, "14 Stations Revisited," for sale. She and Mark Schwiebert collaborated on this beautiful work. There was a long line to buy, and I'm sure she ran out. In case you didn't get one, they are on sale at Blessings Gift Shop at Sacred Heart Church in Moline. Before the entertainment, there was a "light supper" served by the men of the parish, including Fr. Levitt. All very good and what does the word "light" mean?

Then Gene and I attended Fr. Verhoy's 60th Anniversary Mass and dinner at St. Anthony's Parish in Atkinson. The Mass was very nice and well attended. The dinner was held in the school hall and again, wall to wall people. And again, another "light supper." There was nothing "light" about all the wonderful food, especially the homemade pies. There were a fair number of CBC members at both of these functions. The CBC presented Father with a rolle bolle shirt. He has been an area champion and loves the game. His picture is in our Belgian Sports window.

The third special occasion was in Naples, Florida. We were visiting my niece, Wendi Fowler-Voth, and attended Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church. Since Wendi is a Eucharistic Minister, we went early. In doing so, we saw through the crinkled glass windows, people in robes, outside lining up. Graduation? Choir? As it turned out, the "sister" parish from Kingston, Jamaica, was there for a benefit concert. They sang gospel, contemporary, and Jamaican folk music. Our Mass was the practice session for the concert the following evening. How lucky could we be? Not only did we not have to pay (I guess Gene put a little extra in the basket and I bought a CD), but no one stood or sat still – not even the priest at the altar. Mass was over, yet "the beat went on." No one wanted to leave. I think all three occasions were more "God Moments."

Don't forget the Scholarship Dinner and Auction – make this a God Moment for four of our outstanding scholars.

God love ya, LADY CELIE

The CBC is looking to hire someone to clean the Center once a month. If you, or someone you know would be interested, contact Celie Donohue at 792-8246.

*Special Thank You*

I would like to say a special thank you to Theresa and Bob Bailey, Mike Kerchove, and Gene Donohue for taking care of the waffle breakfast preparations, set-up, and clean up while I took the winter off to enjoy warmer weather. Without their help, I would not have been able to leave the area and enjoy Hawaii for three months!

Also, thanks go out to all the volunteers who came in to serve our wonderful waffles. If we didn't have your help, we wouldn't have the CBC we have today.

Hope to see you all this spring and summer!

Catherine VanHecke, waffle chairperson

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*Special thanks go to Pat VandeKerckhove for decorating the CBC float for this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade and to Jerry Kerckhove J.L.S – American Storage of Carbon Cliff for use of the truck and trailer.*

*For the second year in a row, the Center won Best International Entry. The float featured: Fr. Damien, who will become a saint in 2009 for his work with lepers in Hawaii; Manneken Pis in a garden; and the provincial flags of Belgium.*

Mike Kerckhove

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And a special thanks from the CBC to Mike for heading up the float building. Congratulations, Mike, for all your work and for bring home the trophy!



Mike Kerckhove poses with the winning float in the International category at the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

## Postage "Do"

The U.S. Postal Service has made some changes that affect your CBC. Last year when newsletters could not be delivered, they went to the "dead letter" file. Beginning this year, any newsletter that cannot be delivered or forwarded is "returned to sender" postage due. Because of this change, the CBC has incurred additional first class postage charges since January 1st. Those charges have occurred because we have a few bad addresses in our files or because forwarding has expired for some of the snowbirds who leave for the winter.

Currently, we mail using a bulk mail rate that requires a minimum of 200 pieces of mail. Because of this mail minimum, we continue to send the newsletter by U.S. mail, as well as email. What your Board has decided to do for next year is to save money by canceling the bulk mail permit and provide the newsletter by email to our computerized members, and by normal first class postage for those who don't use a computer. Trust us, this will save us postage fees and eliminate "postage due" returns.

To start this whole process, and for this to be successful, we will need your help in updating and verifying your email address for our files. Please send an email, with your name in the "subject" line, to membership chairman Bill Coopman at: [belgium032@gmail.com](mailto:belgium032@gmail.com).

We'll be following up on this several times before the end of the year, but this will give us a head start on making sure everyone gets their copy of the CBC newsletter without interruption. Thank you for your help with this.

## The Kleine Winkel

The Winkel has a nice selection of baptismal gowns in various styles and prices. Stop in and look over the selection for baby's special day.

## A Belgian Beer Celebration

Some of you may be familiar with John's Grocery in Iowa City as the place to purchase various imported Belgian beers and gourmet foods. John's will be hosting a Belgian beer celebration on June 20th from Noon to 5:00 pm at Red's Ale House in North Liberty, Iowa. There will be over 20 Belgian beers on tap, as well as many more in bottles, along with Belgian food, cheese, and chocolate. Here's your chance to enjoy an afternoon of tasting many fine beers and foods and learning a little more about what John's Grocery has to offer. And proceeds from the event will go to charity. Complete information on this event can be found at [www.johnsgrocery.com](http://www.johnsgrocery.com) on the "Events" page.

## Important Waffle News

Beginning on May 25th with the Memorial Day waffle breakfast, and continuing through September 5th, waffle breakfast **times will be from 7:30 - 11:00 a.m.** This will allow for one group of volunteers to serve and will give everyone a little more time for summer Saturday activities. Please make a note of this change.

The **waffle volunteers for May 2nd** are: first shift, Paul and Art Holevoet, Mary Lou Robenson, Helen Foot, Rosemary Croegert, and Marge Feers; second shift, Bonnie and Jason Tanamor, Don DeBo, and Millie Kale.

**Volunteers for Memorial Day** are: Theresa and Bob Bailey, Al VanHecke, Linda and Art VanHecke and Joan DeCap.

Evelyn VanPuyvelde and Marian Knock will take your money, Mike Kerckhove will do the batter mixing, Gene Donohue will man the kitchen, and Catherine VanHecke will supervise the whole group and insure a good time for both waffle dates.

## Gazette van Detroit

The *Gazette van Detroit*, the only Belgian newspaper in the U.S. and Canada since 1914, is ready to celebrate – ninety-five years and still counting!

Two celebrations are planned. On May 17th at 11:00 a.m., Flemish readers will convene in Leke-Diksmuide at Hof Ter Molen. On August 1st, U.S. and Canadian readers are invited to Fraser, Michigan. Details will follow, but if you are interested, please save that date.

## *With Deepest Sympathies . . .*

**Ruth E. DeDecker Wright**, 89, of Urbandale, Iowa, died March 21, 2009, at Colonial Manor in Middle Amana, Iowa. Memorial services were held at St. Bridget Catholic Church, Victor, Iowa, and burial was at National Cemetery, Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois

Survivors include two brothers, James DeDecker, Orion, and Jerry DeDecker, West Des Moines, Iowa; and one sister, Rosemarie Refer of Victor, Iowa.

Get Well Wishes to Alan Hoyt (CBC Treasurer)  
for a speedy recovery from surgery

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**CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE**

*May, 2009*

**The Center for Belgian Culture**  
**ANNUAL JUNE DINNER**

*SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED & FUN AUCTION*

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17th**

**Happy Hour @ 5:30 p.m. • Dinner, catered by Diane DeBord @ 6:30 p.m.**

Join us for a relaxing evening of good food, saluting the scholars, and bidding on auction items. Dinner menu for the evening includes: burgundy beef tips in gravy, herb chicken, Belgian sweet-and-sour slaw, green beans w/baby onions, party potatoes, wheat bread baguettes, raisin bread, and dessert. Cost is \$15.00/person.

CBC Scholarship Chairman Bob VandeWiele will announce our three scholarship recipients and Rick

VanTieghem will present the Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholarship award recipient. This will all be followed by a fun auction led by the DeCap Auctioneers. Bring something old, new, precious or not (but nothing large like furniture), for auctioning off to the highest bidder. All monies go to the Center.

Reservations and payment must be received by June 10th. For questions, contact Celie at (309) 792-8246.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Reservations at \$15.00 each: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to CBC and send by June 10th to: CBC June Dinner  
712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265