



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

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



June, 2009

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

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.
July 4th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
July 4th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
July 13th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 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 June schedule is as follows:

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

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

Happy Father's Day
Sunday, June 21st



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

The President's Corner

The rest of the story...

In the April President's Corner, I mentioned that other CBC members might have more "Seventh Street" stories to share.

I heard from a few, and one in particular was Don Goethals. Now *who* would have more knowledge of the area than someone that lived in the building built by his grandfather? He mentioned Lundholm Drug Store, on the corner of Seventh Street and 18th Avenue, the Coffee Cup Café, Giefman's Market, and Honore Lecat Shoe Repair. Others still in the area are the Friend's Circle and Pearson's Paint Store. Dr. Errico's office was next door to the CBC, now Dr. Tim Ducey's office. Down the avenue was Blondell Plumbing (still in Moline, just moved) and the Sonnevill Apartments. There was the Seventh Street Bakery, Julius Vanderscheuren Market and Verhetsel's Barber Shop (Don's uncle). There was the DeRycke Florist, where Lucy DeWalsche worked, on the way to Moline Public and Lutheran Hospitals.

Thanks, Don, for the information. You can get more information on the Belgian area and Moline in general from Dorothy Buresh's book, *Bits from a Battered Beat; 1966-1997*. The book is for sale at the Kleine Winkel for \$10.00.

Dorothy signed my copy, "Celie, walk with me through the past – when Olde Town was still new. Hope you enjoy the ramblings. Love, Lady Dorothy." Yes, Dorothy, I do enjoy! I hope all of you enjoy my "ramblings." God love you.

CELIE DONOHUE

Birdies for Charity

The birds of spring have arrived and with them, Birdies for Charity. Your CBC is again seeking pledges for the Birdies program that accompanies the John Deere Classic golf tournament. You guess the number of birdies the pro golfers will make during tournament week, and pledge an amount per birdie. All monies pledged on behalf of the Center come back to the Center and are used to finance our scholarship program.

Pledge forms have been mailed out and a Thank You to those who have already made a pledge. If you haven't pledged, would you please consider doing so as soon as possible. If you've misplaced your form, more are available at the Center. This is the main source of funding for our scholarships, so every pledge is important. Plus, if you guess the correct number of birdies, you might even win a new Chevy Malibu hybrid car, provided by the tournament and the region's Chevrolet dealers.



June Waffle Volunteers

Volunteers for June's waffle breakfast are Mary and Joe DeMeyer, Judith DePorter, and Pat and Karen VandeKerckhove. Mike Kerckhove will prepare the batter, Evelyn VanPuyvelde and Marion Knock will take the money, and Catherine VanHecke will supervise.

News of the Membership

Congratulations go to **Evelyn and Al VanPuyvelde** on their 60th Wedding Anniversary and to **Bev Francque** on her 80th birthday.

Get Well wishes are offered to **Merlyn Boostrom, Charlie VanOoteghem, and Alan Hoyt**.

Thank You to **Joanne Greko** for donating two Belgian tins and a Belgian beer bottle, and to the **DeGraeve family** for donating the beautiful family tree book tracing the descendants of Carolus DeGraeve and wife Judica (1726). Come in and take a look; pages and pages of descendants – you may be one!

The Kleine Winkel

This month's offerings from the Winkel include: the 100th Anniversary book of Sacred Heart Church at \$25.00; new "Belgium" T-shirts in grey, black, or gold at \$20.00/each; snappy looking Belgian tote bags for \$20.00; a new shipment of electric Lukken irons for \$140.00; honeycakes at \$4.00/each and Speculoos cookies at \$4.25/package.

Msgr. Wellman Celebrates

Monsignor Dale Wellman, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, will celebrate 45 years in the priesthood on Sunday, May 31st. A Mass of Celebration will be held at 11:00 a.m., followed by a light reception in the Culemans Hall cafeteria.

Congratulations, Monsignor!

**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.

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.

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

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

The Last of Her Kind

For many hundreds of years, the begijnhofs of Flanders offered women a place where they could live together without being bound by the strict rules of a convent. The quiet, walled communities that they created can still be found in most large Flemish towns, including Antwerp, Ghent, and Bruges - and in the Netherlands. But the order itself is just one beating heart away from extinction.



Sister Marcella Pattyn

The begijnhof is a peculiar mediaeval institution, dating from the 12th century, when women greatly outnumbered men as a result of the Crusades. For many single women who went husbandless, the only choice was to give up all their possessions and move to a nunnery. But another option became possible after a priest founded the first béguinage, or begijnhof, in Liege.

In this unique setting, women settled together in walled communities where each one lived independently in a house with a step gable, a small front garden, and a statue of a favored saint above the entrance. They kept their personal property and, with it, a sense of autonomy.

Some of these women took care of the poor and sick, while others carried on trades like lace making and baking. But the world beyond their walls was still governed by laws laid down by the Pope. Upset at relaxed rules, the Catholic Church declared begijnhofs illegal during the 14th century. The order died completely in Germany, but was later revived in Flanders and the Netherlands.

Up until a few years ago, there were still a few surviving women living in begijnhofs according to a way of life that had hardly changed in eight centuries. Gradually, these beguines died off. The last Dutch beguine passed away in 1990, when there were still eight elderly women living in the St. Elisabeth Begijnhof in Ghent.

As the begijnhofs emptied, the old houses were taken over for new purposes. In Leuven, they were turned into student housing. Diest's was taken over by craft workshops and a restaurant, while Hasselt's crumbling

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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

June, 2009

Volunteer Recognition

Thirty-three members attended the annual Volunteer Dinner on April 15th. Margaret Wadsworth announced 1,689-1/4 hours were given to the Center of the past year. The top six individuals were: Celie Donohue, 332 hours; Gene Donohue, 137 hours; Catherine VanHecke, 129 hours; Millie Kale, 108 hours; Evelyn VanPuyvelde, 107 hours; and Albert VanPuyvelde, 99-1/4 hours.

Raffle prize winners were: Georgia Slininger, Belgian bag; Millie Kale, "Belgium" T-shirt; Jason Tanamor, Caribou Coffee certificate donated by the Hy-Vee; and Ron Vroman, key ring donated by the Union Pen Co. The bag and T-shirt were designed and donated by Coralee VanVooren Olszta.

The RSVP luncheon was held on April 23rd at the Milan Community Center, with 17 CBC members in attendance. This is always a well-attended affair with great food and entertainment. If you volunteer at the CBC and have not signed up, contact Margaret Wadsworth at 786-5791. RSVP is for all volunteers in the Quad Cities area.



The Last of Her Kind

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buildings were restored by art galleries and small businesses.

Now there is just one beguine left in the world. Sister Marcella Pattyn was born in 1920, and until recently, lived in the Kortrijk begijnhof. She was finally forced to move into a rest home.

Blind and in poor health, she doesn't give interviews. She told a local newspaper that she doesn't want to be seen as an exhibit, but it's hard to see her any other way; as the last member of an order that stretches back to a time when Flemish men died outside the walls of Jerusalem and women had to find a way of living alone in the world.

Thanks to Flanders Today

Two of the CBC volunteers are also volunteers at Trinity Regional Health System; Marian Knock and Bill Wadsworth. They received the President's Volunteer Call-to-Service Award, administered by the Points of Light Foundation. Both received a gold pin, a certificate of achievement, and a congratulatory letter from President Obama.