



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



January, 2010

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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backhome1@mchsi.com

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### Grant Chairman

Chris Vershaw

### Newsletter Editor

Dave Coopman  
d.coopman@mchsi.com

### Chaplain

Rev. Jim DeBisschop

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 2nd	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
January 2nd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
January 11th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
February 6th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
February 6th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
February 8th	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>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Sat., January 2nd	Celie Donohue (AM) Joan DeClerck (PM)	Maurine Schweitzer
Wed., January 6th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., January 9th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., January 13th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van DeVeire
Sat., January 16th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., January 20th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., January 23rd	Mary Karcher-Gardner	Margaret Wadsworth
Wed., January 27th	Margaret Wadsworth	Mary Rose DeCoster
Sat., January 30th	Mary Karcher-Gardner	Millie Kale

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

## - CORRECTION -



In last month's newsletter, there was an error in the address for Joe's Bread Company. Should you need to pick up a bread order at the bakery, it is the La Primavera Bakery, 527 14th Street, Moline. It was inadvertently given as "avenue" in the previous newsletter. Joe and your editor regret not catching this before it went to press.

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

## The CHANGE is Coming

Several times in past newsletters, we noted that because of a change in postal regulations, the CBC was incurring additional postage charges on newsletters returned due to postal forwarding problems. The Board decided to forgo the renewal of our bulk mail permit. By using email and first class mail for those who don't use the Internet, most of these forwarding problems should be eliminated and the CBC will save money overall.

The permit runs through the end of January. Our new "system" will begin with the March newsletter's mailing in February. Those members who are now receiving the newsletter by both mail and email, will receive only the email version in February. Those without the Internet will continue to receive their copies by regular mail.

If you have recently become part of the worldwide web (the Internet) and would like to receive your issue via email, send a note to [belgium032@gmail.com](mailto:belgium032@gmail.com).

## Birdies Say Thanks

The John Deere Classic golf tournament's Birdies for Charity program has issued checks to the CBC totaling \$2,513.99 for pledges received on behalf of the Center. The amount includes a 6% bonus from the tournament. Chairs Larry and Mary Lorensen thank all who pledged on behalf of the Center, as this money is used to support our scholarship fund.

We hope you will continue to support the CBC in the coming years, as John Deere has renewed and extended its sponsorship of this PGA golf tournament through 2014. The tournament awards over \$4.5 million per year to area charities and not-for-profit groups.

## The Kleine Winkel

A new shipment of "Being Belgian" T-shirts are in, including XL and XXL sizes. Fresh raisin bread – with our without cinnamon – is available from Joe's Bakery on every first Saturday. For special orders on the bread, call Joe at (309) 236-3670. Remember . . . bread, honey cake, and waffles are always in the Center's freezer.

If you would like a Belgian flag monogrammed, please contact Pam Welvaert Garvis at 797-8685 or 781-3650. The cost is \$10.00 plus tax.

## Annual Christmas Party

The weatherman gave us a perfect evening . . . no snow, sleet, or rain. We hadn't seen this in a long time. Everyone enjoyed great food by Diane DeBord and special entertainment by Jordan Catholic School eighth-grader Nick Boyd. He provided a wonderful half-hour of oldies, patriotic, and Christmas songs.

Special thanks go to Catherine VanHecke for organizing the appetizers and sparkling juices; Margaret Wadsworth for her addition of breads and spreads; Evelyn VanPuyvelde for chairing the event and providing raisin bread; Alan Hoyt for taking charge of the raffle; and to all who brought door prizes and such tasty desserts.



Two of the CBC Christmas Party attendees, LOIS & FRED DeCOSTER, pose for the party photographer.

## Are YOU Interested?

Every organization needs willing volunteers. With the election of officers coming up later this Spring, the CBC nominating committee will be looking for people who would be interested in serving as officers for the Center. All officers serve a term of two years. The positions are president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and member-at-large. Members interested in serving on one of the Center's various committees are also being sought out.

If you are interested in being considered for any of the officer positions or would like to serve on a committee, please send a note to Nominating Committee, Center for Belgian Culture, 712-18th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265 or via email at [belgium032@gmail.com](mailto:belgium032@gmail.com).

## News of the Membership

Thank You to **Paul Allaert** for the book on the Red Star Line and to the anonymous person who donated another puzzle to the Center.

Birthday greetings are extended to **Montrae DeBel**.

Get Well wishes are sent to **Barb Message**.

## Flemish Astronaut Returns

Flemish astronaut Frank De Winne landed in Kazathstan in early December after a six-month stay on the International Space Station. He was the first European ever to command a mission. De Winne returned with Russian and Canadian colleagues. Looking pale, thin, and otherwise healthy, they were immediately taken to a Russian hospital, where they would be examined for the long-term effects of weightlessness. De Winne traveled over 62 million miles at a maximum altitude of 248 miles. He served 46 days as mission commander and it took him and his colleagues 3.5 hours to descend to earth.

## Waffle Volunteers

Waffle chairperson Catherine VanHecke wishes to **thank ALL the great volunteers** who helped make the Center's Waffle Saturdays so successful this past year. You have all made everyone feel very welcomed at the breakfasts and are no doubt responsible for many return visits. Special thanks goes to Mike Kerchove, who mixes the waffle batter every month, comes in early to get the coffee started and put out the billboard. Again, thank you all for helping these breakfasts become so popular and successful!

Your waffle volunteers for January will be cooks/servers Bonnie and Jason Tanamor, Angela Jennes and Sage Roberson, Tom and Steve Slininger, and Joe DeMeyer. Mike Kerchove will have mixed the batter, Gene Donohue will work the kitchen, Evelyn VanPuyvelde and Marian Knock will take the money, and Catherine VanHecke will supervise the morning. See you at Waffle Saturday on January 2nd.

## How Do You Celebrate?

Christmas is a family time and every family has its own way of celebrating the holiday. There are certain customs that are followed every year. Those customs are called traditions.

Back in 1977, the *Quad-City Times* stopped people at Southpark Mall and asked what traditions their families followed. Karen and Jeanne Kale, daughters of Center archivist Millie Kale noted, "Our family always goes to midnight mass at Sacred Heart in Rock Island. Our dad sings in the choir. We open our gifts after mass, so that we don't have to get up early in the morning. And every year, Mom makes homemade raisin bread that she gives to relatives and friends as gifts."

Grant chairman Chris Vershaw, then an 11-year old, stated, "All the relatives come over on Christmas Eve and sit around and talk awhile. Then they go into the kitchen and make some drinks. After we eat, we open some presents. Then it's time for midnight mass at St. Mary's in Moline. When we get up in the morning, there's more presents under the tree. We always have a real Christmas tree, with an angel on top. And on Christmas Day, we go to my grandma's house, where there's more presents."

Traditions do change with time. But one thing is constant – it's a time for families to come together to share and rejoice. How do you celebrate?



Part of the holiday crowd at the Center's waffle breakfast and visit by St. Nicholas.

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**CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE**

*January, 2010*

## Hey, Good Lukken!

This is the time for all loyal Flemish-Americans to rally behind their "lukijzers" and bake the traditional New Year's treat called lukken. Not found in the standard Dutch dictionaries, the word "lukke" is listed in De Bo's Westvlaamsch Idioticon, a two-volume dictionary of West Flemish words and expressions. The word "lukke" is defined as a "thin, solid little wafer, usually oval-shaped, baked of flour, butter, and sugar." "Lukken" are given mostly as New Year's treats and are also called "Nieuwjaarswafeltjes." The expression "Het gaat lijk lukken bakken" (it goes like baking lukken), is said of something that can be done fast and easily.

The word "luk" is derived from the word "geluk," which can be translated as good luck, good fortune, or happiness. Similarly, the verb "lukken" is a form of "gelukken," which means to succeed, whereas "mislukken" means to fail. The adjective "gelukkig" means happy and is the usual Dutch word in greetings and good wishes. And you thought this was just about a cookie!

So important were these treats, that back in 1861, blacksmith Philippus Bossaer even composed a manual in which

he devoted several pages to drawings of baking irons, or "lukijzers".

To all the members of the CBC, we wish you a "Gelukkig Hieuwjaar" (Happy New Year), and best of luck with your "lukken!"

