



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

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



January, 2011

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 1st	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m. Closed in afternoon
January 10th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
February 5th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
February 5th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
February 14th	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., Jan. 1st	Celie Donohue (a.m. only; closed in p.m.)	
Wed., Jan. 5th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., Jan. 8th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., Jan. 12th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van DeVeire
Sat., Jan. 15th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., Jan. 19th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., Jan. 22nd	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Wed., Jan. 26th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Sat., Jan. 29th	Elaine Hendrickx	Bob Hendrickx

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

Please Check Ahead

With all the snow and resulting ice we've had and will probably continue to have during these winter months, please check ahead before visiting the CBC. We want everyone – visitors and volunteers – to be safe.



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

Nice Work if You Can Get It

A former employee of the city of Antwerp, who sat at home for five years waiting to be reassigned, does not have to pay back the salary he was paid during that time according to a court ruling. Technician Dirk Martens was sent to work for a local theatre group. The assignment lasted 13 years, but when the group decided they no longer needed Martens' services, he was not given any new assignment. Instead, he stayed at home waiting for a call. When the city council finally discovered the situation, they demanded he pay back the 155,000 Euros he had received in salary. A court struck down that demand.

(Courtesy of Flanders Today)

News of the Membership

Congratulations to Stella Hendricks on celebrating her 100th birthday; James and Rosalie Van Speybroeck on their 50th wedding anniversary; and to professor Jim VanSpeybroek as commencement speaker at St. Ambrose University's winter graduation.

Thank You to Art Holevoet for donating a framed picture of St. Anthony the Hermit; and to Sr. Lucia Kadolph for donating lace-making equipment.

Sympathy is offered to the family of former member Arthur Borgonjon, who passed away November 17, 2010. Arthur was a member of the Center's rolle bolle team and last competed in October.

Waffles on New Year's Day!



Volunteer cooks and servers for waffles on New Year's Day will be Fred and Lois DeCoster, Joe DeMeyer, Joan DeCap, and Margaret Wadsworth. Mike Kerckhove will prepare the batter, Gene Donohue will work the kitchen, Evelyn VanPuyvelde and Marian Knock will take your money, and Catherine VanHecke make sure everyone has a good time at this special Waffle Saturday

American College to Close

Due to a dwindling number of students, Leuven's American College of the Immaculate Conception will close in June 2011. "The seminary has served the church in the United States and other parts of the world faithfully, steadfastly, and zealously throughout its 154-year existence, and so this is a sad moment for many of us," stated Bishop David Ricken, chair of the board and bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Despite strong efforts, enrollment at the College, part of the Catholic University of Leuven, has dropped to an unsustainable level. Just four seminarians will be ordained during this academic year, and another 10 will continue their studies elsewhere. The closure is not related to the discussions about the Catholic identity of the University, nor the crisis in the Belgian Catholic Church.

The American College was founded in 1857 by Martin Spaulding, bishop of Louisville, Kentucky, and Peter Lefevre, bishop of Detroit, with the blessing and encouragement of Pope Pius IX.

Belgium was chosen as the site for the first U.S. seminary in Europe because the original plan for such a college in Rome could not be carried out due to political upheaval in Italy. Ironically, the other U.S. Catholic seminary in Europe, the Pontifical North American College in Rome, has just had its largest enrollment.

(Courtesy of Flanders Today)

From Your Waffle Chairperson

I want to thank everyone who helped with preparation, baking, serving, or cleaning up at the Center's waffle breakfasts during 2010. The monthly breakfasts would not be the success they are without your commitment and dedication.

I'd especially like to thank Mike Kerckhove for mixing the batter and starting the coffee each month, and getting everything ready early for Saturday mornings. There would be no waffles without Mike's mixing, and he never fails to help me get everything going for us.

The new signboard is up at the Center and is ready for volunteers to sign up for the months of February, March, April, and May. If you can assist us on a Saturday morning, please sign up. And again, thank you ALL for your help during this past year.

Catherine VanHecke



Christmas Party Recap

By all accounts, all 63 people in attendance enjoyed this year's CBC Christmas Party held December 13th at the Arbor Village clubhouse in Moline. Entertainment was provided by the St. Cecilia's Children's Choir.



Barb and Jim Message enjoy the music of the Children's Choir.

Raffle winners were Charlie VanOoteghem (snowman and sled), Kevin DeRoo (St. Nick in gold costume), and Dolores Bultinck (St. Bernardus beer). Greg Lievens, who was unable to attend, won the Harlan King art print.

A special "Thank You" goes to all who brought desserts to the dinner. It was reported that all were wonderfully tasty.



Raffle winners Margaret Wadsworth (accepting for Charlie VanOoteghem), Kevin DeRoo, and Dolores Bultinck.



Jim Cavins, Judy DePorter, and Donna Cavin



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We Aren't the Only Ones Cold

The first week in December gave Flanders its coldest start to winter since 1875. Snow and ice caused problems across Belgium on both roads and railways. Cold temperatures caused the construction industry to come to a halt. Waste collections in Limburg and Brussels were disrupted, as was mail delivery throughout East and West Flanders. Brussels airport faced some delays, but cancellations at destination airports were many, as Europe grappled with heavy early snow and freezing temperatures.

In De Panne, a 63-year-old Dutch woman died after being discovered on the beach suffering from hypothermia. While the exact nature of her death was still being investigated, it is thought she had been drinking.

(Courtesy of Flanders Today)



Pigeon Brings Record Price

Many consider them a nuisance. But one Japanese man has paid nearly \$223,000 for a pigeon. That record price was paid for Euro Diamond, a “super pigeon.” The on-line sale was organized by auction house Pigeon Paradise in Knesselare, East Flanders. It lasted for two days and 151 birds were sold, thanks to the interest in Euro Diamond.

Euro Diamond is an eight-year-old male, with an impressive record of long-distance race wins. He stopped racing in 2008 to enjoy a retirement of veneration and siring of offspring. The two German owners were offered \$262,000 for him several years ago, but preferred to keep him for his stud value.

Intense interest by pigeon-fanciers in the Far East is responsible for driving up prices, as the sport becomes more popular there. Belgium is where they come first for the best birds.

(Thanks to Flanders Today)