



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



August, 2011

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

### President

Kevin DeRoo

### Vice President

Steve Slininger

### Secretary

Karen VandeKerckhove

### Treasurer

Patrick VandeKerckhove

### Member at Large

Evelyn VanPuyvelde

### Past President

### Gift Shop

Celie Donohue

### Scholarship Committee

Tom Slininger

### Honorary Consul

Patrick Van Nevel  
pvannevel@msn.com

### Membership

Bill Coopman

### Waffle Chairman

Catherine VanHecke

### Flemings in the World

Marlene Shattuck

### Genealogy

Bev Francque

### Archivist

Millie Kale

### Rolle Bolle Rep.

Bill Fisher - 764-8068

### Publicity

Bonnie Tanamor

### Newsletter Editor

Dave Coopman  
d.coopman@mchsi.com

### Chaplain

Rev. Jim DeBisschop

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 6th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
August 6th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
August 8th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
August 20th	Flax-Linen-Lace	(see article pg. 2)
August 21st	Rolle Bolle (@ Geneseo)	1:00 to finish
August 28th	Rolle Bolle (@ Kewanee)	1:00 to finish
September 3rd	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
September 3rd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
September 4th	Rolle Bolle (@ Stephens Park)	1:00 to finish
September 5th	Rolle Bolle (@ Empire Park)	1:00 to finish
September 12th	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 August schedule is as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Wed., August 3rd	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., August 6th	Celie Donohue (a.m.) Barb Michalek (p.m.)	Maurine Schweitzer
Wed., August 10th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van DeVeire
Sat., August 13th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., August 17th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., August 20th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., August 24th	Georgia Slininger	Louis Slininger
Sat., August 27th	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Wed., August 31st	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth

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

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

## Renewal Reminder

One more reminder that it's time to renew your CBC membership. And why not get a friend, neighbor, or another relative to join the Center, too. As in the past, we'll provide you with a free waffle breakfast for every new member you bring into the CBC.

Remember to provide us with your e-mail address so you can receive your newsletter and special announcements faster than by postal mail. It also saves the Center money on postage. Members should send their e-mail address to: [belgium032@gmail.com](mailto:belgium032@gmail.com).

## News of the Membership

*Congratulations* to **Art and Linda VanHecke** on their 50th wedding anniversary, and to **Greg Lievens**, who was ordained a deacon at St. Raphael Cathedral in Dubuque, Iowa.

*Thank You* to: **Mary Lorensen** for the small doll making lace and book "Out of War: A Legacy of Art;" **Mary Gardner-Karcher** for Genealogy 1550-1800 Goethals-Aarsele and Ruiselede; **Tom and Delores Immesoete** for genealogy of the Immisoete family; **Carissa Dewaele** for a hand-painted silk WWI handkerchief, **James VanThorre** for the large photo of the 1913 celebration picnic for Ed Coryn, and Joyce Haskins for the lace-making cushion.

*Get Well* wishes are offered to **Joe VandeMoortel**.

*Sympathy* is offered to: the family of member **Mary Ann Witte**, 94, of Moline, who died July 24th at St. Anthony's Continuing Care Center; the family of member **James Roegiers** on his death on July 28th in Davenport; and to **Dewayne and Sylvia Taets** on the death of their granddaughter, Lily Taets.

## August Waffle Volunteers



Volunteer cooks and servers for our August waffle breakfast will be Mary Ann Zimmerman, Bonnie and Jason Tanamor, Angie Jennings, Sage Robinson, and Steve Slininger. Mike Kerckhove will prepare the batter, Gene Donohue will work the kitchen, Evelyn VanPuyvelde and Marian Knock will take your money, and Catherine VanHecke will welcome everyone.

## Lace Display Reminder

Just reminding you of the lace display to be held at the Atkinson Historical Museum on August 20th. It is presented by the CBC and the CBC Lacemakers, and will be hosted by Art Holevoet. The exhibit will run from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Examples of bobbin, needle, and ribbon lace will be on display, as well as lace makers demonstrating their craft.



## Heritage Essay

*continued from page 3*

this information into a strategic plan to make studying abroad more affordable, so that no student will be denied an international experience based on limited financial resources.

Serving as a delegate on this committee has been a privilege, as my mission is to encourage my peers to take advantage of international opportunities to expand their understanding of the world. Through my cultural experiences, I've apprehended the value of discovering my roots to better understand the obstacles and successes my ancestors faced, in order for me to be here today. Discovering my roots continues to be an exhilarating experience, and maybe someday, when future generations look back on my life, they, too, will be grateful for the wings their ancestors made possible for them.

## Heritage Essay

*Our first essay is by Michelle Eberhart, the Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholarship recipient. This scholarship is given to student who has completed two years of college and is continuing with his/her education. Michelle graduated from Maquoketa High School and is a student at St. Ambrose University. In high school, she was class valedictorian, a State of Iowa Scholar, lettered in cross-country all four years, and was Homecoming Queen. At St. Ambrose, she has been a peer mentor, and is on the College of Business and College of Arts and Sciences Councils.*

### ROOTS AND WINGS by Michelle Eberhart

Staring at the stars in the February night, gazing upon the thousands of lights of the Grand Market, and taking in the magnificent architecture of Brussels' rich history, was a moving moment in my young life. While studying abroad in Europe last spring, I was blessed with the experience of traveling to the home countries of my ancestors, including Belgium, Germany, and Ireland. Such experiences reminded me of a Hodding Carter quote that my great aunt shared with me: "There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other, wings." While tracing back my roots has proved to be challenging, I am thankful for the unimaginable sacrifices my ancestors have made to search for better lives, in order to give me wings of my very own.



Such hardships begin with my paternal grandfather, who regrettably never knew his own parents. When my great grandparents were unable to feed their son Albert, they put him on a train from Oklahoma with a note pinned to his bibs, begging someone to take care of him. He arrived in Iowa on what is now known as the infamous "Orphan Train," but never disclosed much else while he was living. He married a woman named Rose at a young age, and the two later had ten kids, my father being the youngest.

My family genealogy shows that Rose's mother was born in 1881 in Belgium, and most likely was widowed and remarried. The only family record my relatives know of was my great, great grandmother's obituary, written in Dutch, which has unfortunately been lost. We do know, however, that my grandma's last name was DeVoss, which was changed to simply Voss when her parents pioneered to the United States.

My maternal side has extensive information, thanks to the efforts of my aunt Jane, who possesses a copy of my great, great, great grandfather Johann Joseph Jacobs' paper that he carried over with him from Germany, giving him geographic directions on how to reach the Midwest. Fleeing from German officials, he found victory in his risk-taking and bravery. My grandmother's origins trace back to Ireland, where my ancestors, faced with the threat of starvation from the potato famine, gambled their lives on a boat, often called "coffin ships," to trek to America.

Through my research, I've realized that the tribulations my ancestors overcame should not be disheartening, but a cause for celebration. Their inspirational triumphs in times of hardship gave hope to future generations, and their stories live on through us. For this reason, as a young 4-H'er, I partook in a play for the 100-year "Orphan Train" reunion in Delmar, Iowa, where remaining survivors heard their heartfelt stories of being removed from their surroundings and relocated to the Midwest. Although Grandpa Albert passed before I got to know him, playing the role of a young girl in this play allowed me to grasp both the fear and relief my grandfather must have felt through his experience.

To share my heritage with others, I actively participate in St. Ambrose University's multicultural day, each August. On this occasion, campus members join in fellowship, bringing a dish to share from their heritage. This past August, I prepared a traditional Irish stew and shared stories of my study abroad adventures.

Boarding a plane to Ireland without knowing a soul, was the most frightening, yet most fulfilling experience I could ever ask for. While living in Carlow for six months, I joined a local church and Bible study group, where I became great friends with fellow parishioners through community service projects. I developed lifelong friendships with my Irish flatmates, and even met new friends with whom I would explore European countries.

My international experiences permitted me a nomination for the Center for International Education's Strategic Planning Committee, a two-year commitment devoted to improving the study abroad program for the faculty, staff, and students of St. Ambrose, as well as incoming international students worldwide. As one of only two undergraduate students on this force, I conducted nationwide surveys for the funding committee. We are currently implementing

*continued on page 2*

**CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE**  
**of Western Illinois, Inc.**  
712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265

**CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE**

*August, 2011*

**Membership Renewal** (Please detach and return)

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiting Member's Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/2011

Would you like to volunteer? If yes, please let us know how below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Annual Fees Enclosed (check appropriately):

Single/Family (one per household)                      \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Senior (70+) Single/Family (one per household)      \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note that complimentary memberships are automatically renewed.*