



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



September, 2011

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

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.
October 1st	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
October 1st	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
October 10th	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 September schedule is as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Sat., Sept. 3rd	Celie Donohue (a.m.) Barb Michalek (p.m.)	Maurine Schweitzer
Wed., Sept. 7th	Evelyn VanPuyvelde	Al VanPuyvelde
Sat., Sept. 10th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., Sept. 14th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van DeVeire
Sat., Sept. 17th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Wed., Sept. 21st	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., Sept. 24th	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Wed., Sept. 28th	Georgia Slininger	Louis Slininger

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

Enjoy and be safe on the last holiday of the summer – LABOR DAY!

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

News of the Membership

Thank You to **Clara Van De Veire** for donating a purse and wooden shoes to sell in the Kleine Winkel.

Sympathy is offered to the family of member **Dan Verkinderen**, 75, of Ghent, Minnesota, who died June 2nd. Dan was responsible for bringing the electric lukken iron into existence using a regular waffle iron and inserting new plates to change it into a four-cookie iron. He was also well-known for promoting and making rolle bolles.

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.

Waffle Visitors

By now, most of you know of Charlie VanOoteghem's efforts in obtaining a copy of the lost citation outlining the events that led to his father Camiel receiving the Silver Star from Gen. John Pershing. Charlie's persistence was rewarded on Memorial Day at National Cemetery, when he received a copy of that citation. The two individuals most responsible for making that happen were Rep. Bobby Schilling and his veterans' affairs officer Ken Moffett. Multi-medal winner Bill Albrecht will join them.

Charlie has invited the men to join us for September's waffle breakfast and to discover a little more about the CBC. They will be at the Center early. Give them a warm welcome and say "hello" when you see them. Charlie will be full of pride, and so will we.

September Waffle Volunteers



Volunteer cooks and servers for our September waffle breakfast will be Joe DeMeyer, Mary Ann Zimmerman, Charlie VanOoteghem, and Margaret and Bill 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 will welcome everyone.

Selling Belgium

A nine-day Belgian economic mission to the U.S., led by Prince Phillippe and Princess Mathilde was held during June. It began in New York, and included Washington, D.C. and Boston. The mission highlighted the extraordinary opportunities for investment, trade, and innovation afforded by Belgium's dynamic economy and society. It also promoted cultural appreciation, advocated for philanthropic community development, and raised issue awareness around challenges such as improving childhood literacy, eliminating poverty, and curing cancer.

The Belgian delegation included nearly 300 representatives from key industrial sectors including public and private organizations, industry and service companies, chambers of commerce, financial institutions, and universities. Regional leaders from Brussels, Flanders, and Wallonia also participated.



Princess Mathilde and Prince Phillippe
(courtesy FlynetPictures.com)

Heritage Essay

This month's essay is by CBC scholar Kaylynn Barker of Colona, Illinois. Kaylynn was a student at United Township High School and maintained a 4.0 grade scale, based on a grading scale of 4. Her class ranking was 2nd in a class of 366 students. At UT, she was president of the National Honor Society, president of the symphonic band and member of the marching band, treasurer of the Spanish National Honor Society, and played forward on the soccer team. Kaylynn plans to study biology at Illinois Institute of Technology.

HERITAGE ESSAY
by Kaylynn Barker



In the early 1900s, my mother's side of the family traveled to America from Belgium in order to live a better life. My great-great grandfather DeRuytter was the first to arrive because he wanted to get a job and be settled before my great-great grandma and her three daughters came to America. She was also pregnant with my great grandpa Frank at the time. She arrived in America just before he was born, so he was the first one in our family to be born in America. When my great-great grandfather's entire family arrived in America, he made certain that they were taken care of and provided for; he was a hardworking man. An example of this is how even though people had begun using tractors, he continued to use huge horse plows. My family has always been known for how hard working we are, and this reflects perfectly my great- great granddad.

Along with being a hard worker, my great-great grandpa DeRuytter was also a funny man to be around, without meaning to be. A story that has been passed through my family through the generations was how when my great-great grandpa first came to the country, he tried to eat a banana with skin and all because he had never seen one before! Food plays an important role in our family. When my great-great grandpa arrived here before the rest of his family, he found a job in Davenport, Iowa working in the onion fields. He would prepare the vegetables, fertilize them, and harvest them when they were ready. From that job he decided he wanted to be a farmer of his own land, and so that is what he did. My great-great grandma always prepared food right from their farm. They would can their own meats and prepare their own sausages with casings, too. Another popular food item in their household was raisin bread. My great-great grandma used to joke around saying that when

she went to make raisin bread, there would never be enough raisins to make it because me great-great grandpa would eat them all! One very odd, Belgian treat he enjoyed was called "milk in a cup" which was pieces of bread soaked in milk.

Although my family has been in the United States for a fairly long time, we still practice some of the traditions my family members brought with them, excluding "milk in a cup." My grandma grew up on the DeRuytter farm and would tell me her memories of how she helped her mother in the kitchen with the food and how she would ride her grandfather's horses Molly and Dolly. My mom also tells me stories of playing on the DeRuytter farm and of how she used to help my great grandpa set traps in the woods for muskrats and minks.

It's sad that I will not have the experiences of growing up on that farm, but I still am connected with my Belgian heritage through our customs. One fun and tasty tradition my family still practice is the baking of lukken at Christmas time. All the women of the family get together once a year to bake dozens of these Belgian cookies. My aunt still owns her own lukken iron on which we make them too. I remember sitting the lukken out for Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, hoping that he would like the Belgian cookies we made, but he did always seemed to finish them. Another custom we are all still very active in today is being members of the Roman Catholic Church. My whole family and I attend mass every week, and afterwards, we go out to eat! My great grandma is 94 years old and she just recently quit going to mass, but she makes sure that all her grandkids are still going!

Since my grandpa was adopted and my German side of the family has been in America since 1870s at the latest, our Belgian heritage has lasted the longest. I hope to continue these Belgian traditions I have grown up with so I can pass them off to my children one day. The customs my family has keeps us more unified, and family gatherings are never dull with all the recollections and stories being shared.

Man Bites Dog

Karl Vervloet saw no other option when a pit bull attacked his Lhasa Apso. He took hold of the attacker and bit its nose, forcing it to loosen its grip on his dog. Master and Lhasa are now recovering from bite wounds.

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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

September, 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.