



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

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



February, 2012

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

February 2nd	Belgian Bluff Meeting	7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
February 4th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
February 4th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
February 13th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
March 3rd	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
March 3rd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
March 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 February schedule is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Gift Counter</b>	<b>Host/Hostess</b>
Wed., Feb. 1st	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Sat., Feb. 4th	Celie Donohue (a.m.) Barb Michalek (p.m.)	Maurine Schweitzer
Wed., Feb. 8th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van DeVeire
Sat., Feb. 11th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., Feb. 15th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., Feb. 18th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., Feb. 22nd	tba	tba
Sat., Feb. 25th	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Wed., Feb. 29th	tba	tba

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

## Please Check Ahead

Winter weather has finally arrived. 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**

## News of the Membership

Thank You to all who donated or loaned items to make the Center's Christmas windows look so beautiful. **Jim and Marge DeDecker** provided the manger and figurines; **Evelyn and Al VanPuyvelde**, the wooden shoes, lace tablecloth, and antique chair; and **Celie Donohue** for her grandmother Anna VandenBossche's mixing bowl.

Congratulations to **Donna and Jim Cavins**, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 27th.

Sympathy is offered to: the family of **Eugene Sonnevile**, 73, who passed away December 21st in California; the family of longtime member **Mary Brunning**, 90, who died January 6th in Davenport; the Rafferty and DeRoo families on the death of **Larry Rafferty**, 72, who died January 13th in Moline; and the family of **Stephen Witte**, 70, who died January 14th.

## Scholarship Applications

Application forms for the CBC Scholarships are now available on the table at the Center. Copies are also being sent to area high schools. Three scholarships in the amount of \$750 each will again be awarded.

Applications for the Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholarship are also available at the Center. This scholarship has a value of \$1000 and is awarded to a deserving student who has completed at least two years of college and plans to continue his/her education.

## February Waffle Volunteers



Volunteer cooks and servers for our February waffle breakfast will be Joanne Jennings, Bertha Bredner, Sandy and Bill Coopman, Dave Coopman, and Art Holevoet. Mike Kerckhove will prepare the batter and brew the coffee, Joan DeCap and Marion Knock will take your money, and Theresa Bailey will fill in for the vacationing (in Hawaii) Catherine VanHecke to make sure everyone has a good time.

## Belgian Bluff

The second community meeting by the City of Moline regarding the nomination of the Belgian Bluff area as a National Register Historic District will be Thursday, February 2nd, 7:00 p.m. at the Butterworth Center Carriage House on the corner of 12th Avenue and 7th Street.

Rebecca Gall, historic preservation specialist, will provide further information on the nomination and answer any property owner concerns. The meeting is open to the public and there is no charge to attend.



## Who Likes to Shop?

After 22+ years, I have decided it is time to "retire" as buyer for the CBC's gift shop – the Kleine Winkel. It has been a labor of love. But the art of buying has changed and so has the merchandise. We can no longer purchase the Val St. Lambert crystal, the sand figurines, or the Belgian pewter. It has become much harder to obtain the lace. Calling the vendor or visiting the Chicago Mart are passé. The Internet seems to be the answer. In this case, the Center needs new, young blood for the task.

I know there is someone out there that would be a great buyer and displayer of the fine merchandise. I would work with you until you become comfortable on your own. The task is not difficult, and it's time for new ideas and new merchandise.

Celie Donohue  
(309) 792-8246  
13celie@gmail.com

## We Love Mysteries

Recently I was asked about the letters R.I.B. above the door on the old tavern building at 10th Street and 18th Avenue in Moline. Two people have given me a possible answer, but I thought I'd poll the membership to see if they had any information.

While I'm not certain that the building dates back this far, a city directory shows Gust Anderson's Fancy Goods and Notions at that address in the late 1890s. Directories showed saloons at that address beginning in 1903, with names like VanPoucke, DeLoof, Staes, VanKerrebroeck, and Morrell as owners.

If you have any information about what the letters R.I.B. might stand for, please contact me at 762-6227 or d.coopman@mchsi.com. I'll let you know in next month's newsletter what answers have turned up.



## World's Most Expensive Chocolate

It's pretty well known that Belgium is home to some of the world's greatest chocolate. But this year tops them all with a diamond in a "praline."

A collaboration between Brussels chocolatier Paul Wittamer and jeweler Fabienne Lascar produced a chocolate adorned with a 3.63 carat diamond, which is sold for just \$240,000.

Perhaps a little too expensive? A cheaper version adorned with Cubic Zirconia sells for just \$26 at the Wittamer's shops. We doubt there will be a long line at any of the stores.

*(Thanks to Gazette Van Detroit)*

## Buggy about Bugs

Ghent University professor Guy Smagghe has been inducted into the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science for his work on the role of insects in agriculture. He is only the second person ever from Flanders to win membership to the 137-year-old institution, after Nobel prize-winning biochemist Christian DeDuve. Smagghe's work concentrates on insect physiology and pest control.



*(From Flanders Today)*

## Cruise Ships coming to Brussels

By 2015, the Port of Brussels will be greeting passengers at its new terminal for cruise ships. The site will be near Meudon Park and will make use of two gatehouses that once belonged to Meudon Castle, built in 1770. Napoleon and Pope Leo XII once occupied the castle.

Construction will involve the installation of a 240-meter pontoon-docking platform, gatehouse renovation, a new parking lot, and updates on the surrounding roads.

The decision to build the terminal followed a study that showed passenger growth to 35,000 visitors by 2035. The vessels able to use the terminal will be limited to river-cruise boats with a draft of less than six meters. Those types of crafts can carry 500-1000 passengers.

Passengers will be able to arrive in attractive surroundings, then board shuttle busses to bring them to the city center.

*(From Flanders Today)*





Remember the Kleine Winkle when shopping for a Valentine gift.

*Happy Valentine's Day!*