



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

712 - 18th Avenue, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



June, 2012

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 28th	Memorial Day Waffles	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
June 2nd	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
June 2nd	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
June 11th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
June 27th	Scholarship Dinner	see news item
July 7th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
July 7th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
July 9th	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 June schedule is as follows:

Date	Gift Counter	Host/Hostess
Sat., June 2nd	Celie Donohue (a.m.) Barb Michalek (p.m.)	Kevin DeRoo (a.m.) Millie Kale
Wed., June 6th	Al Hoyt	Al Hoyt
Sat., June 9th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., June 13th	Mary Lou Andrae	Clara Van DeVeire
Sat., June 16th	Lois DeCoster	Fred DeCoster
Wed., June 20th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., June 23rd	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Wed., June 27th	Georgia Slininger	Louis Slininger
Sat., June 30th	Maurine Schweitzer	Maurine Schweitzer



Happy Father's Day

Sunday, June 17th

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 **Marian Knock** for the lace making supplies and related materials for the Kleine Winkel; George Raes of DeWitt, Iowa, for the picture "In Flanders Field;" and to all members who provided desserts for the volunteer dinner.

Congratulations to Bernice Beiermann, mother of **DeWayne Taets**, **Mary Lou Andrae**, **Bonnie Newman**, **Tom Taets**, and **Marilyn McAvoy**, on her 90th birthday on May 8th; and to **Jane Vershaw**, honored by the Peoria Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, for her volunteer work. Jane is a member of St. Mary's (Moline) Altar and Rosary Society, sacristan, extraordinary minister of holy Communion, served as president of the Alleman Home and School Assoc., was a member of the St. Mary's school board, and a former catechist.

Sympathy is offered to the families of **Dave Coppens** and **Kay Dellos** on the death of **Lucy DeWalsche**, 98, of Coralville, Iowa, formerly of Moline, who passed away April 23rd in Coralville; **Mike Kerckhove** on the death of his father Maurice Kerckhove, 89, of Moline, who passed away May 6th at St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley; **Irene Boostrom**, 99, of Moline, who passed away May 9th at the

Kahl Home in Davenport; **Bill Cornelis**, on the death of his mother, Ellen Cornelis, 87, of Moline, who passed away May 10th at the Kahl Home in Davenport; and former member Joseph DeSutter on the death of his wife Mary Ann, 89, of St. Joseph Home, Lacon, Illinois, formerly of Kewanee, who passed away May 10th in Peoria.



Helping Evelyn and Albert VanPuyvelde celebrate their 90th birthdays at the April open house were L-R: Jesse Shattuck, Evelyn, Marlene Shattuck, Albert, and Art Holevoet.

Volunteers Honored

As April was National Volunteer Month, the volunteers at the CBC were honored at a dinner on April 24th. There were 40 in attendance and everyone enjoyed VandeRuben sandwiches and Belgian beer. CBC president Kevin DeRoo presided over the evening and Fr. Jim DeBisschop said grace. A drawing was held and the winners were Marian Knock, Al VanHecke, and Colleen Reese.

Those with the most volunteer hours were Catherine VanHecke, Millie Kale, Celie Donohue, Gene Donohue, Dave Coopman, and Alan Hoyt.

On Thursday, April 26th, RSVP held its annual luncheon at the Milan Community Center. Thirteen from the CBC were in attendance for this event.

If you would like to be an RSVP member, there are sign-up sheets available at the CBC, and we'll take care of forwarding the data to RSVP. As an RSVP member who volunteers more than 15 hours/year, you will receive a nice luncheon and the state gets credits for those who volunteer. If you volunteer for other organizations, churches, and the like, those hours will be added to your RSVP total.



CBC volunteers with the largest number of hours for last year are L-R: Millie Kale, Catherine VanHecke, Dave Coopman, and Celie Donohue. Gene Donohue and Al Hoyt were absent.

After a number of years as the CBC's contact to RSVP, "Marvelous" Margaret Wadsworth has retired from this duty. A heartfelt "Thank You" goes to Margaret for all her years of record keeping for us. Linda Polich will now be our RSVP contact.

A Little Belgium in Texas

(Karen VandeKerckhove contributed the following item.)

For the past three winters, Pat and I have spent the winter at Alamo Palms, Texas. Alamo is four hours from San Antonio. We have made many new friends, including Eric and Janice Vanneste from London, Ontario.

In January, an international dinner was held at the dining hall and we were requested to decorate our table with a country theme. Eric was born in Hooglede, West Flanders. That town is located about halfway between Brugge and Ypres. Janice was born in Canada (maiden name Van Laecke), but her parents were born in East Flanders.

We have a lot in common with the Vanneste's, since Pat's dad and grandparents were born in Gullegem and his mother's parents (surnames Lecot and DeWaegenare) were also born in Belgium. My maternal grandparents, Art and Mary (VanTieghem) VanKerrebroeck were also born in Belgium.



L-R: Karen and Pat VandeKerckhove, and Janice and Eric Vanneste.

A quick call to Celie Donohue for flags, etc., and pictures taken by Eric and Janice on their trip to Belgium gave us the perfect Belgium tribute for the dinner.

Remembering Lucy

(Celie Donohue contributed the following item.)

On Monday, April 23rd, one of the pillars of the CBC passed away. Lucy DeWalsche would have turned 99 years old in just a few weeks.

Lucy was a charter member and spent hours tending to the Center on Wednesdays and Saturdays. She greeted people, took charge of the Kleine Winkel, and kept the Center sparkling with her natural Belgian "white glove."

I worked with Lucy quite often and loved her wry sense of humor. She was half – my mother the other half – of the motivation for me to keep going. She had done so much to make the Center proud, and it had to continue.

Along came the 1980s and Gene and I moved to Hinsdale. When I came back to the QC, I would visit Lucy and the Center. Often times her sisters, Madge Coppens and Irene Staes, would be there with coffee and cookies. They all were precious ladies!

When I returned to Moline in 1990, Lucy said to me, "Celie, I saved all this for you to put in place. I know you can find a place and a space." Very few pictures were on the walls, and most everything was in boxes on the shelves in back. The Kleine Winkel was flourishing at that time. The CBC sold Val St. Lambert chrysalis, bobbin lace was plentiful, as were the tiny sand sculptures made in Belgium. Lucy kept it all going!

June Waffle Volunteers

Volunteer cooks and servers for the June 2nd waffle breakfast will be Millie Kale, Angie and Sage Jennes, and Steve and Tom Slininger. Mike Kerckhove will prepare the batter and brew the coffee, Joan DeCap and Marian Knock will take your money, and Catherine VanHecke will make sure everyone has a good time.

One of the items I found in a box at the back of the Center was a floral book, hand-written in Flemish, by Raymond DeRycke, owner of Sunnyside Greenhouses. Sunnyside was located on 10th Avenue and 5th Street, south of Lutheran Hospital. Lucy worked for the DeRycke's for many years. I am sure she was the "garden angel" who saw to it that this precious book made its way to the CBC. It contained information on every flower grown in Belgium and again, all hand-written and signed by Mr. DeRycke. He even made the cover. The book has been framed and is on display at the CBC.

God had to wait a long time for this good soul. I just bet she had a rag to dust off the pearly gates before entering. And I'm sure she gave St. Peter that sly look that said, "the gates have never been so shiny!!"

We all "loved Lucy!"

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More About RSVP

RSVP, a part of Senior Corps, is America's largest volunteer network for people age 55 and over. When you join RSVP, you are part of a 500,000-plus network of volunteers who are tackling tough issues in their communities. It offers a full range of volunteer opportunities with thousands of local and national organizations. With RSVP you choose how, where, and the amount of time you want to serve.

The Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging is the local sponsor for RSVP. It recruits, orients, and places senior volunteers in public and not-for-profit programs and agencies. Membership is free and members benefit from free supplemental insurance while volunteering and fun recognition events.

The Center for Belgian Culture is part of RSVP. For many years, Margaret Wadsworth was the CBC's representative to this group, lining up new volunteers and reporting hours worked. She has taken a well-earned "retirement" from these duties and our sincerest thanks. Our new representative is Linda Polich. Linda will be more than happy to explain the program and enroll anyone interested in becoming part of RSVP. There are enrollment forms at the

Scholarship Dinner

Come salute the CBC and Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholars! June 27th is the date, with a social hour beginning at 5:30 p.m. and dinner served at 6:30 p.m. We'll also have some grab bags for sale for \$5.00, with neat prizes and a large grand prize. Reservations for dinner must be made by June 22nd. The cost is \$10.00/person and there is a sign-up sheet on the counter at the Center, or you can call Celie Donohue at (309) 792-8246. Board members are asked to bring some desserts.



Center, or you can contact Linda at (309) 234-5151 and she will provide more information. We encourage you to joint RSVP. You not only help others, but you help yourself as well – with new discoveries and new friends.