



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

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



June, 2013

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 1st	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
June 1st	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
June 10th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
June 26th	Scholarship Dinner	5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
July 6th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
July 6th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
July 8th	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 1st	Kevin DeRoo (a.m.) Barb Michalek (p.m.)	Kevin DeRoo (a.m.) Barb Michalek (p.m.)
Wed., June 5th	Dave Coopman	Dave Coopman
Sat., June 8th	No Volunteer	No Volunteer
Wed., June 12th	Mary Lou Andrae	Bonnie Newman
Sat., June 15th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., June 19th	Celie Donohue	Gene Donohue
Sat., June 22nd	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Wed., June 26th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Sat., June 29th	Jan Irwin	Jan Irwin

Contact Mary Gardner-Karcher at (563) 508-0886 or
mcgkarcher@mchsi.com as soon as possible
if there is a conflict with your scheduled time.

Flag Day – Friday, June 14th

Happy Father's Day – Sunday, June 16th

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

And Speaking of Volunteers . . .

If we sound like a broken record, then I guess we are. Volunteers operate the Center. But how many times do the same people have to donate their time over and over to help out at Open Houses and at waffle breakfasts? Why can't some new faces donate a few hours a month or every few months and help us? It's not hard work and it can actually be fun. With all due respect, many of our volunteers are aging and at some point won't be able to always respond to our call for help. Some of our faithful volunteers spend winters in warmer climates. And don't forget that our volunteers like to occasionally take a vacation. The pool of volunteers is dwindling and **WE NEED HELP!**

Right now, we need gift counter volunteers during the open houses. If we were to get enough people to step forward, you would only have to work three or four afternoons a year. The same goes for waffle breakfasts. Volunteering to bake or serve waffles a few times a year will help us cover those needs. What will it take to move you? Without volunteers, the Center for Belgian Culture will cease to exist, and what a shame that would be – especially in light of the fact that at one time we had the second largest population of Belgian emigrants in the U.S.



Celie Donohue (left) and Millie Kale volunteered to promote the CBC at the 39th Quad Cities Genealogical Conference held on April 27th at the Viking Club in Moline.

If you can help, please contact Mary Gardner-Karcher at (563) 508-0886. And to all our past and present volunteers, we cannot say “thank you” enough. We hope you know you are truly appreciated!

News of the Membership

Congratulations to **Joanne Jennings**, one of 48 honored as outstanding volunteer by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women; and to **Scott Raes**, past president of the CBC, on being elected Moline mayor.

Get Well wishes are extended to **Al DeCap**.

Sympathy is offered to the family of former member Ray Welvaert, 85, of East Moline, who died May 14th in East Moline.

Scholarship Dinner

You still have the opportunity of saluting the CBC and Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholars on June 26th. A social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$10.00/person and reservations must be made by June 21st. There is a sign-up sheet at the Center, or you can call the Center at (309) 762-0167 and leave your name and number of reservations. We'll also have some grab bags for sale for \$5.00, with neat prizes and a large grand prize. If you have a grab bag item, you can leave them at the Center. Come help us honor our scholars.

June Waffle Volunteers



Volunteer cooks and servers for the June waffle breakfast will be Bertha Bredar, Joanne Jennings, Karen and Pat VandeKerckhove, Lois and Fred DeCoster, and Gene Donohue. Mike Kerckhove will mix the batter and start the coffee, and Joan DeCap will cashier. Catherine VanHecke will help insure everyone has a good time.

Volunteer Dinner

Our volunteer dinner was well attended with almost 40 people present. Alan Hoyt and Ray Coppens won the door prizes. The Belgian Village gift certificate winner was Fred Polich. Thank you to the Mannings for donating the certificate.

The Friendscircle Club

No, that's not a misspelling. The club's name was originally spelled this way. At a meeting in April 1915, a group of men felt that with so many Belgian families living in the western Bluff district, there was a need for a social club to furnish a means of recreation.

A group of officers was elected and all agreed to call the club Friendscircle. The Sonnevile Building at Ninth Street and 18th Avenue was rented and the first of many monthly meetings was held there. From then on, the club grew steadily and furnished decent entertainment for its members and their families.

In the early years, many of the Belgians had not yet become American citizens. Naturalization classes were given by Louis Sonnevile, Joseph DeBisschop, Phil Leon, Leon Ros, Ed Andries, and Jules DeMeulenaere.

In 1923, Friendscircle Hall was inaugurated at 1722-1/2 Seventh Street. It became a popular place for cards, billiards, and archery and rolle bolle contests.

As the club's treasury grew, so did its real estate holdings. It not only took over the ground floor of its club building, but it also operated a camp on the Rock River. The camp offered a large dance floor surrounded by screened porches where members and their families enjoyed themselves during the hot summer months.

In 1965, the club, now known as the Friends Circle Club, started a bicycle race in the Seventh Street area to coincide with the club's 50th Anniversary. After that first year, the name of the race was changed to the Moline Criterium and was sponsored by the VFW. When the VFW withdrew as the title sponsor, the Friends Circle raised funds and sponsored the race for the first time. The club continued to sponsor the bike races until 1971.

Watch for Details

Invitations will soon be in the mail for the Center for Belgian Culture's 50th Anniversary celebration. Save the date of October 26th, as that's the date of the celebratory dinner at Oakwood Country Club.

At the dinner, there will be a special ceremony honoring the person or persons who have contributed to the growth of the CBC. Letters will be sent to the recipient(s) mid-June so they will have time to invite their family and friends to the dinner.

Belgium Attacks S. Korea

News has emerged that Belgian computers were used as part of a massive cyber-attack on South Korea four years ago. The dailies *De Standaard* and *Het Nieuwsblad* discovered that North Korea launched the attack using Belgian computers, and maybe, even yours.

In the cyber-attack, computers logged on to several South Korean government websites all at the same time and without interruption. The attack took the websites offline.

The Belgian computers were reportedly involved in the attack after their users visited an entertainment website set up by the VRT Radio station Studio Brussels to honor American pop star Michael Jackson. At the time, Jackson's fans around the world seized the opportunity to post their version of his famous Moonwalk on the website. As a result of visiting the VRT site, detrimental software called malware nestled on the computers of the unsuspecting web visitors.

(Thanks to *Gazette van Detroit*)

**Sunday,
September 15, 2013**



**Stephens' Park
Moline, IL**

Celebrate the history of the Olde Towne neighborhood with an afternoon of Belgian tradition, culture, food, and sport!

100-400 pm • FREE ADMISSION



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June, 2013

Membership Renewal (Please detach and return)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: () _____ **Email:** _____

Recruiting Member's Name (if applicable): _____

Date: ____/____/2013

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.