



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

1608 Seventh Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



August, 2015

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Kevin DeRoo

Vice President

Steve Slininger

Secretary

Karen VandeKerckhove

Treasurer

Alan Hoyt

Member at Large

Paul Rumler

Past President

Celie Donohue

Scholarship Committee

Steve Slininger

Honorary Consul

Patrick Van Nevel
pvannevel@msn.com

Membership

Bill Coopman

Waffle Chairman

Catherine VanHecke

Flemings in the World

Marlene Shattuck

Genealogy

Linda Polich
bergie1985@frontiernet.net

Archivist

Millie Kale

Marketing

Angie Jennes

Newsletter Editor

Dave Coopman
d.coopman@mchsi.com

Volunteer Recruiter

Jan Irwin
(309) 230-1645

Gift Shop

Diana Slininger

Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 1st	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
August 1st	Belgian Lace Makers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
August 10th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
August 14th-15th	Yard Sale (see article)	8:00 a.m. to noon

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>
Sat., August 1st	Millie Kale (am)	Barb Michalek (pm)
Wed., August 5th	Alan Hoyt	Alan Hoyt
Fri., August 7th	Rose VanAcker	Joan DeClerk
Sat., August 8th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., August 12th	Mary Lou Andrae	Bonnie Newman
Fri., August 14th	Georgia Slininger	Bev Fullmer
Sat., August 15th	Kim Kochuyt	Kim Kochuyt
Wed., August 19th	Barb Coppens	Linda Polich
Fri., August 21st	Georgia Slininger	Bev Fullmer
Sat., August 22nd	Jan Irwin	Jan Irwin
Wed., August 26th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Fri., August 28th	Bob Francione	Bob Francione
Sat., August 29th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher

Contact Celie Donohue at (309) 792-8246
as soon as possible if there is a schedule conflict.

TRIBUTE TO A TRIBUTE

Fire stations around the world observed a minute of silence at 8:00 p.m. Belgian time on July 16th to mark the 30,000th Last Post ceremony under the Menin Gate in Ypres. It was a worldwide commemoration of the fallen in the First World War. The Last Post started in 1928 and has been held every evening since, except when Belgium was under German occupation during WWII.

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

CBC's Yard Sale

The CBC Yard Sale will be held on Friday, August 14th, and Saturday, August 15th, at Bonnie and Jason Tanamor's, 1628 22nd Street, Rock Island. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to Noon each day.

For larger item pick-up before the sale, you can call (309) 912-2692. Pick-up or your delivery to the Tanamor's above address will be Sunday, August 9th, or Monday, August 10th.

Check your homes for items that you can contribute to this sale. However, NO clothing, books, computers, or large appliances can be accepted.

If you can volunteer your help either or both of the yard sale days, please phone Millie Kale at (309) 786-7827.

News of the Membership

Congratulations to **Larry Lorensen** who received the Hall of Fame award from the John Deere Classic for 35 years of volunteer service. Larry is heard on the first tee, introducing players as they start each round of the tournament. And congrats are also due **Sandy Coopman** for being named a Volunteer of the Year at the John Deere Classic.

Thank You to Karen and Theresa Cone for the antique hand saw and loom parts.

Get Well wishes are continued for **Celie Donohue** and for a speedy recovery to **Catherine VanHecke** following her knee surgery.

AUGUST WAFFLE VOLUNTEERS



The volunteers for August's breakfast will be Linda Polich, Phyllis Witherspoon, Bill Cornelis, Teresa Nelson, Jan Irwin, and Kevin DeRoo. Mike Kerckhove will make the mix and start the coffee, Angie Jennes will supervise the kitchen, Joan DeCap will cashier, and Catherine VanHecke will be exercising her new knee and greeting people.

The Scholars

On July 17th, a reception was held to announce the recipients of the CBC Scholarships and the Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholarship. The CBC scholars are Hanna Coene, Ryan Merideth, and Lejla Garic. They each received \$750 to use towards their college costs. The Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem scholar is Aaron Deneckere, who received \$1200 for his continued college education. Over the next few months, their heritage essays will be published in this newsletter.



Shown with scholars Hanna Maria Chua Coene, Ryan Merideth and Lejla Caric, are the CBC's president Kevin DeRoo, scholarship chairman Steve Slininger, and Birdies for Charity chairperson Mary Lorensen.

Exploring Belgium Tour

Whether you want to discover art, architecture, food and drink, markets, attractions or shopping, you'll find something to love in Belgium! Bonnie Newman and Blue Horizon Travel are arranging a tour of Belgium. It will include Brussels, Bruges, the Belgian coast, Ghent, Antwerp Mechelen, Leuven, the Ardennes, and Waterloo. It is a fully customized 12-night tour, with superior or first class hotels, daily breakfast, two lunches, and six dinners.

An informational meeting is set for August 20th at 6:30 p.m. in the Newman Shed, 2040 N. 1100th Avenue, in Lynn Center. Kindly RSVP if you plan to attend; (309) 737-0059 or bonnie@bluehorizon.net. If you can't attend the meeting, you can contact Bonnie for more details. Further information, a full day-by-day itinerary, and a registration form can be found on www.bluehorizon.net.

Time to Renew Your Membership!

see page 4

Oh, Rats!

Throughout the world, places that have been involved in war and/or civil strife often have large minefields that still need clearing. In 2013, it was estimated that there was a global average of around nine mine-related deaths every day.

Bart Weetjens loved playing with his pet rodents when he was but a lad. Years later, as a student at the University of Antwerp, Bart applied the idea of using rodents for mine detection. He knew that rats, with their strong sense of smell and trainability, could provide a cheaper, more efficient and locally available means to detect landmines. Early research began in Belgium with financial support from the Belgian Directorate for International Co-operation.

Known today as APOPO, (which in English basically stands for Anti-Personnel Landmine Detection), it has developed a way to train African pouched rats (named for the storage pouch in their cheeks) to sniff out bombs quickly and safely. This rat is used because it has an incredible sense of smell and a long lifespan to yield results on the nine months of training these rats undergo.

The average mine requires roughly 11 pounds of weight to trigger an explosion. Even the biggest of the pouched rats are only around 3 pounds. They're trained to sniff out only explosives, so they aren't distracted by other metal objects the way minesweepers are. They can effectively search 200 square meters in less than 20 minutes.

After 4-5 years on the job – or whenever they lose interest in working – they're allowed to retire to a life of dining on various fruits, nuts, and other healthy treats. And in case you're wondering, no rat has lost its life due to detonation since the program started in 1997.



Tethered to a leash, the pouched rat sniffs for a landmine.



A rat sniffs at a live mine during its training.



The rats receive bananas, peanuts, avocados, and other yummy treats as “payment” for their service.

Save the Date

Save the date of October 24th for the CBC Recognition Dinner. More details will be coming in the next newsletter, but the evening will honor Catherine VanHecke, Millie Kale, Dr. Jim VanSpeybroeck, Margaret Wadsworth, and Mike Kerckhove with a dinner and program at Oakwood Country Club in Coal Valley.

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE
of Western Illinois, Inc.
1608 Seventh Street, Moline, IL 61265

CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

August, 2015

Membership Renewal (Please detach and return)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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

Recruiting Member's Name (if applicable): _____

Date: ___/___/2015

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.