



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

1608 Seventh Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



October, 2015

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Dave Coopman
d.coopman@mchsi.com

Volunteer Recruiter

Jan Irwin
(309) 230-1645

Gift Shop

Diana Slininger

Calendar of Upcoming Events

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| October 3rd | Waffle Breakfast | 7:30 to 11:00 a.m. |
| October 3rd | Belgian Lace Makers | 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| October 12th | Board Meeting | 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. |
| October 24th | Recognition Dinner | see news item |

Visit the Center for more information and to stay updated on current events.

Schedule for Volunteers

The October schedule is as follows:

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Gift Counter</i> | <i>Host/Hostess</i> |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Fri., October 2nd | Rose VanAcker | Joan DeClerk |
| Sat., October 3rd | Barb Michalek (am) | Grace Fisher (pm) |
| Wed., October 7th | Alan Hoyt | Alan Hoyt |
| Fri., October 9th | Diana Slininger | Diana Slininger |
| Sat., October 10th | Mary Gardner-Karcher | Mary Gardner-Karcher |
| Wed., October 14th | Mary Lou Andrae | Bonnie Newman |
| Fri., October 16th | Georgia Slininger | Bev Fullmer |
| Sat., October 17th | Millie Kale | Millie Kale |
| Wed., October 21st | Barb Coppens | Linda Polich |
| Fri., October 23rd | Bob Francione | Bob Francione |
| Sat., October 24th | Diana Slininger | Diana Slininger |
| Wed., October 28th | Margaret Wadsworth | Bill Wadsworth |
| Fri., October 30th | tba | tba |
| Sat., October 31st | Millie Kale | Millie Kale |

Contact Diana Slininger at (309) 792-2790
as soon as possible if there is a schedule conflict.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

There are still a fair number of members who have not renewed their memberships for 2016. Please take a moment and send your renewal today. Help keep our rich heritage alive!

OPEN Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Waffle Breakfast 1st Sat. of each month

CBC Recognition Dinner

Oakwood Country Club in Coal Valley is the site of the recognition dinner on October 24th, honoring Catherine VanHecke, Millie Kale, Dr. Jim VanSpeybroeck, Margaret Wadsworth, and Mike Kerckhove. The evening begins with cocktails (cash bar) at 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm, and program following dinner. You will have your choice of three entrees: Flemish-style chicken, Belgian roast, and filet of sole. The cost is \$30.00/person. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Center and will be available at October's waffle breakfast, or you may mail in reservations to the CBC with your check and meal choice. Reservations and payment must be made by October 17th. For further information, call Kevin DeRoo at (309) 781-6332.

Her First Steps in 15 Years

Marieke Vervoort, Belgium's star wheelchair athlete, took her first steps in 15 years recently, thanks to a high-tech suit equipped with sensors that moved her joints for her. The suit is currently used only in rehabilitation centers. Vervoort suffers from a rare degenerative disease which has paralyzed her from the waist down. She won gold and silver medals in the 100m and 200m sprints at the Paralympics in 2012 in London and plans to take part in the next competition in Rio next year.



Membership Renewal Form

on page 4

News of the Membership

Sympathy is offered to the **Gene Donohue** and **Gene Fowler** families on the death of wife and sister, **Celie Donohue**. Celie, age 80, passed away in her home on September 14th. She served two different terms as CBC president and was knighted in the Order of Leopold. She worked tirelessly on the CBC's move to its new quarters and did a beautiful job in arranging the displays.

Well, This Doesn't TASTE Odd

Researchers from the bio-engineering sciences faculty at Ghent University have brewed a beer with purified waste-water. They carried out the experiment for a global congress on the recycling of resources from water flows.

The researchers specifically used waste-water from the DeWilde brewery in Ghent. It was purified by using membranes – a technique applied to remove the salt from seawater. After a few adjustments, the waste-water could be used as brewing water. Many techniques for the recycling of resources are already fully available, and the researchers wanted to examine attitudes towards products made from recuperated resources. (Just to refresh your memory, 502 million gallons of beer were produced in Belgium during 2012, and Belgians consume 19 gallons of beer per person annually.)

The global conference will also highlight other initiatives to retrieve energy from waste-water. Scientists will show how phosphorus, an important mineral in fertilizers, can be recovered from waste-water. Another project will demonstrate how sanitary water can be used to produce residual heat.

(Thanks to *Flanders Today*)

OCTOBER WAFFLE VOLUNTEERS



The volunteers for October's waffle breakfast will be Margaret Wadsworth, Ruth Ledbetter, Gary Franque, Ray and Barb Coppens, Angie Jenness, and Jan Irwin. Mike Kerckhove will make the mix and start the coffee, Angie Jenness will supervise the kitchen, and Joan DeCap will cashier.

CBC Scholars

This month’s heritage essay is by Hanna Coene. She attended Alleman High School and graduated with a GPA of 3.64 out of 4.0. Her activities and honors included; National Honor Society; Key Club; Junior Rotarian; golf (captain) and track teams; recipient of the Larry Rafferty Memorial Scholarship; and graduate of the Augustana Cadaver Lab Camp. Hanna is attending Marquette University in Milwaukee and will concentrate on Biomedical Sciences.

SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

by Hanna Coene

From the beginning, I knew that I was different. I know that we are all different in our own ways, but mine is special. I come from a Belgian-Swedish father and a Filipino-Chinese mother. They emphasized how important it was to stay in touch with my cultural roots, and with a background such as mine, you could say it was quite colorful. But focusing on the Belgian part of my heritage, I found out I learned a lot about my family’s work ethic by just being around them and soaking it all in.



Hanna Coene

The Coene and Lootens side of the family had a very big role in shaping me into the person I am today. I grew up in Moline, the same city where all my Belgian relatives were born and raised. Going to Seton and Alleman is a tradition in my family. It is amazing to hear the high school stories of my Grandpa Dave, and the fact that my Uncle Ron went to school with Monsignor Wellman, who was the former pastor at Sacred Heart for many years. Even though I was brought up in a different generation, I still see parallels between my relatives’ lives and my own.

When I was little, we went to Sunday brunch at my Great Grandma Margaret’s house after church. This simple tradition set a precedent in my mind of how important family truly is to me. These few hours we would all spend together eating homemade coffee bread and catching up on each other’s lives are memories I will never forget. The house would be filled with great aunts, second cousins, and always a few dogs. It did not matter how closely related we were by blood, we were all family and a lively bunch at that. Weddings also were a time for us to all gather together. Those who had moved away would come back, and we would all act as if nothing had changed. I, as a young adult now, countdown to these events and cherish the memories we made together.

Learning about my family tree has always been something I was curious about. My Uncle Ron also loved learning more about the genealogy of the family and fed my hunger for knowledge. My Great Great Grandfather August owned Coene’s Star Cigars in the early 1900s and, while he seemed to thrive in the business, he told his son, my Great Grandpa Francis, to learn a different trade to be successful, and behold another Coene business was born. Coene’s Plumbing and Heating opened in 1952 and was passed down to my Grandpa Dave when Francis retired, and renamed Coene’s Star Plumbing and Heating to incorporate the old cigars in the new pipes. I grew up at “the shop,” picking up little washers and befriending all the employees, ever curious as to what was going on. I come from a long line of ambitious men and women that I look up to as my role models.

All my life, I have been taught by my family to be the best that I can be and to find something I am passionate about and work hard for it. As I am starting college soon, their words of wisdom have been in my heart every step of the way. I aspire to be a Physician’s Assistant. I know it will be a lot of work to get a job working in a hospital, but it is something I have so much motivation for it won’t seem like work at all. I look to my grandfathers who worked so hard to own their own businesses and my parents who excel in their jobs every day. These factors, my love for the medical field and helping others, are what get me through the tough days that I know will come around.

My Belgian heritage is what makes me who I am. If I did not know about my family history or was not surrounded by the kind of love I was cocooned in, I would not be the person I am today. I hope to one day pass on everything I have learned from my relatives to my children; to inspire and motivate them in a strong Belgian work ethic that I was taught in, to give them as much strength as I feel today.

This Seems Weird

Ever hear of a swimming pool taking on water and sinking? Evidently if the pool floats in a river, it can and does. A floating pool in the river Scheldt in Antwerp sank despite efforts from the fire brigade to save it. The pool was attached to a ship with a sundeck, bar, and restaurant. It took on water, broke away from the ship and sank within half an hour. No known cause, but an investigation is underway.

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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

October, 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.