



# CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

1608 Seventh Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



November, 2015

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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pvannevel@msn.com

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bergie1985@frontiernet.net

### Archivist

Millie Kale

### Marketing

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### Rolle Bolle

Bob Van De Voorde

### Newsletter Editor

Dave Coopman  
d.coopman@mchsi.com

### Volunteer Recruiter

Jan Irwin  
(309) 230-1645

### Gift Shop

Diana Slininger

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

November 7th	Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
November 7th	Belgian Lace Makers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
November 9th	Board Meeting	4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Nov. 27th-28th	Closed for Thanksgiving	
December 5th	Bake Sale at Waffle Breakfast	7:30 to 11:00 a.m.
December 9th	CBC Christmas Party	see news item

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

## Schedule for Volunteers

The November schedule is as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Gift Counter</i>	<i>Host/Hostess</i>
Wed., Nov. 4th	Alan Hoyt	Alan Hoyt
Fri., Nov. 6th	Rose VanAcker	Joan DeClerk
Sat., Nov. 7th	Barb Michalek (am)	Grace Fisher (pm)
Wed., Nov. 11th	Mary Lou Andrae	Bonnie Newman
Fri., Nov. 13th	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Sat., Nov. 14th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., Nov. 18th	Barb Coppens	Linda Polich
Fri., Nov. 20th	Bev Fullmer	Georgia Slininger
Sat., Nov. 21st	Diana Slininger	Diana Slininger
Wed., Nov. 25th	Margaret Wadsworth	Bill Wadsworth
Fri., Nov. 27th	CLOSED	
Sat., Nov. 28th	CLOSED	

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



Happy  
Thanksgiving

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

## Christmas Bake Sale

The Center's Christmas Party will be held December 9th at the Friends Circle Hall, 701 - 18th Avenue, Moline. A social hour begins at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. with entertainment and raffles following dinner. Cost is \$15.00/person and there will be a sign-up sheet at the November and December waffle breakfasts and at the Center. Raffle tickets will also be sold at the waffle breakfasts and at the Center. Tickets are \$1.00/ea. or 6 for \$5.00.



## News of the Membership

Sympathy is offered to the family of **Dr. Hubert "Hub" VanDeVoorde**, formerly of Moline and Annawan, who died September 23rd in Clermont, Florida. Dr. VanDeVoorde was a former president of the CBC. A Memorial Mass will be held at Sacred Heart Church in Annawan at 10:30 a.m. on November 14th with committal following at Sacred Heart Cemetery. A luncheon will be served by the church after the service.

## Membership

As of October 11th, 55 people who were members of the CBC in 2015 have NOT renewed for 2016, and we are not sure why. We put the membership form in the newsletter for four months, as well as several reminder blurbs. No doubt many saw it, said "I'll renew when I sit down to write checks," and then forgot about it. Or, perhaps it's something we did or didn't do. If that is the issue, we can't change anything if we don't know about it. Let an officer know if you have a problem with us.

Memberships are not expensive. The Center is a great place to bring your friends and visiting family members to learn about Belgium and Belgian heritage. We have interesting displays and interesting items in the gift shop. If it's a case of just forgetting, why not renew this month. While waffle breakfasts pay the rent and operating costs, memberships help pay for the monthly newsletter. To make it easy, just drop your check for \$25.00 (\$15.00 for 70+ years of age) into an envelope and send it to CBC Membership, 1608 - 7th Street, Moline, IL 61265. And while you're at it, ask a friend or another family member to join, too.



## CBC Christmas Party

The Center's Christmas Party will be held December 9th at the Friends Circle Hall, 701 - 18 th Avenue, Moline. A social hour begins at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. with entertainment and raffles following dinner. Cost is \$20.00/person and there will be a sign-up sheet at the November and December waffle breakfasts and at the Center.

## The Kleine Winkel

Why not start shopping early for Christmas. There will be lots of deals and you can **save 10%** on aprons, ornaments, and CBC beer steins. We also have a limited number of 2015 Flemish Fest T-shirts in limited sizes for only \$10.00/each.



## NOVEMBER WAFFLE VOLUNTEERS



The volunteers for November's breakfast will be Kim Kochuyt, Pam Black, Teresa Nelson, and Jan Irwin. Mike Kerckhove will make the mix and start the coffee, Angie Jennes will supervise the kitchen, Joan DeCap will cashier, and Catherine VanHecke will make sure everyone has a good time.

## Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholarship

The Ruth Lambrick VanTieghem Scholarship of \$1200 is offered to a student who has completed two years of college and is continuing with his/her education. This year's recipient is Aaron Deneckere. He is a graduate of Rock Island High School and is attending Western Illinois University majoring in Secondary Education – History. Aaron was Valedictorian and an Illinois State Scholar at RIHS, and a Presidential Scholar while attending Black Hawk College. He is an accomplished musician and plays with the Music Guild and the Big River Brass Band.

### HERITAGE ESSAY by Aaron Deneckere

As a student in the history field of education, I stress the importance of knowing where a person comes from and how their ancestors have made long-term impacts on that person's life. However, when it comes to my own family's history, there is a blanket of fog covering what knowledge I possess. My grandfather on my father's side died when my father was merely thirteen years old. I am sure he thought he would have all the time in the world to describe our family's story to this son. What I know of my Belgian heritage comes mostly from what my father was told, which does not account for a whole lot of information, as a man does not often sit his young child down to talk in depth about familial origins.

My great grandfather immigrated to America roughly around 1910. One of the first things he accomplished was changing his last name. The name "DeNeckere" no longer capitalized the "n," but instead has been spelled ever since as "Deneckere." His reason for the change was so that it would look more American than Belgian. He eventually formed a contract with a Canadian railroad company and worked in the Midwest region of the U.S., where he settled down to start his family. He and his wife had a son, Jerome.

Grandpa Jerome was born in 1920 and grew up in Rock Island. At Rock Island High School, he played basketball and had a very successful team, even going to a few state championship games at some point. After high school, he went to Iowa State University. He also joined the Navy and fought in World War II. Upon returning home, my grandpa worked as a mechanical engineer for Montgomery Elevator Co., now part of KONE.

Jerome had a daughter with his first wife before divorcing her later. He then found his next love of his life in Dolores, whose first husband died in the war. Together, Grandma and Grandpa Deneckere had two children, Cathy and Steve. On particular memory my dad has of his childhood is when his grandpa would make his infamous Belgian raisin bread. It never had an official written recipe, but he would use a whopping five pounds of flour for the end product.

As I mentioned earlier, Grandpa Jerome died when my father was thirteen, in 1966. To give the family a Belgian experience, my great grandfather took my dad and Cathy to Belgium three years later, in order to "see the homeland." While my dad does not remember a lot of this trip, he did get to see the Belgian traditions his grandfather had been proud to share with his family. My own Belgian cultural experiences have been limited to the Quad Cities and Door County in Wisconsin, but it is pretty interesting to know that I live in an area with the second largest Belgian population in the United States. In the Door County area, it was fascinating to learn that a terrible fire devastated a heavily Belgian-populated town and that the residents banded together to rebuild everything from the ground up and were strengthened as a community because of it.

It is really unfortunate that my grandfather died before being able to indulge in a lot of his culture with my dad. Even the information my dad has retained comes from when he was a child, where memory would be vague in the first place. Once again, it is important that families share with their younger members the traditions and personal stories of their heritage. Otherwise, this information is lost in history and the newer generations do not get to look back on and appreciate their roots as well as they should be able.

## Like Pilots, Pigeons Make Flight Plans

Though their head-bobbing walk may be comical, pigeons in flight are no fools. They're urban artful dodgers, threading their way among buildings and other obstacles. David Williams and his Harvard University colleagues studied the birds' maneuvers to learn how they avoid collisions.

First, Williams trained wild pigeons to fly through an empty corridor. Then he placed vertical poles at intervals in the corridor and videotaped the birds in the altered course. He expected them to use one evasive move consistently. Instead, the birds employed two moves, which researchers named: a "pause," in which the wings stalled at the top of a stroke, and a "fold," in which the wings were pulled back. Pausing was better for efficiently maintaining height, the study found, while folding helped the first fit through narrow gaps and remain stable in a collision. Pigeons also slow down as they approach narrow gaps, which suggests "caution or apprehension" as they decide how to proceed.

(From *National Geographic* magazine)

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## Belgium Has Decrease in Colon Cancer

Belgium has seen one of the biggest decreases in Europe of people dying from colon cancer. Each year, about 1,000 fewer men and 800 fewer women in Belgium die from the disease compared with 22 years ago; a decrease of about 30% between 1989 and 2011.

Everywhere in Europe, fewer people are dying from colon cancer because of improved prevention and more diverse treatments. There are, however, differences between countries: in the Netherlands and Sweden, mortality decreased by 17%, while in

most central and eastern European, there was little or no decline.

According to oncologists at the University Hospital of Leuven, Belgium, has a more accessible healthcare sector than most countries. Belgian doctors also have more knowledge of high-tech medical innovations. Prevention campaigns have also played a big role.

### A Good Place to Set Up a Practice

A rather alarming fact is that only about half of all people in Flanders visit the dentist regularly, with up to 33% staying away for as long as three years at a time, according to a survey carried out by the socialist health insurer SM, which has launched a new campaign to encourage regular dental check-ups. Beginning January 2016, patients who have not been checked by a dentist in the last year will pay more for treatment than those who get regular check-ups.

Flanders might be a good place for your relative in dental school to establish their practice.

