



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

1608 Seventh Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



October, 2016

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Dave Coopman
d.coopman@mchsi.com

Gift Shop
Diana Slininger

Calendar of Upcoming Events

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| October 1st | Waffle Breakfast | 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. |
| October 1st | Belgian Lacemakers | 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| October 10th | Board Meeting | 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. |

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> |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sat., October 1st | Barb Michalek (am) | Grace Fisher (pm) |
| Wed., October 5th | Alan Hoyt | Alan Hoyt |
| Fri., October 7th | Rosemarie VanAcker | Joan DeClerck |
| Sat., October 8th | Mary Gardner-Karcher | Mary Gardner-Karcher |
| Wed., October 12th | Bonnie Newman | Mary Lou Andrae |
| Fri., October 14th | Millie Kale | Millie Kale |
| Sat., October 15th | tbd | tbd |
| Wed., October 19th | Linda Polich | Barb Coppens |
| Fri., October 21st | Bev Fullmer | Georgia Slininger |
| Sat., October 22nd | tbd | tbd |
| Wed., October 26th | tbd | tbd |
| Fri., October 28th | Bob Francione | Bob Francione |
| Sat., October 29th | tbd | tbd |

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

The Kleine Winkel

is still offering a **20% discount on t-shirts, caps and mugs.**

Are you thinking ahead to Christmas for gifts?

Need an Electric Iron to make Lukken?

How about a new Rolle Bolle?

Call the Center to reserve one for Abe Lincoln Xmas.
We'll be ordering in November for delivery by Christmas.

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

CBC Scholarship Essay

Our second scholar essay was written by Gabrielle Lenger. She graduated from Moline High School where she was an Illinois State Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, and a Junior Rotarian. She was the Student Congress treasurer and co-captain of Moline’s speech team. Gabriella now attends Iowa State University and will major in Speech Pathology.

MY HERITAGE by Gabrielle Lenger

Young adult author Patricia Briggs once said, “Identity was partly heritage, partly upbringing, but mostly the choices you make in your life.” Heritage plays a large role in my life by giving me a sense of purpose and achievement. Now looking in my father’s 650-page genealogy book, I can see how far our family and civilization have progressed.



On my father’s side of the family, my fifth great-grandfather Charles Kemble, was born in England and christened in St. Sampson Church in Cricklade, Wiltshire, in 1798. In 1846, he immigrated to Trumbull County, Ohio, was married and later moved to Illinois as a farmer. His son, Samuel Kemble, was born in 1850 and had three older brothers; Thomas, Chauncey, and Anthony, who served in the Civil War for the North. From then on, my father’s side of the family has lived in Illinois.

On my mother’s side of the family, my fourth great-grand father, James Grubbs, also came from England and moved to America in the late 1700s and settled in Virginia. His son,

Nathan Grubbs, moved to Texas in the mid-1800s. My other third great-grandfather, Henry Jones, born in 1839, fought in the Civil War on the Confederate side. While researching Henry, my mother told me an interesting story about him in the war. He was captured and successfully escaped, but while escaping, he was shot in the foot. It is interesting that my family served on opposing sides in the Civil War. I would like to do more research in military service to find out how close they actually served to each other. Texas is where most of my mother’s side of the family currently resides today.

Military service has been important to my family. My grandfather on my mother’s side, Harold, served in World War II in South America. I did not realize there were any military bases there until my grandfather told me many stories. My grand father on my father’s side, Don Lenger, served in the Navy during the Korean War. He was the first person on his side of the family to graduate college. He taught in the Moline School District for over thirty years. He encouraged my father to attend college, and in turn my father and mother have encouraged me to attend college to pursue activities that interest me and will make me a productive member of society.

My father met my mother when he was working in Texas, and they moved to Illinois in 1995. It is very interesting how two families from England, one settling in Illinois and one in Texas, can eventually meet and create a new family. Although I have two genealogy books, I still have many gaps in my family history. When I have more time in the future, I would like to pursue more research of my family. I would like to get into more personal stories, rather than just facts and figures. Hearing more stories from my distant family would bring these facts to life.

Find Your Name & Win

Someone recently mentioned to me that they hadn’t had time to read the last several newsletters. From time to time, I’ve answered questions that I covered in the newsletter. So . . . we’re going to have some fun and perhaps get more people to actually read the newsletter.

Beginning with next month’s newsletter, we’re going to randomly place a member’s name somewhere in each month’s newsletter. It will show up where one might least expect it, and it will NOT be the name of an article subject. I’ve already placed a sample in this newsletter. Did you find it?

If you find your name somewhere in the newsletter, you can email me (my email address is always on the left of page one) and I’ll send you a coupon for a free regular waffle breakfast. Let’s have some fun and see how this works . . . beginning with the November issue.

Belgian Professor Honored

Ghent University professor Wilfried De Neve, a pioneer in radiotherapy, has been awarded Honorary Membership by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine for “distinguished service” in developing radiation treatments with fewer side effects.

According to the organization, it’s because of researchers like De Neve that radiation continues to be a viable treatment next to chemotherapy and surgery. His work has contributed greatly to limiting the therapy’s negative effects on healthy tissue.

De Neve also succeeded in dramatically lowering the acute toxicity in breast cancer patients and lowering the risk of these patients getting lung cancer or heart failure as a consequence of radiotherapy.

(From *Flanders Today*)

News of the Membership

Congratulations to **Jan Irwin** who retired after 44 years as a nuclear medicine technologist.

Sympathy is offered to **Joe DeMeyer** and family on the sudden death of **Mary Louise DeMeyer**, 80, of Moline, who died September 11th at Amber Ridge Memory Care.

Get Well wishes and prayers are extended to **Don Debo**, who was recently released from the hospital and will now be in assisted living.

Our Membership

As of this issue’s publication date, 43 members have NOT renewed for 2017. That’s 26.5% of the 2016 membership list. Have those who haven’t renewed just forgotten to do it? Is there something the Center has done or not done that warranted a non-renewal? Certainly, attrition by some of the older members does play a role in the shrinking of our ranks. But to stay viable, we need members! And we also need people to step up and volunteer on occasion.

Of all the Belgian groups around the country, the Center for Belgian Culture is unique. We are the only group that maintains a museum of Belgian history and artifacts. The others are social clubs. The CBC is one of the sponsors of the annual Fall Flemish Fest, as an effort to bring back some of the feeling and celebration that used to be part of the Olde Towne area. We’re pretty sure no other Belgian group does this.

Recently a group of journalists, representing the Wallonia region of Belgium, visited the Center because of the fact that we **weren’t** a social club, but rather, a group that was keeping its Belgian heritage alive and in the public’s awareness. The group was totally surprised by what it found here. After speaking with several individuals, the team found that the connection with Belgium still runs very deep.

This newsletter editor has been putting together this monthly missive for the last nine years. Each year I remind, cajole, beg, and plead for new and renewed memberships. I do the same for volunteers. Please renew. Please urge a friend or neighbor to join. Please volunteer for an open house or a waffle breakfast once in a while. You might enjoy meeting some interesting people.

COOKIE BAKING DEMO

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 12th, for a Belgian cookie baking demonstration by Catherine VanHecke.

The demonstration will be held at the CBC from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The cost is \$5/person and will include refreshments.

Unique Artist Passes

Toots Thielemans, one of the world’s most famous jazz harmonica players, has died at the age of 94. He was being cared for in hospital after suffering a fall last month and died in his sleep.

Jean-Baptiste Thielemans was born in 1922 in the Marollen neighborhood of Brussels. He was a self-taught guitar player and joined in Paris sessions with Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, and later toured with Benny Goodman.

He established himself as one of the world’s best harmonica players – harder to come by than a guitarist – and recorded with everyone from Ella Fitzgerald to Billy Joel. He was also known as whistler, and his biggest solo hit “Bluesette” featured him doing both.

His harmonica playing was featured on numerous film soundtracks, most notably *Midnight Cowboy*. He also played in the closing credits of *Sesame Street*.

For all of his fame, Thielemans remained close to his community – referring to himself as a ketje, born-and-bred Brussels folk. He was given honorary doctorates by both city universities and was named a baron by Albert II.

(Thanks to *Flanders Today*)

OCTOBER WAFFLE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers for October’s waffle breakfast will be Kim Kochuyt, Jan Irwin, Millie Kale, Angie Jennes, Sage Roberson, Mary Ann Gant and Teresa Nelson. Mike Kerckhove will make the mix and start the coffee, and Joan DeCap will cashier. Catherine VanHecke will make sure everyone enjoys their breakfast.

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CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE

October, 2016

Membership Renewal (Please detach and return)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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

Recruiting Member's Name (if applicable): _____

Date: ___/___/2016

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.