



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

1608 Seventh Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



November, 2017

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Gift Shop
Diana Slininger

Calendar of Upcoming Events

November 4th	Waffle Breakfast	8:00 to 11:00 a.m.
November 4th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
November 13th	Board Meeting	5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
December 2nd	Bake Sale during Waffles	8:00 to 11:00 a.m.
December 10th	CBC Christmas Party	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

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. 1st	Alan Hoyt	Alan Hoyt
Fri., Nov. 3rd	tbd	tbd
Sat., Nov. 4th	Barb Michalek (am)	Marlene Shattuck (pm)
Wed., Nov. 8th	Bonnie Newman	Mary Lou Andrae
Fri., Nov. 10th	Millie Kale	Millie Kale
Sat., Nov. 11th	Mary Gardner-Karcher	Mary Gardner-Karcher
Wed., Nov. 15th	Barb Coppens	Linda Polich
Fri., Nov. 17th	Georgia Slininger	Bev Fullmer
Sat., Nov. 18th	Diana Slininger	Diana Slininger
Wed., Nov. 22nd	Closed	
Fri., Nov. 24th	Closed	
Sat., Nov. 25th	Closed	
Wed., Nov. 29th	Bonnie Newman	Bonnie Newman

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



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

News of the Membership

Congratulations to **Linda Polich** who was named a director of the Illinois State Genealogical Society.

Thank You to **Patrick Van Nevel** for sponsoring our booth at the Genealogical Workshop.

Get Well wishes are extended to **Don DeBo**.

Sympathy is offered to **Jan Hufford** and family on the death of husband **Tim, 72**, of Moline, who passed away October 15th.

Volunteers Needed

You saw this last month. Face it folks, we need volunteers for both monthly waffle breakfasts and to keep the Center open for visitors. It seems like the same people step up week after week or month after month. But that supply is dwindling, both because of burn-out and in some cases, due to age – they can no longer drive, or because of health issues.

Please consider volunteering to help out occasionally. The work isn't hard, and you meet some really nice people. We're only as good as our volunteers. Without them, we wouldn't be able to be open or offer our fundraising waffle breakfasts. And a big THANK YOU to those who do volunteer time for the benefit of the CBC!!

Continued Special Thanks

We continue to salute members who have stepped up to sponsor a breakfast or the newsletter.

Previous contributors have been: **Mary Joy Allaert Feeney** (3 waffle breakfasts); **Chris Van Lancker** (donates her time in the layout of the monthly newsletter); **Dr. Volkan and Merry Sumer** of Tremont, Illinois (1 breakfast); **Rafferty Funeral Home** (1 breakfast); **Kevin and Colleen Rafferty** (1 breakfast); **Patrick and Barb Van Nevel** (1 breakfast and 1 newsletter); **Debbie and Mark Schwiebert** (1 breakfast), **Kevin DeRoo** (1 breakfast) **Lizette L. Desseyn** (2 newsletters).

We also received from the **Kevin DeRoo Family, Mary Joy Allaert Feeney, Phyllis Maxfield, Walter and Linda VanDamme, Lavone Slead, Donna Cavins, Barbara Michalek,** and **Alice Van Quekelberghe** additional donations.

To those mentioned above, a special "Thank You" from your CBC Board. Your continued support is so greatly appreciated!

Christmas Bake Sale

Our annual bake sale will be held during the December waffle breakfast on **December 2nd**. Last year's sale was a successful fundraiser, and we'd like to repeat that again.

The Center is looking for donations of breads, cakes, pies, cookies, and your "special" treats. You can bring them to the CBC on Friday, December 1st, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., or to the Friends Circle early on December 2nd.



Will you bake for us?

Christmas Party

Understanding that some folks no longer like to drive at night, the CBC's Christmas party will be held . . .

Sunday, December 10th

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The Friends Circle.

The meal will be catered by Mulkey's Restaurant, and the cost is \$15.00/person. A sign-up sheet will be on the counter at the Center, as well as at the waffle breakfasts in November and December.

We hope to see many of you there to help kick off the season.

NOVEMBER WAFFLE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers for November's waffle breakfast will be Angie Jennes, Jan Irwin, Kim Kochuyt, Pam Black, Barb Coppens, and Joe DeMeyer. Mike Kerckhove will mix the mix and start the coffee, and Joan DeCap will cashier. Catherine VanHecke will be thinking of us while in Africa.



CBC Scholar Recipient

This month's essay is by scholarship recipient Sage Roberson of Moline. Sage attended Moline High School and was a member of the Honor Roll. Earlier he had earned an award for Outstanding Academic Achievement from President Obama. Sage was active in Sports Unlimited which helped special needs students, Young Life, and Upward Link. For many years, Sage helped at our waffle breakfasts doing everything from serving, to refilling coffee, to cleaning up. Sage is studying Business at Black Hawk College.

MY HERITAGE by Sage Roberson

Robbie Robertson, a well-known musician, once stated this on the importance of heritage: "You don't stumble upon your heritage. It's there, just waiting to be explored and shared." When I was younger, I did not know the exact importance of heritage, but as I matured and was able to understand more, I soon found out.



When I was nine years old, my mom and I lived upstairs from the Center for Belgian Culture. We would always smell waffles cooking on the first Saturday of every month, and we decided to go try them out. This changed my whole perception of the importance of my heritage. After attending the waffle breakfast that day, the two of us signed up to volunteer for the next month. That became a trend for the last eight years and throughout the time at the Center, I have learned so much about my heritage. Serving the Belgian community has meant everything to me, as I have become a common face to many attending the waffle breakfasts.

Everyone has their own story about their family's heritage, which is why my heritage is important. Being knowledgeable of your family and how you came about is essential. Both of my grandparents are Belgian, but my great grandfather's journey to America was truly eye-opening.

Andy Jennes was born in Belgium and like many others living in Europe at that time, heard about the American dream. He saved all the money he could in order to sail to America in search of prosperity and a better life. It was not easy at first. Working hard and saving, he purchased some land and became a successful farmer. It was during this time that he formed a family and together they lived a good life.

The great thing about heritage in general is that everyone has their own family story. Most of my family is Belgian and I have a firm understanding of the family's journey. Yet there is still a lot out there waiting to be discovered. My mom and I have spent a great amount of time on websites learning about our family tree and how the family formed. We both became interested because there is much more to the family than first thought.

All in all, I have come a long way from my first encounter with family heritage. Yes, there are some who simply do not care about their background. I would advise these people to educate themselves, as there are many resources available to anyone searching for family information.

Being Belgian has been life-changing for me. I have been accepted by the Belgians and the community, and I love seeing the smiles when serving the customers who come to the waffle breakfasts. Memories like these will continue to grow and will last a lifetime.

A Few Left

If you weren't at the Belgian Fest and would like to obtain this year's version of the Fest t-shirt, we have a few left. There are 4 large and 12 extra-large tees for sale at \$15.00/each. They will be for sale first come, first served at November's waffle breakfast. Any not sold at the breakfast will be available at the Center.



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Belgian Fest

For those of you who didn't make this year's Fall Belgian Fest, you missed a great day! The weather was perfect for rolle bolle, waffles, music, games, old cars, pigeons, lace, carriage rides, and beer. The Alleman cheerleaders even offered a few dance steps and cheers. The waffles, bratwursts, and Stella Artois beer ran out before the fest was over, so success was declared.

Thank you to all our sponsors and contributors, especially presenting sponsors, the Dispatch/Argus/QCOnline, CBI Bank, and the Honorary Belgian Consulate.

