



CENTER FOR BELGIAN CULTURE of Western Illinois, Inc.

1608 Seventh Street, Moline, Illinois 61265

(309) 762-0167

www.belgianmuseumquadcities.org



September, 2021

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 4th	NO Waffle Breakfast	
September 11th	Belgian Lacemakers	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
September 13th	Board Meeting	5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
September 19th	Belgian Fest	Noon to 4:00 p.m.

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

News of the Membership

Congratulations are offered to **Rosemary and Tom Lootens** and family on the death of their son Martin, 53, of Dallas, TX, who died May 9, 2021.

Thank You to **Craig and Debbie (DeBo) Dentlinger** for their memorial gift for Daniel DeBo, who died February 6, 2021

Attend the Fall Belgian Fest



The Belgian Fest is back with rolle bolle, Belgian horses, music, Belgian waffles, lacemaking demonstrations, food and Belgian beer. It all takes place from Noon-4:00 p.m. at Moline's Stephens Park on Sunday, September 19th. We'd like to see you and your friends there!

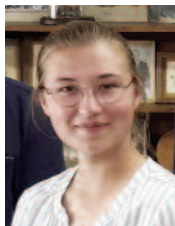
OPEN Wednesday and Saturday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Waffle Breakfast 1st Saturday of August

Scholarships

Our second CBC scholarship recipient is Kaitlyn Curry, who attended Rockridge High School in Taylor Ridge, Illinois. Kaitlyn graduated with high honors and was on the honor roll. She was a Scholastic Bowl participant, manager and videographer for the football team, and was in charge of layout and development for the Rockridge yearbook. Kaitlyn was a junior leader with both the Rock Island and Mercer Counties 4-H, volunteered at the Milan Food Pantry, and at the Putnam Museum & Science Center she assisted in the annual Dino Days as a puppeteer. Kaitlyn will attend Columbia College in Chicago and major in traditional animation.

Heritage Essay by Kaitly Curry



I never knew my paternal great-grandparents personally, but while I was growing up, I was constantly told about them and felt their influence throughout my family. My paternal grandmother says she is a first generation American, and she is immensely proud of that fact. My Grandma Pat would always take my sister and me to Belgian heritage festivals in the spring and summer, out for Belgian waffles, and heritage fundraisers when we were younger. She has always loved embracing her culture and has successfully transferred some of that admiration to a majority, if not all, of her grandchildren.

My great-great-grandmother Madeline Noe, and her son, my great-grandfather Ernest Noe, or better known as Ernie, immigrated to the United States from Belgium through Ellis Island in the year 1919 – when she was 29 years old, and he was only 3 years old. Ernie was born in Bruges on November 11, 1916. After moving to America, they settled down in the Midwest. At age 23, Ernie Noe officially became Ernie Hauman when he was adopted by his stepfather (Raymond Hauman) and became a naturalized citizen of the United States. After becoming naturalized, my great-grandfather joined the Merchant Marines to help serve his new country in World War II. My grandmother was practically raised by her grandparents because of the fact that her father was gone a lot for work. Spending so much time with her grandparents allowed my grandmother to learn some rudimentary Flemish, even though she was never formally taught by anyone.

One of my dad’s favorite stories to tell about his maternal great-grandmother was when his mom, my grandmother, would pack up him and all his siblings to go visit Madeline. She would never speak any English to them. My father recalls that his great-grandmother would say something in Flemish, and his mother would have to

translate it for the kids. My dad says the only word any of them could understand was “Ernie” when she was addressing or talking about her son. My dad has told me that he has always had a sneaking suspicion that his great-grandma understood English and knew how to speak English, at least a little, but she just never wanted to: she was very stubborn like that.

My great-grandfather was a pipefitter at J.I. Case in Rock Island for 39 years – retiring in 1975. He also kept quite busy serving his community – he served as a trustee for Blackhawk Township for 11 years, as well as nine years of service as supervisor for the township. He was also a trustee and volunteer for the Blackhawk Fire District.

Great-grandfather Ernie was a member of the Center for Belgian Culture and was immensely proud of his Belgian heritage. My grandmother shared with me that one of his most treasured vacations was when he was able to return to his hometown in Belgium with his son, Chuck Hauman. Ernest A. “Ernie” Hauman 89, died June 21, 2006.

Just because I did not have an opportunity to know my ancestors personally, does not mean I do not know them or feel their love for me. Their bravery and perseverance paved the way for my family’s life here in America, and they are, quite literally, the reason I exist – so that’s pretty cool. Their heritage is my heritage, and I plan to honor that fact as I continue to grow and live.

What is It?

Okay . . . those of you who bake or had older Belgian relatives who baked, I have a question. What is pink milk?! I came across a recipe of Paul Thiron, a third generation Belgian baker. He once operated his own bakery near Antwerp, but after coming to Moline, he worked at the old Peters Bakery on 15th Street. He used pink milk in several of his recipes and I had never heard of it. Doing a Google search yielded no good information.

If you know what pink milk is, please email this editor. My email is listed below my name on page one of the newsletters.

Join Us in Touring Belgium

Our tour of Belgium is scheduled for August 26 to September 6, 2022. New hotel dates are being finalized and the tour still includes Brussels, Antwerp, the Bastogne area, Ypres, Bruges, Ghent, and the Tielt/Deinze/Nevele? Aalter area. There will be plenty to see and do, both scheduled and on your own. It's not only a chance to see some of Belgium's major areas, but also the opportunity of visiting some of the area where many of your relatives lived before coming to America. For more information, contact Bonnie Newman at (309) 737-0059 or by email at bonnie@blue-horizon.net. A complete brochure is available at www.blue-horizon.net.



Ypres Cathedral



Brussels Grand Place

Panda Twins Celebrate



The twin pandas that were born at the Pairi Daiza Animal Park in Hainaut Province celebrated their second birthday on August 8th. Their births were extremely rare, as panda twins to be of different sexes don't normally occur. Twins Bao Di and Bao Mei will soon leave their mother Hao Hao to embark on a new chapter in their young lives.

Since the birth of the two cubs in 2019, Pairi Daiza has been the home to the largest number of giant pandas in Europe. There are five in total.

Now Horses, of Course

In the past, this newsletter has written about Belgian chocolates, fires, diamonds, and the record prices paid for Belgian homing pigeons. This time, we're writing about some more Belgian exports worth noting . . . horses! Famous Belgian horses of 100 years ago have proven to have very worthy successors.

Belgium is tops when it comes to breeding jumping horses. Belgian breeders are the best in the world. Of the 90 horses competing in the Olympics, 25 of them were Belgian-born. Better yet, five of the nine horses on the Equestrian Team Olympics podium were born in Belgium.

However, Belgian winners in equestrian competitions have lagged, as buyers from abroad snapped up the best foals at auctions and private sales . . . sometimes purchasing foals even before they are born. But this year's Summer Olympics showed that Belgian owners kept some horses. And thanks to the long term investment and commitment by those owners, the horses brought home the bronze.

Best known ambassadors of Belgian horses are Jennifer Gates, daughter of Bill and Melinda Gates, and Jessica Springsteen, daughter of singer Bruce Springsteen. Jessica won silver with her horse Don Juan van de Donkhoeve.

(Thanks to Patrick Van Nevel for the information)

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of Western Illinois, Inc.
1608 Seventh Street, Moline, IL 61265

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September, 2021

Membership Renewal (Please detach and return)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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

Recruiting Member's Name (if applicable): _____

Date: ___/___/2021

Would you like to volunteer? If yes, please let us know how below:

**If you joined the Center after
January 1, 2021, your membership
is good until July 2022.**

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.

