

# Belgian Laces



**H.M Albert II & Paola**  
King and Queen of the Belgians  
19 July 1997 - Official photo

[http://www.monarchie.be/fr/activities/photos/index.php?name\\_id=0&offset=49](http://www.monarchie.be/fr/activities/photos/index.php?name_id=0&offset=49)

Dear Members,

What a great start into the new year - we gave membership number 500 just this week! We all welcome JoAnn Vandenschelden with loud applause and fanfares. Look for a special gift in the mail to commemorate the occasion.

JoAnn, I take this opportunity also, to inform the membership, that each person, who ever signed up for membership in the Belgian Researchers since its inception In 1976, receives a number, that is his/hers only. Some of our early members passed away, or did not renew- which means that unfortunately, we do not have 500 paying members. The organization responds obviously to a need among the descendants of Belgian immigrants, and we are proud and happy with the regular and healthy growth of the membership, thanks to you all! If you have not renewed for 1994, this will be your last issue. Please, help us stay financially solvent with your membership dues!

Our Vice-President Micheline Gaudette did it again. She surprised us with a new publication cumulative index to Belgian Laces 1977-1986 ,a formidable source of information “for the benefit of “new” (post -1986) members, and dedicated to “old” (pre -1988) members of the Belgian Researchers”. What a jewel - 132 pages of names, references to articles, illustrations and recipes as well as all books, ships, publications and organizations mentioned in Belgian Laces during that period. We had it spiral bound and it’s ready to be shipped under envelope, special order only, for \$10.00 postpaid. In name of all our members, we thank you, Micheline!

Our trip to the Mid West in November was a resounding success. You will read all about it in this issue. We thank again Mary Ann Defnet and her husband for their hospitality, as well as Henry and Mary Verslype, and August Inghels for their sincere welcome. Gust. de droge worst was wee lekker! To date only about 200 members have renewed their membership, of these 72 returned the Membership Survey form, representing about 30% of the renewals, which is a satisfactory percentile rate for similar efforts. Thank you all, especially those of you who took the time to write some special comments and suggestions. Most of these are answered in the From & To column. Look for the results of the complete survey on page 15 and if anyone can help with the information requested, please, contact this office. By the way, it is not too late, to return the forms, we need your input!

It is quite obvious also, that the passenger lists are very popular. Several mentioned they would like to buy them in 10 year groupings. Please, indicate the decades you are researching and we will do our utmost best to find them and to make them available. The price will depend on number of pages and postage. In the mean time, I’ll just keep publishing what we have in chronological order and space permitting.

Two members asked why not include advertisements for importers of Belgian goods or Belgian companies, that could benefit the membership, especially those of us, who live in isolated areas, where there is no Belgian concentration. We do not have access to this information here in Eastern Oregon, but its an excellent idea, which would so help us financially. So, let’s do it, but, we need somebody who will take this responsibility. Anyone willing to be our Advertisement chair, let us know! We can work out details over the phone or by fax!

At least 90% of the members responded they enjoy reading Family History, reports of pioneer days, beginnings in the New World etc. etc. and 24 out of the 72 indicated they could write an article. Great! - It’s a wonderful ‘problem’ for an editor to run out of space in a publication. If we get some advertisement money, and if we get more member articles, we could increase the number of pages. Right now with 18 very full pages of text, we are at the limit for the budgeted postage and printing costs.

It was a very rewarding experience to write, read and compile the answers to the survey. I hope you will enjoy reading the results! Let’s ALL keep up the good work.

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## Belgian Laces Vol16 #58

### BELGIAN GLEANINGS

Belgium was not spared the wide-spread floods that plagued Europe over the past winter months. As a matter of fact, the catastrophe coincided with the Christmas- & New Year holidays. And then came the windstorms of late January.

Our sympathy goes out to our compatriots!

Economic news from all over the industrialized world is dim and alarming. Belgium, although still one of the most solid economies in the European Union, does not escape this situation. We read in *Vlaminien in de Wereld* (93.4) that Sabena, the Belgian National Airline Company, put their employees for the option: either accept a drastic cut in paycheck, or be furloughed. They opted for a 1 billion cut over two years. This represents individual pay cuts from 5 to 15% an additional 4 billion francs to stay afloat, depending on income level. But this does not yet solve Sabena's problems; it will have to find it is to be noted, that Sabena now has an agreement with Delta Airlines, and together they offer daily direct flights, between Brussels and Atlanta, GA, with combined Belgian- & American flight attendants.

And we complain about gas prices in the United States? Remember the storm unleashed on Capitol Hill when Clinton proposed a \$50 a gallon tax increase on our cheap gas to create funds to realize his social projects?? Listen to this: since July 1993 there is a new crisis-tax- hike' on gas in Belgium. Super-unleaded gas retails now at Bfrs. 30.40 a liter or about \$1.00 a liter, or +-\$4.00 a gallon! Leaded gas is even more expensive: \$34.10 IL. It is interesting to note that leaded gasoline is routinely more expensive in Europe than unleaded.

Unemployment in all European member states rose between 1992 and 1993. In Belgium this represents an increase from 8.1% to 9.4%.

Since the opening of the inner-European borders, Brussels and the Belgian sea ports have become turnpikes for international drug traffic. Since the beginning of 1993 (information from November 1993!) already 27 tons of hashish have been confiscated. This represents four times the amount of the previous year.

Zeebrugge, at the Belgian coast is the recipient of the country's largest windmill: over 180 feet high, with arms measuring good 135 feet. This mill will produce energy for & around 800 families. The local windmills at the harbor already produce an average of 8000 megawatt per hour.

It is a well-known fact that Belgians are among the highest per capita consumers of the "precious-fluid Qet fijne flat!". The *Gazette van Detroit* has an article in its January 6

edition, under the title: Land van Plezier en Bier - (country of pleasure and beer). The article refers also to a saying etched in the stone above the entrance of a meeting facility in Membruggen. Limburg-Beig: Dnnkende mensen denken niet. denkende mensen drinken. (People who drink, don't think - people who think, don't drink). - the effort of the village-priest 90 years ago to try to do something about the many drunkards among his parishioners. In those days, there were about as many family-owned breweries as there were villages in Flanders... Today there are but a few of those left. Limburg boasts only 5. But Limburg is the home of a permanent Bier-O-Rama, where most of the Flemish beers are exhibited. There is a brewery-maquette and a video showing (20 minutes) through which one can learn all there is to be known about the brewing-process! - There are showcases filled with bottles and glasses of over 300 Flemish beers, and if one develops a healthy thirst from all this well-organized viewing, one can quench this in the No-Name café next door.

The Bier-O-Rama is open free of charge every Sun- and Feastday, from 10 to 6pm.

One person a day dies in Belgium from AIDS. As per March 31, 1993 the official health services registered 7400 HIV-positive people, an increase of over 15% since the beginning of the year.

The Belgian Lt. General Fr. Briquemont (57), general commander of the UN-Blue Helmets in Bosnia-Herzegovina, has been relieved of his duties this weekend (1.23.94). He was known for his opposition to the curtailment of UN military action in the area.

Belgian grapes were and are the best grapes in the world. The large blue fruits form a beautiful heavy cluster! The communities of Overysel and Hoeilaert, just to the south of Brussels, formed the center of the Belgian grape industry. But much has changed: the markets now are flooded with cheaper grapes from Italy, Spain and Tunisia; where the area proudly displayed its 35,000 hot houses in 1962, it now is reduced to barely 3,200. Only 48 grape growers are still in business, compared to 4,400 in 1962. Another sign of the times.

There are too few wooded areas left in Belgium, and those are dying from acid-rain disease. At one time, many centuries ago Belgium was one great forest. By the 14<sup>th</sup> century this was reduced to 9% and in 1880 to 6% - There is a movement to reforest certain areas if necessary by deprivatization.

Belgium has one government employee for every 12.7 citizens. This is about the same as in the States, where the ratio is 1/12.5 citizens. (Most of this info from *Vlaminien in de Wereld*)



I was saddened to learn that Professor Dethier had passed away on September 8th, 1993, while at work at the University of Massachusetts, he was 78 years old.

The following was extracted from the obituary section of the September 9th, 1993 Daily Hampshire Gazette (Massachusetts):

*Vincent G. Dethier a well known biologist and*

*author of many books and articles, was born in Boston in 1915. He received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Harvard University. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during War World II as an epidemiologist in Africa and the Middle East. He taught at Johns Hopkins University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Princeton University before joining the University of Massachusetts faculty in 1975. Beside biology, he also worked in the fields of entomology, ecology and biochemistry. He was a prominent expert on flies, on host-plant relationship of plant-feeding caterpillars and chemical senses of insects.*

*Professor Dethier received the John Burroughs Medal for Distinguished Nature Writing for his 1992 book, Crickets and Katydid. Concert and Solos. He also wrote the books "To Know a Fly", "Ecology of a Summer House", "World of Tentmakers", two novels and other books and many articles.*

*He had received honorary degrees from Providence college, Ohio State University, and the University of Massachusetts.*

*Some of his colleagues commented: "Vincent Dethier was one of the most respected and genuinely liked members of our university faculty and will be deeply missed.", "Vince had a deep appreciation for the complexity of living things, his love for nature illuminated his research and scholarships.", "One of the most gracious people I have ever met, he had a wonderful sense of humor". "So many people who become famous do so at a personal cost, but he retained a strong respect for other opinions, you always felt like he was learning from you", "He was unquestionably one of the most distinguished scholars on our campus".*

*Beside his interest in nature Professor Dethier enjoyed photography, painting, and drawing. He leaves his wife and two sons.*

A few years back after reading a copy of an impressive speech about civility given at a graduate commencement address by Professor Dethier, I went to see him simply because Dethier is a Belgian name!

And learned indeed his father was Belgian, and that Professor Dethier was very interested in his Belgian roots, and remembered fondly hit trips to Liege and Mery (Belgium) where members of his family had a home. I knew Liege and Mery very well too. It was with pleasure that we helped him with his genealogical research. He was very appreciative, even more so when thru Jean Mornard, a friend, we were able to locate a copy of an hymnal compiled by and including music composed by his grandfather who had been organist at the Liege St.Paul Cathedral. Professor Dethier was also a musician and would have loved to know if there was a connection between his family and that of the feat musician Henri DETHIER aka DU MONT emigrated to France where he became Louis XIV's chapel master.

### **DETHIER GENEALOGY**

Jean DETHIER  
md 11 June 1684 Villers-l'Eveque to Marguerite TOPPET  
died 3 Sep 1714 Villers-l'Eveque



Jean Michel DETHIER  
b. 29 Sept 1687 Villers-l'Eveque  
md 4 Feb 1723 Villers-l'Eveque to Agnes MOITROUX  
d. 18 Dec 1758 Villers-l'Eveque



Jean DETHIER  
b. 14 May 1724 Villers-l'Eveque  
md. 16 Sept 1760 Villers-l'Eveque to Marie HOSSET  
d. 19 Aug 1791 Villers-l'Eveque



Michel DETHIER  
b.16 June 1768 Villers-l'Eveque  
md Marie Francoise PETITJEAN  
d. 14 May 1817 Liege



Martin DETHIER  
b. 4 Apr 1816 Villers-l'Eveque  
md 8 Sept 1847 Liege to Marie Henriette VANDEBROUCK  
d. 2 July 1985



Emile Jean Joseph DETHIER  
b. 27 Nov 1849 Liege  
md. 16 Aug 1873 Liege to Marie Francoise DONNAY



Jean Vincent DETHIER  
b. 22 Jan 1891 Liege  
Md in Boston to Marguerite Francis LALLY  
d. 9 Feb 1973



Vincent Gaston DETHIER  
b. 20 Feb 1915 Boston

## Belgian Laces Vol16 #58

### More on THE CIVIL REGISTRATION during the FRENCH PERIOD in PITTEM (West Flanders)

by Sylvère Van Daele

After the battle of Valmy (20 September 1792) a French army of 40000 men under the command of General Francois Dumouriez invaded the Austrian Netherlands (i.e. Flanders)- The last resistance was defeated by Dumouriez in the battle of Jemappes (6 November 1792). But in March 1793 he had to withdraw being defeated by the Austrians in the battle of Neerwinden. In June 1794 a French army under the command of General Jean Baptiste Jourdan definitely defeated the Austrians and occupied the country. On 1 October 1795 the former Austrian Netherlands became an integrate part of France and remained so for neatly 20 years. Austria recognized this fact by the peace of Campo Formio in 1797.

The French law of September 1792 regarding civil registration was introduced in our country by the enactment of 29 Prairial IV (17 June 1796). Hereby the offices of the Civil Registration had to record some of the most important facts in the life of a person: birth; marriage; death: as well as adoption, divorce, recognition of a natural child and legitimating. The civil registration became obligatory on 1 vendémiaire V (22 September 1796). The first years after this new law took effect were apparently confusing to the recorders and city clerks, as illustrated by the following comparison of church and civil records.

#### Comparing Civil registration and Church records in Pittem:

We lifted some examples from the year V (1796)

##### a. birth records:

- as a rule the birthplaces of the parents in the birth records of the children are not mentioned in the civil records, but often in the church records.
- 14 birth records found in the church records were not recorded in the civil records. one found in the civil records was not found in the church records.
- often there is a discrepancy in the recorded date, sometimes more then 10 days difference.

- in two cases the civB registration didnt mention the first name of the child, but it was found in the church record.
- spelling discrepancies were common De Slier for Dusselier; Wullaerd for Willaert.

- discrepancies in sex of the child, like Francisco (feminine) in the civil records, Frans (masculine) in the church records.

##### b. marniage records:

- ten marriages registered in the church records were not found in the civil records.

- discrepancies in the listing of the birthplace: exp. The civil record states Egem the church record mentions Koolskamp.

- church records often supply more information: like widow(er) of...

##### c. death records:

- 66 deaths records not registered in the civil records.

- one dubious case: in the civil records I found on 5 brumaire V (26 October 1796) the death record of a Joseph van Hullebusch, (52 years old) husband of Maria De Deckere. In the church records on the contrary we find on 25 Oct. 1796 the death of Maria de Deckere, 60 years old), widow of Joseph Nullebusch!

- discrepancies in recorded dates in the church records Johanna Theresia Buron , wife of Joos Gullemijn died on 26 November 1796; in the civil records she died on 19 January 1797.

Similar discrepancies in the respective records are found for the years VI, VII, VIII and IX of the Republican Calendar Besides, in the year VII (or 1798) there is a solid gap in the church records from 24 September 1798 until 31 October 1798 and random gaps from March 1799 until May 1799, due to the persecution and arrest of the priest Father F. Perneel. He was secretly replaced by his nephew Father P. Perneel. but the gaps and the errors persisted for a while.

Nevertheless, my advise to anyone researching the beginning period of the civil registrations in Belgium: consult the church records as well because there you might find the missing information.

### THE WISCONSIN CORNER AREA NEWS

The annual Peninsula Belgian-American Club Christmas party was held on December 5 for 128 members and guests. Our travel agent was present and he is now working on the itinerary for our 1994 visit to Belgium.

On November 19 and 20, we had a most pleasant visit with the President of the Belgian Researchers and the editor of Belgian Laces, Pierre and Leen Inghels. We learned much from them and tried to give them a taste of our Belgian settlement here in Wisconsin. We visited the monument and the cemetery at Champion (the place where the first Belgians settled): stopped at the Chapel of Our Lady where the Blessed Virgin is believed to have appeared to a young Belgian girl, Adele Brice, in 1858: took the back roads to see old log buildings which were the first homes of the settlers, the wayside chapels, and the bake ovens: and we peeked at the historic club rooms of the Belgian Club ri Namur. Photographs of our giants prompted Leen to exclaim, "We must come back! We certainly hope that Pierre and Leen will visit us again – in warmer weather - when they will be able to see more and speak with our Wisconsin Walloons and Flamands!

#### Clarification/Correction

To clear up a partial error in the last issue (Vol.15. No 57, page 58) regarding the Levebvre/Lefevre emigrants from the village of Gentinnes: Nicolas Lefebvre, born 1786, the widower of Louise Jeanne **Berger**, was the father of Leopold, born 1818; Julie, born 1823; Henriette, born 1830; and Louis Joseph, born 1832: all of whom emigrated with their father or spouse. Nicolas also had sons Edward Joseph and Jean Baptiste, who did not emigrate, but moved to other villages in Belgium.

Daughter Henriette married another Jean Baptiste **Lefebvre** who was the son of JB Lefebvre Sr. and Marie Jeanne Docq.

Thanks to Faye Wood for setting us straight. Faye is a descendant of **Julie Lefevre and Désiré Willard**.

by Mary Ann Defnet

## Belgian Laces Vol16 #58 MY FLEMISH ANCESTORS

by Mary Ann Defnet

In the Province of Brabant, the villages of Blanden and Oud-Heverlee are about five miles apart and just south of the large city of Leuven/Louvain. As far back as can be traced at this time, these villages were the birth and dwelling places of our LEURQUIN ancestors. Our visits there in 1978 and 1986 will never be forgotten.

The oldest known progenitor is **Jean-Baptist Lurquin**, b. circa 1781. He was a farmer in the village of Blanden; he married **Joanna Catharina NYS** from Lubbeek; they had four children. The first born son, Joseph Lurquin was born 1 November 1807; he was a farmer like his father, but was also an innkeeper. In 1836 he married **Anna Maria HAESSENDONCK** of Oud-Heverlee. This couple had six children, the third of whom was my Great Grandfather, Johannes Felix Lurquin, born 12 March 1842 at Blanden.

In 1865, when Felix was 23 years old, he married Rosaliene DE VROY at the St. Annas Church in Oud-Heverlee. Just a few weeks after the birth of their first child 23 April 1866, Felix, Roseline and the baby Joseph John left for America. The ship left Antwerp in May and arrived in New York early July. As most emigrants traveled in steerage -- the cheapest accommodations -- facilities were poor and many passengers became ill. It was very unpleasant for the young wife and her new baby. When their ship landed in New York, it was necessary to quarantine the passengers, because of an outbreak of cholera. During this time, the Fourth of July celebrations took place in New York City, and all of the fireworks' display convinced the passengers in the harbor that the end of the world had come. They were unaware that America was celebrating 90 years of freedom.

When they finally disembarked, the Lurquins traveled to Chicago and thence to Green Bay by train.

Their first home in the United States was with cousins in Allouez on the outskirts of Green Bay. Felix went to work immediately as a hod carrier on the crew, building the first Brown County Court House. Shortly before the birth of their second child, Nettie, Felix and Rosaline moved across the Fox River to 'wild land' in the village of Fort Howard. In 1868 Felix bought a parcel of land, slightly more than 4 acres, for \$350. Soon, enough of the plot was cleared to build a small house and to start a sizable vegetable garden.

In 1873 Felix became a co-partner with a cousin of Rosaline's in a saloon and grocery business. A daily accounts book for the business, which was operated for about two years, is in the authors possession and shows some of the regular customers -- Alexander Verheyden, Jacob Cooper, Zacharias Rondou, Henry Vanden Bosch, Ferdinand Huybreeckx, Joseph Gotto and O.J.B. Brice, most of whom were Flemish immigrants.

Unfortunately, the partner disappeared in 1875 and left Felix holding the bag. Creditors demanded payments and when they could not be met, brought suit against the business.

Later that same year, another tragedy struck the Lurquin family. In October the frame house caught fire and burned to the ground, the family barely escaping with their lives. With strength of character and determination, Felix met both challenges head on. He sold some property to pay off the business creditors, and in 1876 he had a large brick home built. That house still stands today, although it is now occupied by another family. The Lurquins had lived there for 98 years.

Felix Lurquin received full US Citizenship in 1879. In 1880 the City Council of Fort Howard elected him a City Marshall and the City Street Commissioner for a three-year term, from 1885 to 1888. Felix was a tall man, stern but kind-hearted. He was seen often at the railroad station greeting strangers, particularly other Flemish immigrants. He gave many of them a place to sleep and a job in his gardens until other housing and permanent employment could be found.

The Lurquin vegetable gardens grew to larger proportions and the produce was brought to town to sell by Rosaline, her children and grandchildren. A newly-established canning factory purchased vegetables from the Lurquins and other Flemish gardeners in Fort Howard.

In addition to helping her husband in the gardens, Rosaline took care of the cows and chickens and attended to the household. She never enjoyed electric lights indoor plumbing nor a washing machine, but she also never spent a day in the hospital.

Rosaline never saw her homeland again, but Felix returned twice to see his relatives. On the second trip, he brought back a young man, Ferdinand De Volder, who later became his son-in-law. Felix Lurquin died on 23 November 1908 at the age of 87. Rosaline died 1 March 1922, at the age of 82 years.

Upon the death of his father, **Joseph Lurquin** took over the gardening business. During the winter months, Joseph worked for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and the Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad.

He also attended Green Bay Business College. On 19 April 1892, Joseph married **Frances Margaret DEUSTER**.

They lived the first few years together in the Lurquin home: then they built their own house next door, Joseph and Frances had six children: **Henry** (my father), **Felix**, **Ferdinand**, **Dorothy** (mother of member Dorothy Lutomski), **Louis** and **Agnes**.

With the gradual growth of the population, the size of the Lurquin gardens diminished and the acreage was platted into lots for other homes. The original three lots facing Dousman Str, were retained. In 1923 Joseph and Frances moved back into the main house and it was then that indoor plumbing was first installed and the house remodeled. In 1930 Joseph took ill and was confined to bed for 10 years. Frances cared for him until she developed pneumonia and died 30 April 1938. Their oldest son Henry and his family moved into the house and took care of Joseph until his death in 1940 at the age of 73.

Henry Lurquin, his wife and six children then occupied the home until 1974, when Henry died at the age of 81. This is our Flemish Heritage - from Blanden to Fort Howard and Green Bay. We are proud to be Belgians!

Ref: Condensed from Henry J. Lurquin, 100 Years in America 1866-1966, ed. 1966 : and Lurquin Addition by Mary Ann Defnet and Dorothy Lutomski. 1978.

Other publications about the Belgian Immigration in the Midwest: Defnet, Ducat, Eggerinckx, Poulain. From Grez Doiceau to Wisconsin, ed. 1986 ; Jeanne and Les Rentmeester, The Flemish in Wisconsin ed. 1985. - Henry A. Verslype, The Belgians of Indiana, ed. 1987.

**Memories of a Baker City, OR Pioneer:**

Mrs. HUYS TELLS OF HER ESCAPE FROM WORLD WAR ONE in Wingene, Belgium

*“They thought their home would not be harmed because it was such a humble one, but it was pulverized to dust.”*

Mrs. **Francis Alphonse HUYS**, whose little house was the first to be destroyed by a German shell in the town of **Wingene**, West Flanders, Belg. and who arrived in America after three years in the war zone, told the Baker Herald representative a dramatic story of her experiences with the Germans military Mrs. Huys is a Fleming and speaks very little English. She told her story through her husband who has been in America for 9 years.

Mrs. HUYS, whose maiden name was **Leontine VAN DE WIELE** was born in Wingene.

She lived in that town until a year ago in January when she came to Baker and married Francis Alphonse HUYS. Since then they have made their home in South Baker.

Mrs. Huys' story: two months into the war (1914) they received news that the Germans were advancing toward their town. Many Belgians took their clothes and ran into the woods, hoping to find safety, but Leontine and her mother remained alone in their little home. Because of the humbleness of their house, many wealthy people had stored valuable articles in their house thinking that when the Germans came, they would pay no attention to such a poor looking house. When the Germans were about one mile away, they opened fire on the town and the first shell took away the front part of Leontine's house.

Leontine and her mother happened to be in the back part, and when the front was swept away, they escaped through a window just in time to avoid the next shell which completely destroyed their house.

The long range gun, she says, seemed to be pointed just in the right direction.

Leontine and her mother fled to the home of a sister four miles away. There, the women huddled in what houses were left until the Germans arrived. They were peering through the window when a relative started to cross the street toward them a German shell struck and killed him. When one of the women braver than the others, rushed out to him, she was roughly told to go back into the house, and none of the man's relatives were allowed to cover him up or take him away to bury him.

This happened on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1914 and many more crimes were committed until the wife of the city mayor went to the German general with a white flower, asking for mercy. The mayor's wife was the daughter of a German woman, and a Belgian father. She spoke German fluently, and her appeal was finally heeded and the bombardment ceased.

A curfew was declared and everyone had to stay indoors from 8 pm until daylight, with closed doors on penalty of death. - One night, a young married couple needed a doctor for the wife to was giving birth to her first child. It was past 8 pm, but the

young husband started for a doctor, leaving his wife alone, thinking that he could dodge the sentinels, for the night was pretty dark; but he was arrested and detained until late in the morning, despite him trying to explain the circumstances. The child was born with no one in the house but the mother, both lived and thrived well.

Leontine also tells a story about her sister. During the war, all the farmers who had milk cows were forced to deliver most of the milk and all the cream to the local dairy plant. One day, she kept some of the cream and started churning it to make butter, when looking through the window she saw some German officers coming towards her house.

She snatched the churn up and placed it in a baby cradle nearby, covering it with a blanket and commenced to rock the cradle. The Germans searched her house, but she kept on quietly rocking the cradle. When they were gone, she took the churn out of the cradle and found the butter ready to be patted out. The rocking had completed the churning.

Francis Alphonse Huys, who had been in America for 9 years, was engaged to Leontine before coming to America and had intended to send for her. But then the war broke out. - After some anxious months, he heard about a priest in New York, who was to make a trip to Belgium to fetch refugees. He sent the necessary funds for his sweetheart, though he had no assurance that she was still living... The priest was in Belgium for many more months before he could locate Leontine and bring her out of war-ravaged Belgium, it was not before they reached Chicago that he could send Mr. Huys a telegram with the avid news that his fiancee was on her way to Baker, this was the first sign of life that Mr. Huys received from her since the War started. She arrived in Baker in January 1917. They were married at once.

The little lady said in broken English that she had no intention of going back to Belgium for the beauty of the country had all been destroyed by the war Leontine has a brother who is in the service of the United States at Camp Greenleaf in Georgia.

(End of article)

**Francis Alphonse Huys** was born 1 March 1882, son of **Jacobus HUYS and Julia OSTYN**. He married **Marie Leontine VAN DE WIELE**, born 30 October 1882, daughter of **Peter & Coleta VAN DE WIELE**.

This article, which was published in the Baker Herald, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1918, eight months before the end of the war, was shared with us by their daughter **Palma HUYS-MORRISON**, who lives in Darby, Montana.

Belgian Laces Vol16 #58  
**Meeting some of our Belgians in the Mid West**  
**An attempt to share the excitement of our “Discovery”**

By Leen Inghels

We could hardly wait to get there. It was the weekend before Thanksgiving: the weather was beautifully sunny, but windy. We rented a car in Chicago and were on our way to visit the Green Bay area, excited like little kids on their way to a favorite Aunt or event. Our first impression of Wisconsin was one of pure chaos and havoc on its freeways with giant trucks driving three abreast and fencing us in until we felt like sardines in a box ... oh. We didn't like that, and praised our Oregon laws that prohibit trucks from driving in the far left lane (or 'fast lane') and to leave the right lane unless to pass. - But once past Milwaukee we relaxed and were able to enjoy the countryside.

We anxiously watched for familiar place names along the road, and had to stop at **Belgium** of course, as the first Belgian name on our pilgrimage. What a disappointment, there was nothing that reminded us of "home". We learned later that the name of this town was the result of an error in the office of the Secretary of State of Wisconsin. where there were two applications processed simultaneously, one request from Belgium for a town located in Kewaunee County and one for Luxemburg for a town located in Ozaukee County. The two applications somehow got mixed up and the result was that the Belgians lived in Luxemburg and the Luxemburger in Belgium... Oh well, they made do!

After that disappointment we drove to Sheboygan – looked at the lake front and harbor, where some of the Belgian immigrants had planned to stop and stake outland soon 141 years ago. We tried to imagine what they saw what they thought and what they felt: what it must have been like to land in a completely strange land, empty and inhospitable, where everybody spoke a language they did not understand. A sobering moment of reflection.

That first day we drove to Manitowac so that we could spend as much time as possible the next day with Mary Ann Defnet, who expected us in the am, in Green Bay. She had given us such clear and concise instructions to reach her home, that we found it without any difficulty - She welcomed us at the door with her nice smile and a friendly Bonjour. We were home. Inside we met also her cousin Dorothy Lutomski. What a treat to meet the people with whom we have been corresponding and who are such regular contributors to Belgian Laces. We talked and talked, and learned that Mary Ann and Dorothy's ancestors came from the Belgian province of Brabant, one side from French-speaking Brabant, the other from Flemish Brabant. Therefore true Belgians with affiliations on both sides of the ethnic lines, After a delicious lunch, Mary Ann took us on a grand tour of the peninsula: we went to Champion, where we stopped at the monument "Aux premiers Belges", name of the first settlement there, and built through a cooperative effort of the Belgian-American Heritage Association, the community of Grez-Doiceau, Belgium and the Peninsula Belgian American Club. The wind was blowing up a storm, we had to hold on to our hats, scarves, yes even our coats lest they be taken by the gale.

We went to Rosiere, Luxemburg, Brussels, Dykesville Namur and I'm sure forget to mention some, Mary Ann telling us about the history of the settlements, pointing out the typical architecture of the farm houses, built after the great fire destroyed the first primitive block houses. We also visited the church and the shrine in Champion/Robinsonville, built to the Virgin Mary, to which still today many pilgrims come to pray for healing. Beside the altar there are crutches and canes, Ex Votos and other signs of the settlers devotion. The story goes, that on the spot where the church is built, there stood two trees, a few feet apart: between these the Virgin should have appeared and spoken, in French(l) to a little Belgian girl Adele Brice.

This was the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1858, just five years after the arrival of the 10 first families in the area. We saw the names of these pioneers in the local cemeteries Petiniot, Detienne (2 families), Paque, Hannon, Masy, Moreau, Jossaert, Bodaert and Martin, all from Grez Doiceau, Brabant, all of them selling their homesteads there to embark with women and children on this incredible adventure, a quest for a better future. An interesting aside: we read in Lee Rentmeester's The Flemish in Wisconsin that these particular families were Protestants.

Upon the recommendations of a Belgian priest already in Green Bay, Father Daems, who was ministering to other Belgian immigrants in Green Bay proper, they selected land on the peninsula (to the north-east of Green Bay) and statted immediately to hunt for food (deer, elk and boar were abundant in this virgin forest) to tell trees for shelters and furniture, followed by clearing the land to start farming. it is mind-boggling to think of the hard work these people tackled. They had to because the winters in Wisconsin are notoriously cold, and the settlers had to sleep under the stars until they had a roof over their heads, - But they were industrious, they wrote enthusiastic reports about this wonderland, where they could buy as much and as they wanted from the government for \$1.25 an acre. The following years many of their former neighbors and friends sold all they owned in Belgium and set sail for the promised land, an estimated 15,000 of them founded their little colonies in the three peninsular counties of Wisconsin : Brown, Kewaunee and Door. Most of the people came from Brabant, from both sides of the ethnic/linguistic border. With the new immigrants came masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers etc., all trades needed to establish a functioning community. Most did however stake out land and wanted to farm as well. But, to till the soil in Belgium, which had been plowed and producing for centuries, is quite different from clearing a virgin forest of its centuries- old trees to finally reach a soil to be tilled. If they had the means to survive and wait the minimal two years before being able to harvest a crop. they could make it. But many families went without the basic necessities of life those first years. Besides all this no one spoke English yet, which meant that they were either ignored or ridiculed by other pioneers in the vicinity.

The son of one of the settlers, **Xavier Martin** had gone to Philadelphia upon his arrival in the states, where he had learned English. In 1857 he came to the settlement and was urged to stay and help with official dealings with county offices and other traders, to please teach them English and to be their spokes-person. He proved to be of tremendous help and within very few years, most of these communities proudly boasted a school. a church and



roads that connected them to each other and to Green Bay, the political, social, commercial and shipping center of the area. Life was looking up, crops were good and the communities flourished. They were now Americans. and upon President Lincoln's call for troops for the civil war, the Belgian settlement sent its quota of soldiers. Many never returned. This was a serious setback for the communities, who needed all the manpower they could get, but it was not as devastating as what was to happen just ten years later: the Great Fire of 1871, barely 18 years after the first Belgians had arrived.

The winter 1870-74 had been particularly dry; during the following summer heat, the forests on both sides of the bay



## Belgian Laces Vol16 #58

had dried out dangerously and many forest fires had ignited causing dense smoke, which obscured the skies to such an extent that the seafarers on the Bay were forced to use a compass to find their way. The fire came closer and closer to the settlements and on the fatal days of October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 1871 it engulfed the whole peninsula, burning farms, schools, mills, everything in its way. It is said, that Adele Brice, who was now a nun, refused to leave the shrine to the Virgin Mary and called on others to join her there because "the Virgin will not allow that her shrine be burned". The fire did not enter the grounds around the shrine, but the refugees saw all their belongings burning to ashes around them, their livestock roasted along the fences as they tried to escape.

It is not known exactly how many people lost their life, some records say the death toll went over 1,100; 5,000 were homeless and destitute: all were discouraged, wondering if the land really was so wonderful as they had imagined. When word about the catastrophe got back to Belgium, relief efforts were set up there; goods and money poured in from all over the United States as well. This rekindled hope, which with the courage and self-reliance of these pioneers motivated them to carry on. Much of the forests burned down, which later helped in clearing the land and added hundreds of acres of agricultural possibilities. The ashes were flat quite cold yet as the Belgians and their neighbors staid rebuilding, this time in brick, hoping this would prove to be fireproof. Soon they could settle down to the task of farming, trying to forget the calamities that had beset them.

All this we learned from Mary Ann, a true walking history book. She took us also to the Genealogy/History library department of the University of Wisconsin – Green Bay campus. There she reigns like the Queen, the expert on the history of the Belgian community and Belgian genealogical information. She is also the person, who assisted Father Ducat, originator of the Belgian-American Heritage Association-Belgium in his research related to the Belgian Emigrations.

That evening we had the pleasure of meeting Mary Ann's husband John and we spend an unforgettable few hours together. Thank you both for your "formidable" hospitality. It was a real treat to get to know you both. We'll be back, we have to meet more of our members there and experience Belgian Days in the area, which are held yearly, the weekend after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with parades, giants, sausage, booyah and all kinds of other goodies.

Au Revoir!

We returned to Chicago, taking first the road up to Sturgeon Bay, enjoying the sights of the brick farmhouses, so very different from the usual. A few of them still have the original block house standing on the grounds, like a shrine to the endurance and courage of their builders. We just could not see enough, even more so now, that we had learned so much about the history of the Belgian contribution to the development of the area.

The following Monday we continued our 'discovery trip', this time to the Flemish settlement of Mishawaka, IN and accompanied by our daughter-in-law Patty, who lives in Chicago, and who had invited us for Thanksgiving. We had our share of adventures on our way there, but I will spare you the trouble of trying to understand what all can happen to a brand new car, on its maiden voyage of barely 100 miles. The car trouble meant, though that we were much later in town than anticipated, and we hurried over to meet our member Henry Verslype and his dear wife Mary (who were awaiting us impatiently). On our way there, we passed a large brick church: identified as: Sint Bavo. 'Sint Bavo' – I cried "that's in Ghent, Belgium. That's our cathedral!" (Pierre and I both are from

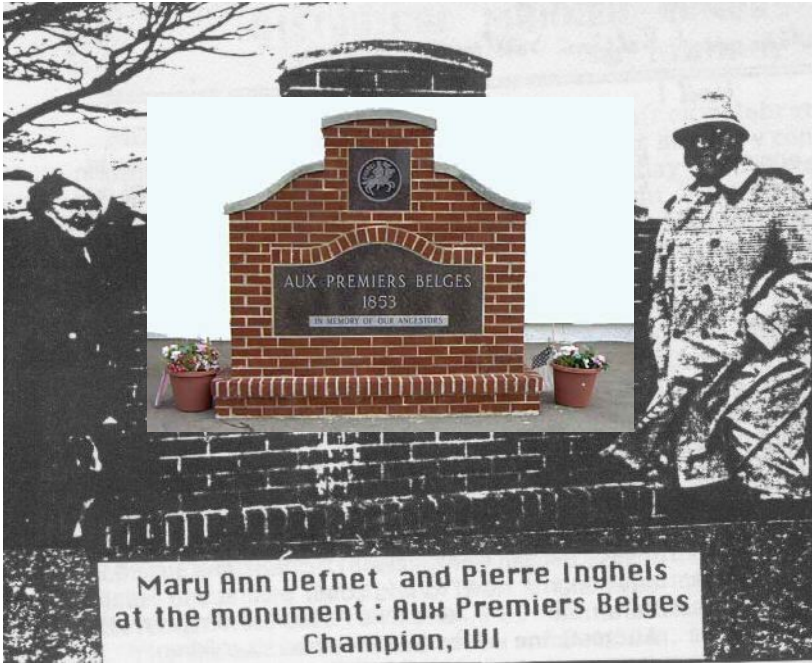
Ghent, Belgium) - Next to the church we spotted a large building, flying the Belgian tri-color and named "BK Club". But about that more later. First we had a delightful visit with a charming and interesting couple: the Verslypens. Henry is the author of The Belgians in Indiana, a book quite different from Rentmeesters: it starts out by giving a short overview of the History of Belgium from pre-historic times until about the first World War. But the main emphasis is on the Belgians who settled in the Midwest. Flemish as well as Walloon, with the Flemish community of Mishawaka receiving a detailed report with lists of family names, and the trades they exercise(d) in the new country. Most of the settlers in Mishawaka came from East Flanders with the main thrust coming in the early 1900. Henry himself came to the States with his parents, if I remember well, around 1914, when he was three years old. He and his wife still speak Flemish, especially when they don't want "the children" (or others!) to understand. Avid dancers, they told us about a visit to Belgium, where they gave a "Flemish" dancing demonstration, to the great surprise and delight of the people there. Henry and Mary treated us also with a few steps! Good dancers, both of them!

We had to leave the Verslypes, for we wanted to meet our namesake August Inghels (no relation), with whom we have corresponded for many years as well. Our meeting turned into an exuberant welcome by August and his wife, but it was late and we had to be back in Chicago, where the children had been home from school for a while already. Upon the insistence of 'Gust' (pronounce Hust) we visited the BK Club and learned that the initials stood for, "Broederen Kring". This is the center of Flemish culture and folklore, where at Kermis time the "droge worst" (dried sausage) hangs from the ceiling around the 'toog' (bar) and where beer is tapped from old fashioned spouts.

In the back of the 'stammet' area are two bowling fields. Belgian bowling, wel te verstaan. In a later issue of Laces I will give a detailed description of this old-country game, so very popular in the Flemish countryside, we tried our hand .. and Pierre's title came to rest absolutely square on the peg! Gust did not believe he hadn't bowled since before the war 1930's. Gust gave us then a demonstration of his "shooting" talents, when he chased someone else's bolte out of the way. Upstairs in the BK, other members were setting up the 'Liggende Wip' for a practice session of the Belgian Archery group. A "wip" is a long pole, with at the upper part several rows of "birds" that the archer has to shoot off, each bird having certain point value according to its size and location on the wip. In Flanders, these wips are standing up outside, if there is room or lying horizontally it has to be played inside. Please, Gust, forgive me if I don't explain this game well. I'm not an archer, and if I tried my hand at rolle-bolle, I wouldn't dare to try the crossbow.

Dear friends, it was a great pleasure to meet you it was great fun to sing with Henry and Mary, and to 'play' with Gust and his dear wife. Our visit was way too short. We had such a good feeling about a day well spent, in spite of more car trouble on the way back to Chicago.

(Needless to say, Patty returned her ear, for another one, which has given her no more problem). I would like to end my story with a quote from The Belgians of Indiana by Henry A. Verslype. In Wisconsin as well as in Mishawaka, you have proven that the last paragraph of Henry's book still applies: "We did not succumb to the "Melting Pot" and lose our identity. We have formed a "mosaic", with the component parts of the whole still retaining their individuality, yet contributing to the meaning and success of the broader picture."



St Bavo, Mishawaka, IN

Belgian Laces Vol16 #58  
**L'ERABLE, ILLINOIS: French-Canadian and Belgian Settlement**  
**Part I**

L'erable, Illinois is a tiny village on the edge of the Grand Prairie of Illinois near the Indiana state line in Iroquois County. about seventy miles from the Chicago loop. Although the county had organized in 1832, it was 1843 before the first settlers arrived on Langham Creed, near the Iroquois River.

By 1850 numbers of French settlers from Canada began to arrive into the Ashkum township and soon after settled in an area which is known today as L'érable. It soon became a considerable settlement. Peter Spink was their leader. Well educated and affable, he went out of his way to help newcomers with their business arrangements. Together with Father Chiniquy. Peter Spink worked to build the church.

The Belgian settlement in Chebanse township just north of L'érable began to spread into the north part of Ashkum township. in 1854 William Farmer, the largest landowner there, sold out to Adolphe Poncelet. the Belgian consul in Chicago. Mr. Poncelet immediately placed a farmer, Mr. Harbaville, on the land and initiated arrangements for other countrymen to settle there.

By 1856 a number of families had arrived from Belgium Some had the means to start on their own, - some had to work for others. They were all Catholic and together with the French formed a large Catholic community. ministered to by Father Chiniquy, starting for services in Mr LaBounty's home. Mr. LaBounty himself came to Ashkum township in 1850.

In the spring of 1857. Mr. Poncelet lost his life in an unfortunate accident, the result of a good example of a basic problem for pioneers in the new world: the language barrier. Adolphe Poncelet came from Chicago to visit his possessions. It had been raining hard for several days, the sloughs and streams were very high. In Blue island he asked someone in French if he could cross safely with his team and carriage. His question was misunderstood and the reply cost Mr. Poncelet his life, when his team became mired and he drowned.

In 1856 F.Fronville, born in Boneffe, Belgium. 12-4-1838, came with his parents, Joseph and Catherine (Thiry) Fronville. On 3.3.1862 he married Rosalie Ponton, born in Canada. 29.9.1842. They had eight children and farmed in Clifton.

In the same year J.N. Frooninckx. born in Lubeck, Belgium (note from editor this is probably Lubbeek, Belgium, the city of Lubeck being in Germany) 30.8.1823, came to this county following his marriage 25.3.1856 to Mary A. Lefevre. She died three years after their arrival leaving her husband with a two-month old infant Louisa. who is listed in the 1860 census. Living with him was 11 year old Belgian born Eugenie Sprimont. On 2.4.1866 he married

Victoria Shanjelen born in Belgium 22.12.183S. They had four children.

Louis Henrotin, born 19.7.1839 in St. Hubert, Luxembourg (Belg. province) studied medicine and graduated from the University of Liege, Belg. in 1859. The following year he came to the USA to join his uncle Dr. J F. Henrotin , Belgian consul in Chicago. That Fall he settled in Iroquois county. He returned to Belgium to marry on 26.12.1861 Amelia Lambert, born 9.5.1838. They lived in Clifton, where he was a grain merchant until 1868 when he switched to mercantile business. In October 1871 he took the train with his family to Canada, via Chicago to sail back to Belgium for a visit. Their train was the last train to pull out of Chicago before the "Big Fire" that destroyed most of the city.

Francis X Lemenager, born in the canton of Perwez, Brabant in 1828, arrived with his wife Hortense in 1858 and settled in the area of L'érable. Eugene Lemenager, born in Belgium 8.10.1839, sailed from Antwerp with his father and two sisters on the SS Belgian Constitution 1231857 and arrived 22 days later in New York to come west to join Francis here. On 23.9.1862. he married Antoinette Aucremanne in L'erable. They had six children. Victor and Jaspar Changelon, both born in Belgium, came to the US with their parents in 1863 (names?) . Jaspar married Mary Constantin in August 1870.

Many other Belgian families are listed in the census of the Iroquois county in Chebanse and Ashkum townships 1860 through 1900, all indexed.

Much of the above informat, on is paraphrased from Beckwith's History of Iroquois County Part II, first published in 1880. Reprinted, indexed copies are now available at the Iroquois County Genealogical Society, Old Courthouse Museum. 103 West Cherry St. Watseka, IL 60970.

(Submitted by member Verna Drake, 922 S 5th Str., Watseka IL 60970 Tel (815) 432-3476)

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 485. Clara TWEELINCKX         | Alameda, CA              |
| 487. Yvonne TWEELINCKX        | Boise, ID                |
| 488. Joseph VAN MULLEM        | Wash, DC                 |
| 489. Paul J GUTMAN            | Library Philadelphia, PA |
| 490. Myrtle DE KASTER         | Green Bay, WI            |
| 491. Marjorie A. SMITH        | Superior, WI             |
| 492. Remain HOFMAN            | Ghent, Belgium           |
| 493. Shirley DENYS            | Molita, Manitoba, Canada |
| 494. Michael PETERS           | Queensland, Australia    |
| 495. Madonna BOULANGER        | Brussels, WI             |
| 496. Cleo Kathryn VAN LERBERG | Shawnee, KS              |
| 497. Pierre LAMBILLOTTE       | Beauvais, France         |
| 499. Keith RABB               | Jacksonville, FL         |

**500. Joann VANDERSCHULDEN Puyallup, WA**





## HISTORICAL MARKER HONORS BELGIAN HERITAGE in Moline, IL

By Dorothy Buresh and Rita Pearson, Staff writers  
THE DISPATCH WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 2, 1993

MOLINE — The dedication of a historical marker Saturday was an opportunity for brothers Mike and John Van Speybroeck and their grandmother, Martha DeWaele Seiter, all of East Moline to link with their Belgian heritage.

The young men took turns filming their grandmother next to the 2,000-pound granite monument after dedication ceremonies at the south end of a grassy, tree-lined boulevard in Moline's Stephens Park, Saturday's ceremony was part of the Flemish Festival Day activities occurring throughout the Seventh Street Olde Town area.

The memorial marker recognizes the thousands of Belgian immigrants who settled in the Moline area from the mid-1800s to the present.

The Van Speybroecks third-generation American Belgians, visited their grandmother's relatives in Belgium a few years ago.

They said they were impressed with the hospitality their distant cousins bestowed upon them and vowed to write and send photos.

"We like to keep in touch with them and let them know what's going on. John Vanspeybroeck said. They were among about 75 people attending the outdoor ceremony that briefly interrupted play at the rolle bolle courts at the other end of the park.

Dr. Dolores Bultinck, honorary consul of Belgium, was surprised at the turnout.

"If my father were rolle bolleing out there now, he'd object to stopping the game," she said.

Dr. Bultinck celebrated her 20<sup>th</sup> year as honorary consul at a dinner Friday at which she was made knight of the Order of the Crown of Leopold I, an honor cleared by King Baudouin before he died last spring.

Hubert Van De Voorde of Moline was made knight of the Order of the Crown of Leopold II.

A memorial mass for deceased Belgians was celebrated Sunday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Moline, with the Rev. Robert E. Lee officiating. A reception followed at the Center for Belgian CCulture. Music and photo and history albums were on display.

Emile Massa, Consul General of Belgium, said attending the ceremony was one of the most interesting parts of his job. In separate comments he acknowledged that many Belgians today do not know the names of the smaller American communities having Belgian ancestry.

But "people are coming from Belgium to meet their cousins of America," he said, "It's very good to maintain those relationships."

The project was a dream of the Center for 25 years.

Hubert Van De Voorde said the historic marker is one of the most visible and significant projects completed during his years as president of the Center.

The stone will stand for a hundred years as a tribute to our Belgian ancestors who paved the way with hard work, dependability, honesty, integrity and sacrifice for the progress made by us, their descendants."

"I wish my four grandparents who came here from East Flanders before the turn of the century could be here today to share our pride and happiness," he said.

Robert VanDeVoorde, Hubert's cousin and director of ethnic activities at the Center, served as master of ceremonies. Deacon Donald Van Der Vennet, a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, once called the Belgian parish, gave the invocation, Another special guest was Celia Dehaene, wife of Belgium Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene.

Moline Mayor Stan Leach, an "honorary" Belgian and expert racing pigeon caller, said he always considered himself a Belgian at heart. As a young man, the mayor once worked for the late Burt Esterdahl who raised homing pigeons.

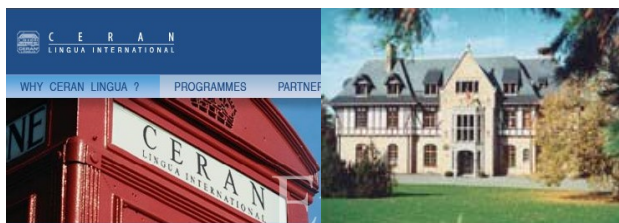
With the wail of sirens in the background, Mayor Leach said, "If you took every Belgian out of the Moline Fire Department, there wouldn't be a house left in the city."

Earliest records indicate the first Belgian immigrants settled in Moline in the 1840s and on Arsenal Island in the 1850s. Robert Van De Voorde said.

The Center for Belgian Culture was founded in October 1963 to provide leadership in perpetuating Belgian heritage and to teach the values of Belgian culture.



The Center for Belgian Culture held its 30th anniversary dinner at the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club. Attending from left, were H.E. Vande Voorde, Center President, Emile Massa, Consul General of Belgium, Celia Dehaene wife of Belgium's Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene, Dolores Bultinck, Honorary Consul of Belgium, Western Illinois Region, and Patricia VandeVoorde.



**CERAN: Centre d'Etude et de Rencontre à Nivezè**  
(Center for Study and Meeting at Nivezè)

By Patrick Philippart

Céran ILC - 27, Avenue des Petits Sapins, B-4880 Spa – Belgium

<http://www.ceran.com/EN/why-CERAN/CERAN-Belgium.php>

(from Wallonie-Bruxelles - magazine of the Francophone Community of Belgium)

**At the gateway to the Ardennes in Belgium, near the town of Spa, a small chateau rises in the midst of a beautiful wooded park. Every week, one can see large numbers of people strolling there. But don't mistake them to be tourists: whether German, Dutch or American, they come to Nivezè to learn French!**

Since 1975 Céran has been established in this chateau as the brainchild of **René and Monique Bastin**. During their years of study at the university of Liege, they came into contact with many foreign students, especially Africans and sympathized with the linguistic problems they encountered. This is where the first seed sprouted for an international meeting center. After spending some 10 years in Africa on voluntary overseas services they studied the difference in difficulties for language acquisition between students residing in a country where the target language is spoken and those students who learn the language in isolation of the difference between second language - and foreign language learning ) The creation of Ceran is the result of these two ideas an international meeting center with language teaching.

To realize their dream they bought a small chateau, in ill-repair at Nivezè and after intensive remodeling, they held their first French course in April 1975 for just one student, with both working as professor and Monique taking care of the cooking as well.

It is difficult to imagine a more rumble beginning. But success was not long in coming. Today some 3,000 students from all over the world pass through Ceran and its revenues amount to over 300 million francs.

Who goes to Céran? Basically 85% of the adults are sent by companies to perfect their French language skills: from the German Ministry for Foreign Affairs alone there are around 160 participants per year; other "students" come from international bodies such as NATO and the European Economic Community or commercial enterprises such as Coca-Cola or Siemens, Heineken, Petrofina and even Cartier International.

By 1984 new buildings close to the chateau had to be acquired to house the offices of Céran I.L.C. (Institut des Langues et de la Communication), specializing in the organization of language courses for adults and children in Dutch, English, Spanish, Italian and German. Since the fall of 1992 Ceran IEO has added Japanese to its offerings. Besides these, there are also French offerings for teenagers. The success of this aspect of the enterprise has prompted the opening of another center in Saint-Roch, in the community of

Ferrieres. These courses are offered only during Easter and summer vacations, for teenagers aged 13 to 18.

Finally, in 1989 a further center was opened in Provence, France at Pont-Saint-Esprit. René Bastin explains: "All too often potential customers are somewhat stubborn about the idea of coming to Belgium to study French ... Belgium is still not widely known as a French-speaking country. We have opened the Pont-Saint-Esprit Center to overcome that hesitancy

A typical weeks stay proceeds somewhat as follows: Sunday night arrival meeting and conversations with fellow-students, professors and center management during an informal dinner and evening. The next morning breakfast with the staff followed by level assessment and assignment of student groups.

These groups consist of only 4 students each. The groups then meet with their allotted teachers and the official communication lessons begin. All students are invited to talk about a familiar topic using only French. There will be audio-visual work. Lunch is served in the chateau dining room, after which the students will go to the language laboratory and the official 'school day' ends by 6 pm. But the day is not over: as with lunch, participants will have dinner with the teachers, who will ensure that only French is spoken.

After that, the student is free, but is encouraged to watch the French news on TV and to participate in the many activities that are available to them.

By the end of the program on Friday, there will have been 40 classroom hours of instruction, and at least 66 hours of guided French conversation.

The teaching-staff of the center is carefully selected, not only on the basis of their language teaching skills but also for their interpersonal communication skills, René explains: it is not always easy for young teachers to come face to face with high-level executives... We therefore look for well-balanced people, comfortable with this type of interaction.

Obviously, the method works, as Céran, with 180 employees, 80 of whom are teaching staff has become the second largest company in Spa. And its founders have that contented look of people who have realized their dream.



**FROM & TO... FROM & TO... FROM & TO...**

**From Donald Goffinet:** to date we have 25 people signed up for our September 1994 trip to Belgium. The Semois to Indiana families going are: Goffinet, Etienne, Rogier, Graves and Deom. Anyone interested in more information contact Donald Goffinet - 914 -32nd street. Tell City, IN 47586.

**To S.M. Winters** re. *your Query 93.231 - The last name Meunier is very common in Perry County IN. I have some information that I'll be happy to share. This group came from the Chinese area of Belgium. There is also a group in the Puducan, KA area, but I do not know where they came from originally. D Goffinet - address above.*

**From Evelyn Santilli** - I appreciate all the work you put into Belgian Laces I take my copy to the local genealogical library for others to use also. We have a public research bldg in Boulder, CO that is great.

**From P.M. Vaugeois** - Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of the **Missiaen Family** at US \$100 – (hard cover) kindly contact P.M. Vaugeois - 17 Madonna Drive St. Albert AE Canada. T8N 1G9

**From Flora Dunn** - I so much enjoyed Micheline Gaudette's article about her father: reading it makes the horrors of war come to reality.

**To Jean Busch-McMahon:** *Thank You for your informative letter. We just know that your holidays with all the company was a very special and rewarding experience. I like your way to remember the true meaning of Christmas and want to share it with our members: Jean bakes a birthday cake for Jesus. complete with candles and they all sing "Happy Birthday, dear Jesus" before anyone can open a gift - a humbling experience - We hope that you can return to your research now, and that with the intcrn,ation you have received from fellow-member H.Thomas you will now be able to write the promised article about your grandfather! I can hardly wait.*

**From Jim Depauw:** My daughter discovered a 1993 book entitled *Dinosaur Hunters: Eccentric Amateurs and Obsessed Professionals* - by David Spalding. Chapter 4 is titled "Iguanodons of Bernissaert". It discusses the retrieval of dinosaur bones and fossils from a Belgian coal mine in the late 1800's. A certain E. DePauw was one of the players from the Royal Natural History Museum in Brussels. Many Belgian names and places are discussed in the book that might be of interest to members. *Thank you Jim, I had not heard of this book yet. By the way, in your letter you refer regularly to a place in Belgium as Bouchante. For your information this should read Boekhoute, a town in the vicinity of Assenede, East Flanders. Pierre wrote you a personal reply on Dec. 5th.*

**From Faye Wood:** are there any simple written directions for Bobbin lace, for a small item such as a coaster or diamond shape? Faye Wood. 1260. Mc Cormick str. Green Bay WI 54301

**From Shirley Johnson:** There is absolutely nothing in Belgian Laces that I consider superfluous. I read it cover to cover every issue and can hardly await the arrival of the next one! *Thank you. Thank you Shirley!*

**To Yvonne Persyn:** *It sounds like you could write an interesting article about your parents emigration to the states, with your father*

*crossing the ocean 12 to 13 times since 1908 to finally settle in San Antonio 1921. With his spirits still very alive at the age of nearly 96 he must have shared a lot of interesting memories.*

**From Lynn Recker:** The Catholic Bishop of Vincennes, IN. Maurice de St. Palais, who had a sister in a convent either in Kortrijk or Doornik, Belgium, met my Gr.Gr.Grandparents on a visit to Belgium in 1852. He convinced them to emigrate and to settle in Vincennes, IN. If my memory serves me right, he also brought some Belgian girls to the States. They entered the convent of the Sisters of Providence at St. Mary of the Woods, near Terre Haute, IN.

**To Barbara Pope:** Your Question: are the Walloon Celts? - YES - *The name "Walloon" is derived from "Welch", name given to the Celtic triba the Belgae. Even the name "Belges" is a deformation of the word "Welch" which was the common name for the Celts. The transformation of the W or V to B as well as CH to G is still common place in modern Romance languages. The Roman occupation lasted several centuries, and the main route tram their holdings along the Rhine to their holdings in England, passed through the region. Many camps were established in southern Belgium, and the latinization of the people was unavoidable. At the fall of the Roman Empire in the 4th century AD. the Franks pushed their way into Western Europe, where they assimilated with the local population. There are many traces of Germanic influence in the Walloon language as well. (It try to write the requested "concise and short" history of the peoples of Belgium prior to 1838 'for one of the future issues of BL!*

**To Mildred Hamick:** *Sorry to hear that the Belgian Club of Danville/Watseka, IL disbanded. You mention that you have lots of Belgian names there. How about sending us some. We might get them interested through the Belgian Researchers and help you reactivate the group.*

**To Della Clabots:** You're popular, Della, I think you have been addressed in several issues lately!!! - I always thought my Mother was a great cook, but then, aren't all Belgian housewives, Belgian Trippe is one item that was lacking at our house. Out of curiosity, I called a friend in Wisconsin. who went to Buddahs and Copps Supermarkets. He came up empty-handed. Here in Arizona at Lake Havasu City we have a German who runs a sausage shop. A lot of his sausages are from people who bring him recipes. Old world recipes comprise a lot of his sausages. But no recipe for Belgian Trippe. Is this recipe available? It can't be that much of a secret. Can you, or any BL reader help? By the way: I have my family tree back to the 1600s on the Van Hyfte side and the 1700s on the Vande Gehuchte side (my mother). I would share it with anyone interested! Besides I have a listing of 83 Van Hyfte's in the US! *(What an offer, what a gold mine! Thank you, Gaston, this is the spirit and the objective of our organization and it's people like you who make it happen!)* *On your survey response, you indicate you could write a family history, we are anxiously awaiting it. You write very very well!- from Gaston Van Hyfte 1703 Kofa Ave. Parker, AZ 85344*

**From JP Delrot, Belgium:** *Bravo pour le travail à vous et votre équipe! Thank you, Jean Pierre, it's always very rewarding to receive a pat on the back. It keeps the spirits up!*

**QUERIES... QUERIES... QUERIES...**

**94.234 - RYCKAERT.** Would appreciate any information about my grandfather **Alphonse RYCKAERT** and family. They came from Ursel, Belgium. He came to the US with his brother Theophile, but had an other brother Camiel and a sister Georinne who remained in Belgium. Georinne became a nun.

JM. MILLER, 4255 NW. 61st, Str. Redmond, OR 97756

**94.235 - BERTRAND - BOUFFIOUX.** Would like assistance from someone in Belgium to find the birth record of Marie-Stephanie BERTRAND. She married dean Joseph BOIJFFIOUX. (date and place unknown) who was born 27 Oct 1822 at Chastre-Villeroux. Search of records of Chastre, Ernage, Gentinnes, St Géry and Tongrinne have been unsuccessful. Their son Joseph was born about 1853, before their emigration to the US.

Audrey MEYDENBAUER. 22414 SE. 42<sup>nd</sup> Terrace, Issquah, WA 98027.

**94.236 - BIERBEEK.** Would like a short history of the village of Bierbeek, Brabant, Belgium.

Mary Ann DEFNET, 253 Little Road, Green Bay WI 54301

**94.237 - BURY - DEBURY.** Does anyone have information about this family in the U.S or Canada.

Michel BURY, 232 rue Marcel Sembat, F59690 - Vieux-Conde, France or to The Belgian Researchers who will transmit.

**94.238 - THIENPOND.** Would appreciate date and place of death of Livinia Adrianna DE BOCK, born 14 July 1817 in Heille, Ned. She married Peter Antoon THIENPOND, 7 Feb 1835 in Brugge, Belgium. Earl TENPOND, 3104 Archer Drive, East Moline, IL 61244.

**94.239 - THIENPOND.** Would appreciate dates of Birth and Marriage and places of Leonardus THIENPOND. He was born in Eeklo, Belg in 1769. He married Maria DE MEYER of St Laureins. Belg. Earl TENPOND, 3104 Archer Drive. East Moline, IL 61244.

**94.240 - DENYS/ TEETAERT/DE KEYZER/VAN DE WALLE /VERVAECKE.** Seeking information on these families. - Shirley DENYS Box 929, Melita. Manitoba, Canada - R0M 1I0

**94.241 - VAN CAUWENBERGHE/VERHEYEN:** Need help from someone in Belgium. Searching for the descendants of Francius VAN CAUWENBERGHE, born c/a 1799 was living in Nederbrakel in 1831. Francius married Marie Therese VERHEYEN and had a son Fredericus, b. 9 March 1831. Fredericus married Beatrix DEPREZ 1872 and emigrated to US c/a 1886. - Gary VAN KAUWENBERGH, 5992 Williamsburg Way. Madison - WI 53719.

**94.242 - OTTEN - JANSEN,** We would like to find (buy or borrow) the following book: Our OTTEN and our Jansen Family by Dorothy Lorene Often. We're also looking for a copy of The Belgian Cookbook by Nika Hazetton. Atheneum, NY, 1970. Henry Verslype was so kind to lend us his. But we would like to return it to him ASAP. We have tried to special order the book, without success. Maybe someone has a copy and doesn't use (or like !?) it. The Belgian Researchers - 62073 Fruitdale Lane - La Grande, Or. 97850

**94.243 - RABB.** Jacob Cornelius RABB who according to the US census 1850 SC was born in 1791 in Holland married Mary Ann around 1815-1820 who was born in Norfolk, VA.. Jacob got his citizenship 13 Oct. 1821. They had 4 children: James Monroe, b ca 1821; George Washington, ca 1824-25; Mary Ann & Martha (twins), b. ca 1826 or 27. Keith E. RABB Jr, 6543 Ector Place Jacksonville FL 32211

**94.244 - VANDERSCHULDEN.** Am researching the family history of Felix VANDERSCHULDEN, born in Ronse, Belgium 8 Aug 1853. He married Mary Therese WEYMELS 2 May 1878 in Ronse, Belgium. JoAnn VANDERSCHULDEN, 2005 9th Ave Crt SE. Puyallup, WA 98372

## Membership Survey Report

<b>Membership forms returned:</b>	<b>72</b>		
<b><u>States of Member Residence:</u></b>		<b><u>Ancestors Province of Origin in Belgium</u></b>	
Largest response from Wisconsin	10	Hainaut	14
Followed by Illinois	7	Brabant	13
Washington State	6	East Flanders	10
Michigan & Indiana ea.	5	West Flanders	11
Minnesota, Oregon & Florida	4	Namur	8
Florida Connecticut & Texas Ca	3	Liege	4
PA, CA, LA, NJ, NY and BC (Canada)	2	Antwerpen	3
DC, MA, ID, NV, OH, MO, CO, AZ	1	Luxemburg	2
Some members quoted multiple provinces, father and mother's origin		Limburg	1
		Belgium (Flemish)	1
		Don't know	9
<b>Emigrants relationship</b>			
Self:	2		
w/Parents or Parents	6		
Grandparents	22		
Gr. Grandparents	27		
Gr.Gr. Grandparents	15		

### Profession in Old Country

When known it was overwhelmingly mentioned farmers, followed by glass workers, coat miners. Some were blacksmiths, tavern owners and carpenters. One female ancestor was listed as Lacemaker.

Similar results for **Profession in the New World.**

<b>Mother Tongue of Ancestor</b>		<b>Language Spoken by Member:</b>	
Flemish	30	some Flemish	9
French	26	some French	6
Walloon	17	some Walloon	11
Don't know	12	Dutch	1
Several members listed both French/Walloon		None	54

<b>Contacts in Belgium:</b> 38 yes	<b>You visit Them:</b> 30 Yes	<b>They visit here:</b> 26 yes
<b>Belgian Club in Area:</b> 22 yes	<b>Participate:</b> 14 Yes	

## Belgian Laces

An overwhelming number of you answered that they like to read articles about family history; 24 members indicated they could write one, three didn't know and two said maybe. That's a fantastic response and I hope to receive so many contributions, that we will have to double the number of pages!

Re. the other questions, many of you indicated we like it all – don't change anything - keep up the good work etc.etc..

All Laces entries received largely enough positive responses to continue its publication. The least was Area News with 42/72. Yes, the most was Belgian Historical Notes 61/72 followed by Queries and Family History with 59/72. Passenger Lists (53/72) were also very popular, but many requested separate publication by 10 year groupings.

Other suggestions include information on difficulties the immigrants encountered in the new world (see article **Our Visit with Some Belgians in the Midwest** in this issue), their way of life; reasons for the emigration out of Belgium means of transportation from and to the place of embarking; membership lists and surnames researched (for a fee, of course); pictures of old homesteads (for this I appeal to all of you who live in original Belgian areas, especially Green Bay peninsula, please send good clear pictures that can be photocopied!); history of the people of Belgium prior to 1838; articles about villages and/or cities of origin of members ancestors; meaning and origin of Belgian surnames: where to purchase Belgian-made items, like linens, lace, chocolate etc.: Belgian Holiday traditions, hobbies & crafts: articles about lace-making with explanation of differences between the individual ace-types (Brugges, Mechelen, Brussels etc.) directions for bobbin-lace making:

- Two people suggest we solicit advertisements from Belgian product importers. Sabena, tourist offices etc. This would be a great idea, but then we need an advertisement chair. Anyone to volunteer for this? We would love it!

Thanks to all who responded, those who did not yet, it's not too late, we always need your input!



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Passenger Lists

Researched and submitted by Howard Thomas

**File: Emigrants 1855**

Report: From Belgium

Names	From	Left	Ship	Arrived	Going to
ICE/BRIES Octav,17	Jodoigne BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar NY	
BRIES see BRICE Octav 1	Jodoigne BT	AN	Lochinuar	14-Mar NY	
BRIESEN Louis 35 LOGAER Pelagie 34	Beauvechain	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct NY	14-Dec
BRIGUIGNY see COLLINET Clothilde		AN	David Hoad	22-Sep	
BYL Adolphe 32	Deinze EF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	
CAMMANS Jean Jos. 40	Mechelen BT	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan NY	
CAPELLEN Rosalie see LACOURT Etienne		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	14-Dec
CARLIER Victoria 20	Halls? AN	AN	David Hoad	20-Mar NY	
CARPIAUX Pierre BENOIT Julie JO EL	Autre-Eglise			1-Oct	
CARTELIN ... 55	Werwick?	AN	Gazelle	10-Oct	
CARTELIN Louis 24	Werwick?	AN	Gazelle	10-Oct	
CEN Franc. 42	Berg	AN	Gazelle	10-Oct	
CHADIN Adolphe 29, Maximilien 21	Melin	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep NY	
CHADIN Auguste 39 PARIS Eleonore 33 Maria 7 Jos 6 Ros	Melin	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep NY	
CHADIN Pierre Jos 36 WAUTELET Josephine 37 Marie 7 Des	Melin	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep NY	
CHARLIER Henriette see BACCUS	Mt. St. Andre				
CHARPANDE Charlotte 36 see VANDERVEST Pierre	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr BO	
CHARPANTIER Maria 23 see VANDERVEST Casimir	Tourinne/Grosse BT	AN	Anna Kimba	27-Apr BO	
CHOMER Eugene 36	Vilvoorde	AN	Gazelle	10-Oct	
CHRISTIERNE ?? see MONGIN Philippe	Meux				
CIANEE Denis Leopold 34 NOEL Rosalie 31 F 10 V 9 C 7 L Rhime		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct NY	14-Dec
CLAEYS/CLEYS Jean 56	Zarren WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr NY	
CLAREMBAUX Charles LEJEUNE Julie PH CH UR AU	Boigneel			20-Aug	
CLEMENS Peter 45 + family	Atttert ? LX	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan NY	
CLES/CLAEYS Jean 56	Zarren WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr NY	
COLIN Rosalie 29 see DESCHAMPS Jean Jos.	Greze BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr QU	
COLLAERT Jean Desire 24 student	Moorslede	AN	Belgique	30-Dec	
COLLARD Auguste 39 mason Barbe 29 Des 13 Jean 11 Phi 1	Nethen	AN	Emerald Is	22-Sep NY	
COLLIN Therese see DETIEGE Jean Charles	Bossut	AN	Telegraph	10-Oct NY	
COLLINET Clo. nee BRIGUIGNY 40 GIRARD Louise nee COLLI	Antwerpen	AN	David Hoadl	22-Sep	
CONARD Jean Jo. 37 SINTARDIN Marie 31 Josephine 12 MT	Hammemille	AN	Telegraph	10-Oct NY	
COPPAIN Therese	Dendermonde EF	AN			
CORMAN/EISMAN? Francois 28	Biez BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr QU	
CRABBE/GRABBE Franc. 21	O. Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May NY	
CRAMER Jacob 46	Crefele?	AN	Catharine	5-Nov NY	
CROON Jean Antoine 51	Penthy?	AN		22-Nov NO	
CURIN Louis 18	Geel	AN	Gazelle	10-Oct	
D'HUYVETTER Aug. 35	Watervliet EF	AN	Vancluse	14-Apr NO	
DAIX Joseph 28	Ixelles	AN	Catharin	5-Nov NY	
DALEBROUX Jean B. 28 DASRET Marie Jo. 29 M 7, MR 5 V 4 Victorine 4 died	Rhime	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct NY	14-Dec
DAMS Pierre 45 NIENEUVEN Marire + Family	O. Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May NY	
DANDOIS Stanilas	Marilles BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May NY	
DANGIS Justine see LEONARD Hubert		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct NY	14-Dec
DANNAUT Marie 48 see HANNON Jean Jos.	Biez BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr QU	
DASRET Marie Jos. see DALEBROUX Jean B.		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct NY	14-Dec
DE KAPELL Joseph 39 + family,	Capelle BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May NY	
DE LANDSHEER Pierre 42 tailor	Grembergen	AN	Belgique	30-Dec	
DE MILLIANO?? Pierre 44	Watervliet EF	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep NY	
DE SOUTER Joseph 20	Brugge WF	AN	David Hoad	20-Mar NY	
DE VRECKER, Charles 38 VAN HECKER Anna + family	Handzame WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr NY	

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DE WESPELAER Bernard 58	Lovendegem	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep	NY	
DEBAENE Charles 44 + family	Wingene EF	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan	NY	
DEBAKER Edward 26	Leden	AN	Catharine	Nov-05	NY	
DEBAKER Johan 26	Moerkerke? WF	AN	Fanny	19-Mar	NY	
DEBRUYKER Marie Caroline 23	Antwerpen	AN	David Hoadl	22-Sep		
DEBULL/DEHULL Pierre.J.51 + family	Bossut Gottechain	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY	
DECAMP Marie Therese see ROMUALD Gaspard	Aische-en-Refail					
DECLERCQ P. Jos. 29	Alost	AN	Catharine	5-Nov	NY	
DECLOUSE Jacques 57 DESMEDT Maria + family	Pietrebais BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY	
DECOURLY Jean Leonard 22	Sourbrodt?	AN	Emerald Is	22-Sep	NY	
DECREMER Henri DUPUIS Ursule PI JJ HE FL CH VI AM	Maleves			18-Aug		
DEDEKER Charles 58 PIETTE Josephine 35 Olivier 29, JM	Thorembais	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY	14-Dec
DEDEKER Pierre 26	Thorembais	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY	14-Dec
DEFNET Emanuel 34	Grand Leez	AN	Emerald Is	24-Nov		
DEFRENNE/DEFRAIN Max 47, LORENT Rosalie + family	Nodebais BT	AN	Vancluse	14-Apr	NO	
DEGREE Antone 41	Ixelles	AN	Catharine	5-Nov	NY	
DEGREF Anton 51 GRABBE Antoinette + family	O.Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY	
DEGREE Pierre 44 + family	O.Heverlee BT	AN	Gaston	2-May	NY	
DEGROOTE Dominique 32	Gijzenzele SF	AN	Henry Reed	14-Jan	NY	
DEHULL see DEBULL	Bossut Gottechain	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY	
DELAMIK Armelie see DUFLER Joseph	Lebbeke?	AN	Teleoraph	7-Sep	NY	
DELARUELLE Antoine 38 + family	Lathuy BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY	
DELIN Charles 21	Staden WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY	
DELLIS Pierre LAMBLLOT Francoise PH JU LA MV PI JL CH V	Maleves			29-Sep		
DELLISSE Joseph, GOHIR Julie wid LEFEVRE, MT DELISSE	Boneffe			Oct		
DELSIPEE Florence see LALUZERNE JJ	Bovesse					
DELSIPEE Florina see LALUZERNE Jean J.		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY	14-Dec
DELVAUX Et.. 5	Longueville BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU	
DELVAUX Marie 31	Longueville BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU	
DELVAUX Robert Jos 35	Longueville BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU	
DELVEAUX See MARICQ		AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY	14-Dec
DELVEAUX Francois 38 PETRI Leonora 35 Louis? Rosalie	Autre Eglise	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY	14-Dec
DELWICHE Marie Francoise see LORGE Jean Joseph	Aische-en-Refail					
DEMAGER Lambert 45	Steenhufell BT	AN	David Hoad	20-Mar	NY	
DEMAIN Emmanuel 35 + family	Longueville BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY	
DENIS David 29 JACQUES Marie 32	Longueville BT	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY	
DENIS Sidon. 26 see THEYS Jean Jos.	Greze BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU	
DENNILE Marie see MONTFORT Emmanuel	Grand Leez	AN	Emerald Is	24-Nov		
DEPARYS? Therese 35 see REMY Philippe	Pietrebais BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY	
DEPAS Ignaz 52 JAUMOTTE MT 43 F 19 F 18 ..16 C 15 A 13	Rhime	AN	Henri Reed	28-Oct	NY	14-Dec
DEPREZ Guillaume	Jodoigne BT	AN	Sea Lark	1-May	NY	
DEPREZ Pierre 17	Staden WF	AN	Leopold I	17-Apr	NY	
DESCHAMPS Jean Jos. 27 COLIN Rosalie	Greze BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU	
DESCHAMPS Josephine 45 see VINCENT Jean Baptiste	Greze BT	AN	Hilton	28-Apr	QU	
DESMED Josephine 31 see THIBAUT Adolph	Pietrebais BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY	
DESMET Victoria see FORHAN Nic	Pietrebais BT	AN	Telegraph	7-Sep	NY	
DESMETS Maria 52 see DECLOUSE Jacques	Pietrebais BT	AN	Lochinvar	14-Mar	NY	
DESNEUX Victoire see FERRI/FERRY Paul J.	Aische-en-Refail					
DESPEGHEL Francois 30	Klerken WF	AN	Telegraph	17-Apr	NY	
DESRON Josephine see WAUTERS Pierre	Bossut	AN	Leopold I	10-Oct	NY	

## Recipes – Recipes – Recipes

For more Mussels recipes, check out <http://www.labonnecuisine.be/dossiers/recettes-moules.htm>



This time I would like to bring you another “Belgian Specialty by Excellence”: **Mussels**.

Whenever you go to Belgium and wherever you are, you will have a chance to savor these delicious shellfish, very often served with frites (we prefer to serve them with warm, crisp French bread, to soak up the delicious steaming juice). Traditionally mussels were only available in the months with an R, so not in May, June, July or August. For the rest of the we had them it least twice a month in Belgium. Now that they are being cultivated commercially in the States as well as in Europe, we can enjoy **Mussels** just about any time here as well. Straight from the rocks, wild mussels are covered with barnacles and may contain grauel, sand and rock pearls. But that does not deter this Belgian: we pick them each time we go to the coast, right off the rocks: - scrape off the barnacles and “beards”, soak them overnight in salted water, rinsing them several times. The Pacific Ocean is wild enough to clean the mussels from most of the sand, if one picks them at minus tide on the ocean side of the

rocks and then prepare them our favorite way: steamed. Mussels are surprisingly easy to prepare; they open up by themselves during cooking and are good either hot or cold. They can be substituted for clams in clam recipes; leftovers make fantastic omelets, or you can enjoy them fried in garlic butter on toast. To eat the mussels like a true Belgian, take one empty mussel shell and use as a pincher. Swirl the mussel in the sauce, and bring to your watering mouth! Use one side of the shell also to spoon up the juice! Wear a bib!

A note of caution: discard any mussel that is open, or at least that does not close immediately after running it under cold water. If a mussel does not open after steaming, discard that one as well. If serving mussels as a main dish (which is the way we do it), count about a pound per person. As an appetizer, 8 to 10 each should be ample. Enjoy!

### Steamed Mussels

4 lbs cleaned mussels

½ cup each minced onions, shallots, and celery

a sliced carrot two crushed cloves of garlic and

two or three Tbsp minced parsley

2 cups dry white wine or chicken broth

6 Tbsp butter

In a large kettle, melt the butter and slowly simmer the minced vegetables until opaque. Add the white wine or broth, a few turn of the pepper mill. Cover and bring to a boil. cook hard for about 5 minutes- Add the mussels, over high heat boil quickly stirring the mussels several times or shaking them so as to make sure that all the mussels heat completely through, and open. Serve immediately.

Optional; make some beurre manié with two Tbsp of butter and two Tbsp of flour. Strain one cup of the cooking liquid. In a saucepan, bring this back to a boil, add the beurre manie, one spoon at a time, beating constantly with a wire whisk until the mixture is smooth. Take off the heat and add two egg yolks mixed with 2 Tbsp lemon juice. Use as dipping sauce.

### Mussels Knokke-Zoute

Baked Mussels with Herbs

Rock salt (optional)

3 Lbs cleaned large mussels, shucked, with the deeper half shell of each reserved

2 Tbsp, finely chopped shallots

2 Tbsp, finely chopped fresh parsley

1 tsp. crushed dried tarragon

½ tsp. finely chopped garlic

½ tsp. freshly ground white pepper

1 ½ cup fresh crumbs, made from homemade type bread, pulverized in a blender or freshly shredded with a fork

2 Tbsp. butter, cut into small bits

1 lemon, cut lengthwise into quarters

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a large shallow roasting pan or jelly-roll pan with the rock salt (or coarse salt) to a depth of 1/2 inch. Scrub the reserved mussel shells thoroughly under cold running water, then pat them dry. Arrange them in a single layer in the salt-lined pan and place

a mussels in each one. Combine the shallots, parsley, tarragon, garlic and pepper in a bowl and mix well. Then add the bread crumbs and toss thoroughly together. Sprinkle the top of the mussels evenly with the crumbs-and-herb mixture. Mask the mussels completely. Then dot each mussel with a few of the butter bits and bake in the middle of the oven for 10 minutes. Place the pan under a preheated broiler (about three inches from the heat) for just one minute to brown the crumbs lightly. Transfer the mussels from the pan to a large heated platter, garnish with the lemon wedges and serve at once.

Note – The bed of salt is not indispensable to the success of the dish. You may bake the mussels in any shallow baking dish, large enough to hold the shells snugly in one layer.

### Mussels Vinaigrette

Make a vinaigrette using 1 egg yolk; 1 Tbsp. lemon juice; 1 or 2 Tbsp. balsamic vinegar; 1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard, 1 tsp. finely chopped garlic, chopped shallots; ½ cup olive oil; 2 Tbsp; half & half cream, finely chopped fresh tarragon or parsley. Serve the cold steamed mussels on lettuce with a sprig of watercress, spoon the vinaigrette over the mussels.

