



# BELGIAN HERITAGE CENTER

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[www.BelgianHeritageCenter.org](http://www.BelgianHeritageCenter.org)

August 2023

### BHC 2023 Event Calendar - Save the Dates!

- 20  
AUG** BHC Kermis at 11:00
- 25  
AUG** Door County Land Trust Annual Gathering at BHC (open to the public) at 2:00
- 16  
SEP** Belgian Harvest Festival at National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion at 11:00am
- 7  
OCT** Great Fire Remembrance at 10:00
- 13  
OCT** Hunter's Raffle (Facebook Live Event)
- 16  
NOV** "ROOM 108: THE CLEARING" movie presentation at 4:00"
- 24  
NOV** Thanksgiving Sale and Mosaic Glass Ornament Workshop at 9:00
- 9  
DEC** Ethnic Holiday Display at Hazelwood Historic House, Green Bay at Noon
- 16  
DEC** Griffin String Quartet Holiday Concert at 3:00
- 19  
DEC** Ethnic Holiday Display at Hazelwood Historic House, Green Bay at Noon

### BHC KERMIS

Join us on Sunday, August 20 for our annual Kermis from 11:00 to 4:00 at the Belgian Heritage Center. The traditional harvest celebration will include:

- Live music from the popular band Mad Cats
- Historic farm implement display and demonstrations
- Tours of the restored school/convent
- Historical Exhibits / 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Room 108: The Clearing - Movie Prop Exhibit and Director talk by Freddy Moyano
- Silent Auction and Bucket raffle



There will be plenty of booyah, trippe, jutt, burgers, Belgian pies and tortes, and cold beverages including craft beers from Noble Roots and Thumb Knuckle breweries. Don't miss this great chance to experience Belgian tradition and reconnect with your Belgian roots!

### Volunteers Needed

As BHC finds more ways to share the story of the Belgian Settlements, we need more volunteers. There are also many more ways to get involved. Docents, greeters, event workers, writers, video editors, graphic artists and more! Email [contact@belgianheritagecenter.org](mailto:contact@belgianheritagecenter.org) if you are interested.

# CELEBRATING 170 YEARS...

## 1853-2023



Continuing in our 2023 series commemorating the 170th anniversary of the arrival of the first group of Belgian settlers to northeastern Wisconsin, we share the stories of the Haulotte and Jossart families.

### **STANISLAS & MARIE-VICTOIRE (COLON)**

**HAULOTTE** - Stanislas Joseph (Joseph) Haulotte and his wife, Marie-Victoire Colon (both 28) traveled aboard the Quinnebaug in 1853 from Bonlez, Belgium along with their four oldest children; Eugenie (Jane)(8), Edouard (Edward)(6), Clemence(4) and Leon(1). Per his obituary in the Green Bay Press Gazette on April 30, 1872, Joseph's passing is described as the death of the first Belgian settler in Brown County. The obituary describes the family settling in the Champion area where they built huts covered with leaves and bark to shelter themselves for several months until they learned to build log houses and manufacture shaved shingles. By 1859, the growing family (eight more children) had moved to the Town of Humboldt and Joseph began to manage a sawmill. The Great Fire of 1871, however, would destroy his mill, house, cattle and machinery, leaving the family with but two horses. The obituary goes on to describe Joseph as very discouraged for about a week after the fire but upon receiving insurance money, he was able to rebuild the sawmill and had it in fine working order at the time of his demise. Descendants describe his passing because of smoke inhalation during the fire. At the time of his death, Joseph was serving as the town chairman for the Town of Humboldt and was well respected. Large numbers of townspeople accompanied the family to his burial in the Robinsonville Presbyterian cemetery.



*Thanks to Greg Farnsworth, descendant, for sharing the picture of Stanislas and Marie-Victoire Colon and genealogical history of the family.*

**JEAN JOSEPH JOSSART** - Jean Joseph Jossart was born in Longueville, Brabant, Belgium on December 17, 1829, the son of Pierre Joseph Jossart and Marie Therese Geuninck. Jean Joseph had four sisters and two brothers. His mother, Marie Therese, died in 1834 when he was only five years old. His father would then pass in 1843 when Jean Joseph was then 14 years old. By 1853, when Jean Joseph sailed on the Quinnebaug at the age of 24, he was the only surviving member of his immediate family. Upon arrival in the Belgian settlement area, Jean Joseph purchased 40 acres of government land in the SW quarter of the NE quarter of Section 3 in the Town of Green Bay. In 1855, he married Gregorienne Vincent, daughter of Jean Baptiste Vincent and Marie Therese Remy from Grez-Doiceau. The Vincent family came to Wisconsin in 1854. The Jossarts would have eight children, seven sons and one daughter. Three sons were born prior to Jean Joseph's service in the Civil War from November 1862 to September 1863 in the 34th infantry. Upon returning from the war, Jean Joseph would farm on the homestead until he passed in 1896. The land was then sold to the Louis and Justine Gomand family; today it is part of the DeChamps farm. Thanks to Rebecca Brown for donating a copy of the book "Jean Joseph Jossart His Ancestors & Descendants" by Rita Jossart Brown.

**To learn more about the experiences of the early Belgian Settlers, check out these videos at BHC's YouTube channel:**

- The Belgian Immigration to NE Wisconsin - John Mertens
- They Came With Little - Arlene Jadin/Clifford Abts
- A Tragedy Overboard - Emily Dhuey
- Immigration Beginnings - Door County Historical Museum
- A Special Father: Fr. Eduard Daems - Sr. Claudette Jeanquart

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### **"Aux Premiers Belges" Monument in Champion**

How did this monument in Champion come to be? In a ceremony at Champion on Saturday, July 6, 1985, a monument honoring descendants of the first Belgian immigrants to northeastern Wisconsin was dedicated. Master of Ceremonies, Rev. Samuel Jadin, Rev. Jean Ducat (delegate of the mayor of Grez-Doiceau, Belgium) and Robert Ciparisse, member of the Wallonie-Wisconsin Society (Belgium's equivalent of the Peninsula Belgian American Club) participated in the presenting of the monument to the community. The monument was accepted by Harry Chaudoir, President of the Peninsula Belgian-American Club, Sanford DuMoulin, Chairman of the Town of Red River and Cecil Depeau, Chairman of the Town of Green Bay. In addition to Rev. Jadin, Rev. Robert Hannon, Pastor of the Robinsonville Presbyterian Church (and descendant of the Hannon first family) gave the invocation and Rev. Francis Kerscher, Pastor of St. Joseph's Church gave the final blessing. There was a laying of the wreath by Grez-Doiceau descendants and the playing of the Star Spangled Banner and La Brabanconne (national anthem of Belgium). Alfred Vandertie sang "La Bia Bouquet", the anthem of Wallonie.



The monument contains a depiction of Sint Georges (*Flemish spelling*) who the inhabitants of Grez Doiceau and Sint Joris Weert have chosen as their protector for more than 1,000 years. Sint George is carrying a banner and riding a horse. He is a scout, holding the banner and showing the way. The horse is galloping, going forward without stopping with perseverance, courage, and tenacity. All qualities found in the first Belgian Settlers. The monument was presented in honor of the ongoing friendship and common history between the inhabitants of the Belgian homeland and the Belgian settlement communities. The monument stands today in front of the Town of Green Bay town hall (formerly Champion School). We encourage you to visit the Champion area to see the monument and the home of the first Belgian settlement in 1853.

Thanks to Anne (Adams) Keller for contributing information for this article. Anne is a descendant of one of the first families, Martin Paque.

## Monthly Photo Contest

BHC has received many wonderful photos in our monthly contest. Our favorites are those that come with a unique story. Phyllis Haevers was the May winner with the photo below of Haevers Millinery Story in Green Bay. She shared this additional information about the two Belgian sisters who owned the store.

### Angeline (Haevers) Hodek 1883-1967 & Albertine (Haevers) Duerr 1882-1963

Angeline attended a millinery school in Chicago after high school. Even before attending millinery school, Angeline would sometimes make hats for herself and her sisters. Her sister Agnes told her daughter Ruby that when the Haevers girls wore Angeline's elaborate hats to country dances, the boys were afraid to ask the girls to dance because the hats were so fancy. Later, her father Ferdinand provided the capital to start the millinery store with her sister Albertine.

The Haevers Millinery store was first located at 309 Main in Green Bay and reopened two years later at 424 Main Street. Many people thought that two "old maids" ran the store, not realizing that there were many children that visited in the back of the store. Granddaughter Helene remembers a

feather bed in back of a stack of hatboxes that various family members used for naps during the day. The women spoke Flemish so the children couldn't understand when "adult secrets" were being told. The hat shop closed when both sisters were hospitalized in 1962. Their good humor stayed with them even in sickness, for the sign on the door read "Closed for repairs".



The store had the first hemstitching machine in the Green Bay area. Women were amazed at the ability of the machine to do so quickly what normally took many hours of work. The sisters frequently let friends bring pillow cases and tablecloths to the store to decorate and finish. When they closed the hat shop, the machine was donated to the Ladies of Charity, an order of nuns that used it to help support their mission of helping unwed mothers. The millinery store was torn down when the mall in downtown Green Bay was built.

**JUNE CONTEST WINNER:** The June winner was Lisa Colombo with a story about her great-grandfather Justin Chaudoir and his jackrabbit "planting" in Brussels. Justin is shown here with Urb Kashik in 1954.

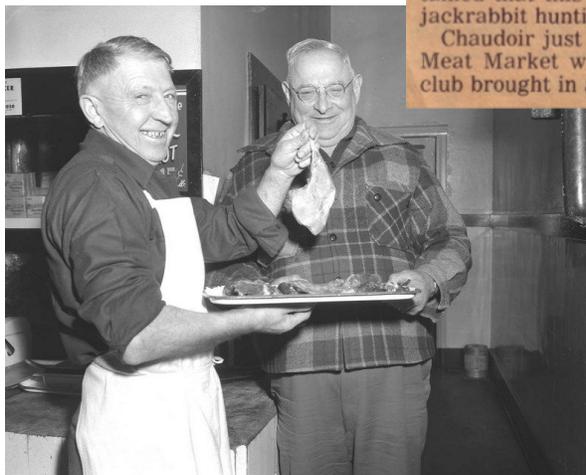
Please join the fun and help BHC at the same time.

### Monthly Contest Themes:

August: Harvest time; Farm photos

September: Celebrations /  
Dancing / Drinking

October: Outdoors (Hunting/  
Fishing/Trapping/Boating)



JUSTIN CHAUDOIR (right), Forestville's "unofficial" mayor, is shown with Butcher Urban Kashik in this picture taken in January, 1954. Also shown are the results of a successful rabbit chase. Chaudoir "planted" two dozen prairie jackrabbits in the Brussels area about 15 years before and he maintained that this was the start of successful prairie jackrabbit hunting. Chaudoir just happened to drop in at the Kashik Meat Market when members of the Algoma Boat club brought in about seven of the "jacks."

## Belgian Harvest Festival at National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion



The life of Adele Brise and the story of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion is steeped in the rich history and culture of the Belgian people who settled in this region. The Belgian Harvest Festival, in partnership with the Belgian Heritage Center, is a celebration of that local history and culture and a celebration in thanksgiving for the harvest. It will be held at the Shrine on Saturday, September 16. The event starts at 11:00 with mass followed by a blessing of farm equipment and harvest items. Lunch, featuring Belgian booyah, starts at 12:30. BHC will share its oral history videos, exhibits and a Great Fire presentation by Barb (Englebert) Chisholm in Mother of Mercy Hall at 1:30. Additional details of the event can be found at [championshrine.org](http://championshrine.org).

## Great Fire Remembrance



Barb Chisholm

A remembrance of the Great Fire of 1871 will be held on Saturday, October 7 at the Belgian Heritage Center starting at 10:00. Captain David Siegel, Green Bay Metro Fire Department (retired) will speak about the nature of the Great Fire, why it was so deadly for so many and the trauma survivors experienced. Barb Englebert Chisholm will follow with a re-enactment of the experiences of her great grandmother, Emmerence Gaspert Englebert, a Great Fire survivor. Barb and David are wonderful presenters and will bring to life the terror and devastation of the Great Fire. Lunch will be available for purchase; please watch our website and Facebook for details.



David Siegel

If you can't join us at BHC, we invite you to learn by watching the BHC produced video, *The "Great Fire of 1871 in the Belgian Settlements of Northeast Wisconsin"* at the BHC YouTube channel.

### STEEL WHEEL SALOON

serving pizza, sandwiches, beer and more!  
1253 County DK in Namur  
next to the Belgian Heritage Center



## THE BOOYAH SHED

1800 S Ashland, Green Bay

920-371-6249

Dine-in or Carry-Out

Homemade Booyah, Chili, Burgers, Brats, Pulled Pork, Chicken, Pork Tacos, Tots, Deep-Fried Cheese Curds, Desserts, Beer, Cocktails, and much more.

**Featuring our Friday Fish Fry**

Visit our Facebook page for Full Menu

#### Hours:

Monday 11-5

Tues, Weds, Thu 11-7

Friday 11-8

Saturday 11-7

Sunday CLOSED



## Kermis Bucket Raffle and Silent Auction

BHC is pleased to offer affordable bucket raffle tickets for tables full of prizes to suit everyone. From unique gift baskets to replica tractors, gift certificates, wine, beer, cheese, and event tickets, to one-of-a-kind handmade items--the Bucket Raffle is sure to please! Purchase tickets at the Kermis until winners are announced at 3:00.

The Silent Auction will be bigger than ever with a mix of both high-end and budget-friendly options including: Original Artwork, signed Green Bay Packers football, Belgian items and dozens more!

## Hunters Raffle

Hunter's Raffle tickets will go on sale starting at the BHC Kermis. With over \$7,500 in prizes, we expect the limited number of tickets printed to sell quickly, so be sure to get yours early! Tickets can be purchased at the Kermis, at BHC during our weekend hours and from BHC volunteers. Tickets can also be found at sales locations throughout Door, Brown, and Oconto counties. For more information about where to find tickets, watch our website and Facebook or contact us at [contact@belgianheritagecenter.com](mailto:contact@belgianheritagecenter.com) or 920-825-7319. The drawing will be on Friday, October 13 via Facebook Live. You do not need to be present to win.

## Belgian Heritage Center 2023 Hunter's Raffle Prizes

\$10 each / 3 for \$20 / 20 for \$100

**1<sup>st</sup> Browning BAR .270 Win Semi-Auto Camo/Cerakote**

(Theresa Alexander & Family)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Smith & Wesson 686 Stainless .357 Magnum Revolver**

(Bruce Alberts / Jeff LeGrave)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Henry Golden Boy Bucky Badger Special Edition**

(.22 Magnum (Peters Concrete)

**4<sup>th</sup> Ruger American Predator Camo/Threaded 6.5 Creedmoor**

(Anonymous Donor)

**5<sup>th</sup> Mossberg 835 DU Guide Gun 12GA/2-Barrel Set**

(Travis Price Masonry/Portside Builders)

**6<sup>th</sup> Wicked Ridge 360 Crossbow AccuDraw50**

(Kevin & Amy Moore/ Kelly & Jo Chaudoir)

**7<sup>th</sup> Iver Johnson O/U 410 Shotgun Walnut/Stainless**

(Tim Buhr/ Buhr Construction)

**8<sup>th</sup> Savage Arms 93R17 Scoped .17 HMR Rifle**

(Kristin Alberts / Rocky Ridge Shooter's Supply)

**9<sup>th</sup> Bond Arms 9mm Stainless Derringer** (Jason Jeanquart / JJ

Excavating)

**10<sup>th</sup> Savage Axis SP .30-06 Bolt Action Rifle** (John & Shelly Willems)

**11<sup>th</sup> Henry AR-7 U.S. Survival Rifle .22 LR** (Joe Pagel/Drainage USA)

**12<sup>th</sup> Ruger Wrangler Bronze .22 LR Revolver**

(Hanmann Milling / Tisch Mills Farm Center)

**13<sup>th</sup> Yeti Tundra 35 Extreme Cooler Limited Edition Red**

(John & Polly Alberts)

**14<sup>th</sup> River's Edge Twoplex 2-Man Tree Stand** (Ardisam, Inc.)

**15<sup>th</sup> Vortex Optics Crossfire 2MOA Red Dot Optic** (Vortex)

**16<sup>th</sup> Remington Express .177 Scoped Air Rifle**

(Jason Jeanquart / JJ Excavating)

**17<sup>th</sup> Horny Buck Seed Company Prize Pack**

(Horny Buck/Doug Kostreva)

**18<sup>th</sup> Whitetail Hunter's Food Plot Kit** (Mike Pribyl/LG Seeds)

**19<sup>th</sup> \$100 Food Plot Package** (Rio Creek Feed Mill)

**20<sup>th</sup> \$50 Cabelas Gift Card** (Marty Baudhuin)

**21<sup>st</sup> \$50 Kwik Trip Gift Card** (Kwik Trip)

**22<sup>nd</sup> St. Hubert Hunter's Prize Package**

(Donated in Honor of Fr. Edward Looney)

**23<sup>rd</sup> Handmade Maple Deer Antler Walking Stick** (John & Barb

Maskell)

Visit our website [www.belgianheritagecenter.org](http://www.belgianheritagecenter.org) and follow us on Facebook for more details about Kermis Bucket Raffle/Silent Auction and Hunter's Raffles.

## Door County Land Trust Embraces Belgian Accent for Event

Submitted by Kay McKinley, Communications Coordinator, Door County Land Trust



The Door County Land Trust (DCLT) will hold its Annual Gathering at the Belgian Heritage Center on Friday, August 25 from 2:00 to 5:00. The event will begin with a social, art raffle and music with picnic and dessert buffets opening at 3:30. The program will begin at 4:00.

Those registering for the DCLT Annual Gathering are excited to explore a foreign culture that is firmly rooted in Southern Door. Although the location is considered familiar to DCLT members, what lies behind the doors of the Belgian Heritage Center will be eye-opening for many. The event will have a strong Belgian influence with music by the Caravan Gypsy Swing Ensemble—complete with an accordion; décor of red, yellow, and black; and tours of the museum. The event is open to the public and tickets may be purchased online at [www.DoorCountyLandTrust.org/gathering](http://www.DoorCountyLandTrust.org/gathering).

## School/Convent Accessibility Project – Help Us Welcome All Visitors

The school/convent on BHC's campus has a storied history. Built in 1894, with construction overseen by Fr. Bernard Pennings (*later Abbot Pennings*), it was paid for by parishioners who contributed bags of grain according to their means. The Peninsula Belgian American Club operated it as a clubhouse from 1965 until 2018 when it was transferred to BHC. The first floor has been partially restored to a 1900 era, new windows were installed and various maintenance items have been addressed. Visitors were welcomed starting in May 2021. However, the building is only accessible to those able to walk up several steps.



BHC worked with Legacy Architecture of Sheboygan to develop a solution. It was important to avoid the typical approach of a constructed ramp and railings as such a structure was not historically a feature of the building. Instead, a concrete walk on a graded ramp will lead to the classroom entrance. The existing double door will be modified for ease of entry while maintaining the appearance of the original door. Volunteers will move the votive chapel of St. Roche to be easily accessible from the paved walk.



The estimated cost is \$43,700. We raised \$28,500 thanks to the Maihaugen Foundation, Clifford and Clara Herlache Heritage Fund of Door County Community Foundation, the Peninsula Belgian-American Club, BHC and an anonymous donor. BHC is hoping to start this work this fall so everyone can access the building when we reopen in May 2024. We need to raise the remaining funds by November 1 so the work can be contracted.

Can you help us welcome everyone to this historic building? Donors contributing \$600 or more will be recognized with a plaque installed at the schoolhouse entrance. Donations can be mailed to Belgian Heritage Center, PO Box 173, Brussels, WI 54204 or you can donate online at [belgianheritagecenter.org](http://belgianheritagecenter.org). This is a wonderful opportunity to honor the people who were part of the school's 129 years of service to the Belgian community. Thank you in advance for considering this important project.

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### BELGIAN HERITAGE CENTER DONATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Belgian Heritage Center, P.O. Box 173, Brussels, WI 54204. Donations may be made at [www.belgianheritagecenter.org](http://www.belgianheritagecenter.org) (Paypal and major credit cards accepted).

*Namur Belgian Heritage Foundation, owner of the Belgian Heritage Center, is a 501(c)(3) organization*



Belgian Heritage Center  
PO Box 173  
Brussels, WI 54204

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## **VIRGINIA (MATHY) DANDOIS**

*This photo was submitted by Patricia  
Bouchonville Targett.*

Virginia (1868-1933) immigrated from Walhain, Belgium in 1871. She and husband Hubert farmed in Brussels township. Johnny, their seventh child, is in the background. It is a wonderful look back at daily life on the farm.

Thank you, Patricia!

