

www.BelgianHeritageCenter.org

April 2020

# 2020 Events Postponed Due to Coronavirus

Volunteers have been planning events for 2020 since we closed last October. As the season finally approaches, we decided to delay finalizing our schedule due to the COVID-19 virus. We will open BHC and host events only when it is safe to do so. But we want you to know that we do have wonderful events planned. Here's what we have in the works:

- Our annual Bread & Booyah Lunch, Waffle Breakfast, Hunter's Raffle, Great Fire Remembrance and the Kermiss.
- A talk by Kathleen Ernst about her book, The Lacemaker's Secret, a wonderful story about Belgian life past and present.
- Hosting the Peninsula Belgian-American Club Speakers Program which is open to the public. "Immigrants Trunk... What Would you Bring Along"; "Orphan Train"; "History of the Norbertine Fathers" and others.

We are very excited about these events. When our schedule is set, we will send more information. In the meantime, please watch Facebook and BelgianHeritageCenter.org for information.

With consideration for keeping our patrons safe, we will continue to monitor the situation regarding the COVID-19 virus. If needed, cancellations or postponements of events will be posted on Facebook and on the BHC website. Remember to check out and "Like" our Facebook page to learn about events and other BHC info.

# Consider the Heritage Center for your Next Event

The Belgian Heritage Center is a perfect church-like setting for weddings and wakes/funerals. The BHC is also available for rental for private events such as meetings, conferences and family reunions. For more information call Sue Havel at 920-493-2789 or email: <a href="mailto:events@belgianheritagecenter.org">events@belgianheritagecenter.org</a>

### Golden Heart Volunteer

The BHC proudly nominated Sandy Orsted for the Golden Heart Volunteer Award for the Adult Volunteer of the Year in 2020. Sandy is a driving force for our organization. In addition to serving as Treasurer, she has taken lead roles in marketing, website developing, strategic planning and exhibit implementation.

When asked what excites her about the BHC, Sandy talks about her dad, Leonard Lampereur. "He was very proud of his Belgian heritage and was one of the founding officers of the Peninsula Belgian American Club in 1964. Along with several members of his extended family, he put in many hours working for the Belgian Club and St Mary's church. The effort to form the Belgian Heritage Foundation and to save St Mary's church was going on during the last few weeks of his life and he was VERY upset at the possibility of his church and a huge piece of Belgian heritage being destroyed. A few months after the transfer of St Mary's I congratulated Bill Chaudoir on the group's efforts, and he "drafted" me as the Treasurer.



I had never done volunteer work before and was working full time, but I felt I owed it to my dad to get involved. So – what excites me is I think my dad would be really proud and happy about what we are doing. It is also very rewarding to be working with the next generation of the same families my dad worked with to continue what they started."

Bill added saying, "Sandy is very deserving of this recognition. She jumped in with a vengeance and has made an invaluable contribution to the organization on our Board of Directors and most significantly as our Treasurer. She brings a level of professionalism and commitment to the organization that is unsurpassed. In addition, she has saved our organization tens of thousands of dollars for her volunteer work in a critical fiduciary role. We are indeed very fortunate to have Sandy in a key leadership role at the BHC. I can imagine how proud her father Leonard would be of his daughter for carrying forward the family commitment to their Belgian Heritage. "

Sandy lives in Baileys Harbor with husband Jerome. She has been employed with Hoffman Planning, Design, and Construction, in Appleton for the past 12 years and previously for 24 years with Peterson Builders, Inc. in Sturgeon Bay.





#### Dear Supporters,

This is the beginning of the Belgian Heritage Center's 10<sup>th</sup> year. Since we started in August 2010, we raised over \$830,000 in grants and cash donations and through fundraising events. We have come a long way since a small group banded together to save a piece of Belgian history and start us on this journey to preserve and embrace our heritage.

Thank you to all of the Donors recognized in this newsletter, especially those of you who have contributed year after year to help us get to where we are today. We could not have accomplished so much without your support.

In addition to event planning, our volunteers have been busy fundraising for improvements to our facilities. With the help of grant funding, we are installing air conditioning, a security monitoring system and plumbing upgrades at the Belgian Heritage Center. We are also replacing the front door and window panels in the main entrance. We expect all of this to be complete by the time we open.

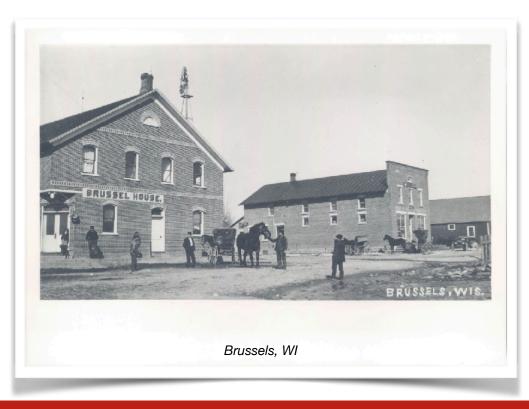
The Belgian Heritage Center is also pleased to be working closely with the Peninsula Belgian-American Club on our shared goal of bringing the Belgian community together. We are pleased to announce that Jerry Reince, President of the Peninsula Belgian-American Club, has joined BHC's Board of Directors to facilitate collaboration between the two organizations.

Thank you again for your support and interest in Belgian heritage!

Joe Alexander
Co-Presidents

Monica Thiry

Monica Thiry



## 2019 Donor List

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