

# Belgian Laces



The religious wedding ceremony between Prince Laurent and Miss Claire Coombs, on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003 in the St. Michel & St. Gudule Cathedral, following the civil ceremony.



**The Belgian Royal Family**

## THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS

Belgian American  
Heritage Association  
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founded in 1976 and  
welcomes as members  
Any person of Belgian  
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Biography or Heraldry,  
either amateur or  
professional.

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## BELGIAN LACES

Official Quarterly Bulletin of  
**THE BELGIAN RESEARCHERS**  
Belgian American Heritage Association

**Our principal objective is:**  
*Keep the Belgian Heritage alive  
in our hearts and in the hearts of our posterity*

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### Deadline for submission of Articles to Belgian Laces:

November 30 – February 28

May 31 - August 31

*Dear Members,*

*I hope you don't mind if I cut short my letter to make room for the latest BIG news in Belgium.*

*Some exciting things have happened in our lives as well and I hope to share them with all of you very soon.*

*In the meantime, I hope you have a wonderful summer!*

*Régine*

### Another Royal Wedding: Welcome Princess Claire!



**Prince Laurent** is eighth in line for succession to the throne, following his older brother, Prince Philippe, and daughter Elisabeth, and his older sister, Princess Astrid, and her four children.

He was educated at the Royal Military Academy where he graduated in 1985 as lieutenant in the Belgian Navy.

His specialties included diving and piloting helicopters. He was promoted to frigate captain in 1994.

After his military training, Prince Laurent had various internships in the U.S. in firms in the pharmaceutical, aeronautic and leisure industries. He likewise spent time at the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations in programs involved with development and the environment.

Sustainable development, nature conservation and animal welfare remain some of his professional interests.

**Claire Coombs**, 29, a surveyor, was born in Bath, England, of a British father and a Belgian mother. She holds dual nationality and speaks perfect English and French. She's working at improving her knowledge of Dutch. The family moved to Belgium when she was three and she was educated at the "Institut de la Providence" in Wavre, a town in the Province of Walloon Brabant, near Brussels.

Her hobbies include swimming, drawing, painting and music.

Upon completing secondary school, she trained to become a surveyor and is currently a partner in a real estate firm in Wavre. In interviews with the Belgian press, Coombs has expressed her hope to continue working after she becomes Princess.

More information and pictures can be obtained at [www.monarchie.be](http://www.monarchie.be)



**King Albert II with Justine and Kim**

### That was the Year that Was

By Nyree Epplett - Sunday, June 8, 2003

#### 2003 Roland-Garros will go down as a tournament of firsts.

The first time there was no Williams in a Grand Slam final since the 2001 US Open. The first time a Dutchman has reached the final here (Verkerk), the first time that same Dutchman had ever won a Grand Slam singles match. The first-ever all-Belgian Grand Slam final, first Grand Slam singles title for Justine Henin-Hardenne, the first time Juan Carlos Ferrero has been ranked No1, and the first time two brothers have won the men's doubles title here since 1993. As the curtains come down on another clay bonanza, we wrap up the results and highlights of the past two weeks.

### All Hail Justine!

Diminutive Belgian Justine Henin-Hardenne became the Queen of Roland-Garros on Saturday. Playing the best tennis of her short career, and proving that her Grand Slam nerves had now subsided, the steely Henin-Hardenne checkmated the No1 and No2 seeds (Serena Williams and Kim Clijsters) one after the other and dedicated the crown to her mother Francoise, who passed away when she was 12. Her gutsy three-set victory over the tearful Williams in the semi final brought to an almighty halt the 33-match reign (four titles) of Serena at Grand Slams and she became the first player since Jennifer Capriati to score back-to-back victories over the American. More so, she even snapped the United State's streak of 11 consecutive Grand Slam women's singles titles! And so the US domination came to an abrupt end on the red dirt at 2003 Roland-Garros.

[http://www.rolandgarros.com/en\\_FR/news/articles/20030608194432d88678c1159e640800256d3f00617926.html](http://www.rolandgarros.com/en_FR/news/articles/20030608194432d88678c1159e640800256d3f00617926.html)

**Just Published**

**“Guide du généalogiste en Belgique et dans les anciens Pays-Bas, Flandre, Artois, Hainaut, Luxembourg”**

by Christophe Drugy and Guy Magdonelle



Anyone interested in researching their Belgian ancestors will discover the complex past of the larger entity that was successively Bourguignon, Spanish, Austrian, French, and Dutch before becoming Belgian in 1830. Therefore a “Guide du généalogiste en Belgique” could not leave out Artois, nor the French Flanders, Hainaut or the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, as the destiny of these provinces and state were linked to the southern Lower Countries. This very practical guide presents the options available to the researcher. It contains numerous notes on the public archives and genealogical associations on both sides of the French-Belgian border, without forgetting the work of the Mormons or local historical societies’ publications.

It also provides clues to research nobility, migration movements and the mining world.

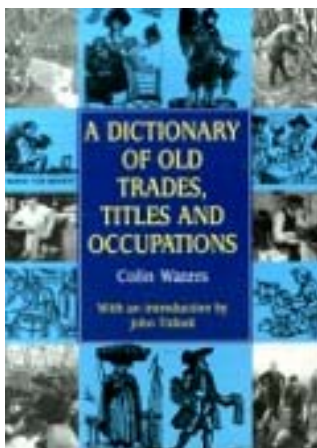
Different from a genealogical manual, it is also meant for the history buffs: chronology, maps, Dutch-French and Latin-French lexicons, lists of towns and parishes, references to Internet sites, detailed bibliography and name index are included.

This is a guide that is clear and indispensable to anyone doing research in Belgium.

**Format:** 201 pages 16 x 24 cm, hardback - **Price (TTC):** 20,58 EUROS plus shipping charges  
<http://www.geneanet.org/store/product.php3?id=58>

**A Dictionary of Old Trades, Titles and Occupations.**

By: Colin Waters



Since time began, people have not always felt they were doing the right job. But in a very real sense what they did defined who they were. This was particularly true when the structure of society was more rigidly set and social position was determined by trade or occupation rather than achievement.

In our own time, the world of work has changed enormously and some of the once familiar names and terms have fallen into disuse only to be understood with the help of a dictionary. For instance, who now knows what buddle boys, claquers, dobbers, hokey pokey men, rogue spotters and sperviters are?

Collin Waters' excellent dictionary explains the function of nearly 4000 old trades, titles and occupations, and contains over 70 illustrations. It is a comprehensive reference book that will be widely welcomed and is sure to become a much used companion; especially to all those interested in family, social and local history.

**Softcover**, 254pgs., 1999, ISBN 1-85306-601-X. - CAT#06028789....\$29.99 (Canadian Dollars)

**Belgians in the 1920 U.S. Federal Census - Vernon Co., Missouri**By Gene Jenkins - [http://belgium.rootsweb.com/usa/mo/vernon/mo\\_vernon\\_census1920.html](http://belgium.rootsweb.com/usa/mo/vernon/mo_vernon_census1920.html)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Relate</b>	<b>born</b>	<b>Entry</b>	<b>Nat.</b>	<b>Father</b>	<b>Mother</b>
<u>Center Township - City of Nevada</u>							
<b>Bartley</b> , Clide	42	Head	Kansas			Indiana	Indiana
Bartley, Eliza	49	Wife	Belgium	1900	N-1910	Belgium	Belgium
Bartley, Clyde	7	Son	Missouri			Kansas	Belgium
Bartley, Mary	5	Dau	Missouri			Kansas	Belgium
Bartley, Frank	3	Son	Missouri			Kansas	Belgium
<b>Baird</b> , F. L.	60	Head	Missouri			Missouri	Missouri
Baird, Angie P.	63	Wife	Belgium			Alsace-Lorraine	Alsace-Lorraine
<u>Drywood Township - City of Sheldon</u>							
<b>Bartholomen</b> , George	32	Head	Missouri			Belgium	France
Bartholomen, Mary	26	Wife	Missouri			Tennessee	Tennessee
Bartholomen, Jame B.	3	Son	Missouri			Missouri	Missouri
<u>Washington Townhship</u>							
<b>Flacy</b> , Ulyss	51	Head	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
Flacy, Fernando	19	Son	Missouri			Missouri	Kansas
Flacy, Enlala	15	Dau	Missouri			Missouri	Kansas
<u>Osage Township</u>							
<b>Deprett</b> , Emile	42	Head	Belgium	1886	N-1918	Belgium	Belgium
Deprett, Ellen	37	Wife	Belgium	1887	N-1896	Belgium	Belgium
Deprett, Emile	17	Son	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
Deprett, Louis	16	Son	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
Deprett, Ada	10	Dau	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
Deprett, Jodonna	6	Dau	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
Deprett, Almira	2	Dau	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
<b>Loth</b> , Antone	54	Head	Belgium	1887	N-1896	Belgium	Belgium
Loth, Jodonna	77	Wife	Belgium	1887	N-1896	Belgium	Belgium
Loth, Louis	48	Head	Belgium	1887	N-1896	Belgium	Belgium
Loth, Rachael	42	Wife	Ohio			England	England
Loth, Robert	21	Son	Missouri			Illinois	Ohio
Vose, Thomas	22	S.Son	Missouri			Illinois	Ohio
Vose, Mary	16	S.Dau	Missouri			Illinois	Ohio
<b>Lesser</b> , Armar	37	Head	Belgium	1887	N-1892	Belgium	Belgium
Lesser, Luie B.	32	Wife	Missouri			England	Missouri
Lesser, Joseph	15	Son	Missouri			Belgium	Missouri
Lesser, Edwin	8	Son	Missouri			Belgium	Missouri
Lesser, Glenn	6	Son	Missouri			Belgium	Missouri
Lesser, Fadelma	3	Dau	Missouri			Belgium	Missouri
<b>Jamette</b> , Francis	26	Head	Belgium	1895	N-1906	Belgium	Belgium
Jamette, Amelia	25	Wife	Missouri			Austria	Austria
Jamette, Thelma	2	Dau	Missouri			Belgium	Missouri
<b>Jamette</b> , Ramey	63	Head	Belgium	1895	N-1904	Belgium	Belgium
Jamette, Mary	53	Wife	Belgium	? ? ?		Belgium	Belgium
Jamette, Ada	20	Dau	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
Jamette, Johnnie	15	Son	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
Jamette, Hazel	10	Dau	Missouri			Belgium	Belgium
<b>Dubray</b> , Tony	70	Head	Belgium	1889	N-1894	Belgium	Belgium
Dubray, Lena	67	Wife	Belgium	1889	N-1894	Belgium	Belgium
Dubray, John	38	Son	Belgium	1889	N-1894	Belgium	Belgium
<b>Jamette</b> , Amy	37	Head	Belgium	1895	A	Belgium	Belgium

**Birth Records (1898-1900): Strepy-Bracquegnies, Province of Hainaut – 1898: part 2**

Extracted by Gene Jenkins

Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of spelling of the names on this extraction. However because the original documents are written in various handwritings and clearly some mistakes may have occurred.

Name	Birth	Father	Mother
Desire Benoni Martin	14 Jul	Fabian Martin	Cleomire Chevalier
Ephrem Arthur Baudous	18 Jul	Gutave Augustin Baudous	Adolphine Maria Bracq
Jeanne Aline Blicq	18 Jul	Odilon Joseph Blicq	Juliette Herman
Leon Joseph Frebutte	19 Jul	Camille Joseph Frebutte	Louise Isa Celstine Bermils
Anzele Clotilde Bailly	25 Jul	Jules Philippe Bailly	Marie Adelaide Moreau
Louisa Josephine Cambier	29 Jul	Henri Fortune Cambier	Marie Andre
Augustin Fernand Mainil	30 Jul		Laura Clementine Mainil
Valentine Francoise Wastiau	30 Jul		Hortense Wastiau
Suzanne Aime Anna Baudwin	8 Aug	Oscar Emile Baudwin	Maria Anna Coquiart
Marguerite Leona Degre	10 Aug	Hector Desire Degre	Elmire Josephine Dumont
Leon Victorien Bodson	16 Aug	Nicolas Bodson	Jenny Emilie Cambier
Antoine Aime Julien Etienne	16 Aug	Jean Baptiste Gustave Etienne	Leontine Crusniere
Germaine Julia Bouyere	17 Aug	Oscar Desire Bouyere	Julia Clemence Cambier
Charles Victor Gueret	17 Aug	Charles Joseph Gueret	Anna Angelique Joncret
Raymond Leopold Laurent	19 Aug	Desire Constant Laurent	Adeline Charlotte Duriau
Marie Cauehie	28 Aug	Desire Cauehie	Domithilde Riehelet
Helene Marie Therese Hannecart	30 Aug	Fernand Joseph Hannecart	Elisa Augustine Dergre
Arthur Joseph Mickel	1 Sep	Gustave Mickel	Augustine Lescart
Florence Huart	1 Sep	Leon Victor Huart	Marie Dubois
Jean Baptiste Evrard	3 Sep	Alexandre Jean Baptiste Evrard	Louisa Blanckart
Emile Joseph Blondiau	6 Sep	Louis Joseph Blondiau	Silvie Marie Therese Durant
Albert Louis Ghislain Timmermans	6 Sep	Charles Louis Timmermans	Emilie Marie Agnes Dupont
Laure Lydie Roland	7 Sep	Victor Roland	Louisa Huart
Martha Leonie Laurent	7 Sep		Marie Laurent
Felicie Alphonsine Verset	9 Sep	Oscar Verset	Adele Greuze
Charlotte Emilie Catherine Calin	10 Sep	Laurent Calin	Rosalie Marie Louisa Tourpe
Arthur Daniel	11 Sep	Marcel Daniel	Pauline Clemance Wastiau
Alicee Georgina Quertinmont	12 Sep	Jean Baptiste David Quertinmont	Anna Marie Therese Dendal
Zoe Celine Dessalles	16 Sep		Josephine Dessalles
Augustine Nathalie Rosine Ramay	17 Sep	Victor Alexandre Ramay	Marie Nathalie Claus
Victor Hannecart	23 Sep	Andre Hannecart	Marie Therese Heymans
Louise Alexandrine Watesse	24 Sep	Alexandre Watesse	Rosalie Desiree Fievet
Adonis Vital Ghislain Laurent	26 Sep	Louis Laurent	Marie Louisa Coppin
Monique Blervaque	26 Sep	Constant Blervaque	Marie Joseph Trefert
Georges Joseph Moreau	1 Oct	Oscar Theophile Moreau	Louisa Renaut
Paul Charles Florimond Hermant	1 Oct	Florimond Hermant	Marie Waterlot
Leopold Joseph Parea	6 Oct		Marie Parea
Catherine Augustine Gondry	7 Oct	Desire LaCuche	Catherine Gondry*
Josephine Elmire Lagneau	12 Oct	Camille Lagneau	Elmire Eugenie Cousix
Fernand Laurent Jules Dupont	13 Oct		Zoe Dupont
Leon Laurent	14 Oct	Gustave Pierre Joseph Laurent	Marie Francoise Moreau
Emilie Marie Therese Jeanne Guichart	16 Oct	Jules Emile Charles Louis Guichart	Leonie Lansmanne
Arthur Duvivier	17 Oct	Augustin Duvivier	Zoe Marie Josephine Dutricus
Julia Josephine Delepine	19 Oct	Antoine Jules Delepine	Clemance Huret
Jeanne Clara Delepine	19 Oct	Antoine Jules Delepine	Clemance Huret
Mariette Julie Cousin	20 Oct	Hector Cousin	Leontine Josephine Dainville
Marie Magdelaine Lydie Denise	22 Oct		Marie Denise
Zelie Fernande Evrard	24 Oct	Alphonse Jean Baptiste Evrard	Marie Therese Bouchy
Elie Griffon	24 Oct	Victor Griffon	Julia Marie Druart
Josephine Debaize	24 Oct	Fernand Augustin Debaize	Louisa Robbe
Laura Emilia Wery	24 Oct	Juvenal Wery	Adolphine Augustine Rifant
Helene Hortense Juliette Mayaus	26 Oct	Evariste Mayous	Celine Harvent
Louise Laure Gusbin	27 Oct	Louis Joseph Gusbin	Sidonie Francoise Bodson
Jeanne Marie Fondu	28 Oct	Aime Ghislain Fondu	Stephanie Marie Deltenre
Louise Victoine Loist	29 Oct	Victor Leopold Loist	Anna Augusta Debecq

Germaine Bouyere	31 Oct	Victor Bouyere	Julia Laurent
Victoia Jeanne Deramaix	9 Nov	Jules Joseph Albert Deramaix	Mathilde Victorine Haubey
Mathilde Adolphine Delhay	14 Nov	Leon Victorien Delhay	Olympe Devroede
Angele Francoise Empein	17 Nov	Fernand Oscar Empein	Flore Alphonsine Vanhellepat
Pierre Joseph Roosens	17 Nov	Polydore Roosens	Rosalie Thiebant
Leon Gustave Delmotte	17 Nov	Victor Augustin Delmotte	Florine Augustine Faucon
Blanche Louise Emilie Descamps	18 Nov	Emile Descamps	Sidonie Libotte
Pauline Philippron	21 Nov	Louis Nicolas Philippron	Julia Nicoise
Camille Ernest Evariste Leroy	21 Nov	Ernest Auguste Leroy	Alphonsine Albertine Mayaus
Philippe Charles Waterlot	25 Nov	Auguste Emile Waterlot	Aline Josephine Lejeune
Bertha Josephine Empein	28 Nov	Camille Francois Empein	Elise Debaize
Victor Canivet	6 Dec	Edouard Joseph Francois Canivet	Marie Antoinette Pavot
Olga Buzet	7 Dec	Albert Buzet	Clemance Dubois
Amandine Marie Claire Paree	8 Dec	Louis Paree	Jeannie Louisa Maria Waroquier
Henri Andre Miche	9 Dec	Adolphe Miche	Desiree Eva Blankart
Fernand Victorien Mayaus	17 Dec	Jules Victor Mayaus	Zelies Harvent
Leonie Gailly	26 Dec	Emmanuel Ghislain Gailly	Marie Louise Lemaire
Helen Marie Dierick	30 Dec	Theophile Dierick	Eugenie Vanbackmuroche
Victor Dupres	30 Dec	Jean Baptiste Dupres	Constance Dubois

### Pennsylvania & West Virginia Glassworkers' Obituaries

Extracted for the PA-SW-OBITS list of Rootsweb  
by Victoria Hospodar Valentine

**Desire THOMASSY**, 67, for more than fifty years a resident of McDonald, died suddenly at 7:30 o'clock Saturday morning, April 25, 1931, as he was about to open the store of the Service Stores Corporation in Marianna, of which he was a manager. For some time he had not been in rugged health, but continued in his employment. Mr. THOMASSY was born in Belgium, November 25, 1863, a son of the late Mrs. And Mrs. Thomas THOMASSY. The THOMASSY family removed from Belgium to France, and in 1880 came to the United States, locating at Smithton. Shortly afterward the family moved to McDonald, and for many years resided in the THOMASSY homestead in what is now Deloche avenue. Mr. THOMASSY had been employed the fast thirty-nine years as manager of stores for the Federal Supply Co., the Noblestown Supply Co., and the Service Stores Corporation. He was manager of the Federal Supply Co. stores in McDonald for many years. For several years past he has been manager of the Marianna store of the Service Stores Corporation. He was a member of the Carnegie PPOE, MacDonald lodge, IOOF, the Loyal Order of MOOSE, the K. of P. and the Royal Arcanum. For years he was a member of the McDonald Hose Co.

Mr. THOMASSY was an upright citizen, a good family man, and a loyal friend. There is no guile in his make-up. Though he made no profession of religious faith, he was unconsciously in that which is good, and true and pure and his conduct in life was such that no one could say that Desire THOMASSY had wronged or taken advantage of him. He was held in high esteem by his associates in business and had the good-will of those who were or who had been in his employ.

He is survived by his wife Mrs. **Juliette BROWETT THOMASSY** and the following children: **Leona** the wife of **Leon B. WILLIAMS** of Cleveland, Okla., **Julia** the wife of **James F. CRAIG**, Burgettstown: **Walter** of Fairmont, W. Va.; **George** of Carnegie, **Arthur** of Burgettstown, and **Lena**

the wife of **Raymond SIMPSON** of Fifth street, McDonald. The following brothers and sisters also survive: Celine, the wife of **Seal BAGUET** of Hays, Anna the wife of **George GILLESPIE**, Sr. of McDonald, **Celeste** the wife of **H. H. DELOCHE** of Dalton, Ohio, **Fernand A. THOMASSY**, West Lincoln avenue, McDonald, **Ida** the wife of **E. T. ROBERT** of Fanny street, McDonald, **George E. THOMASSY** of Burgettstown, and **Julia** the wife of **George YOUNG** of Wilkinsburg. A daughter **Laura** died in 1901. A son **Fernand** died in 1918 and a son **Thomas** died in 1926. There are eleven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon in the THOMASSY home in Fifth street, conducted by the Rev. B. F. HEANY, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of McDonald. Burial was in the Robinson's Run cemetery.

**Joseph PENSIS**, 65, died at 3:20 a.m. Sunday, May 24, 1931, in his home in Orchard street of complications. He had been ill since December 17. He was a son of the late Joseph and Catherine PENSIS and was born in Chatelineau, Belgium. He came to America in 1885, locating in McDonald. Later he removed to Charleroi, where in 1895 he was united in marriage with **Amelia WALOT**. To this union four children were born-**Louise**, **Emilie**, **Henri**, and **Armand**. The last named died in infancy. Mrs. PENSIS died March 26, 1905, and Mr. PENSIS remarried July 2, 1915. A son **Amie** of this union survives, together with the 3 children of the first marriage-Mrs. Louise PAYNE of Rayland, Ohio, Mrs. **Emilie BIBBEE** of Tiltonville, Ohio, and Henri of Dillonvale, Ohio. A sister Mrs. **Rosalie BOYNES** and a brother John of Charleroi and a brother **Miles PENSIS** of McDonald also survive. He was a member of the Loyal Order of Moose No. 65 of Carnegie, and La Solidarite association of McDonald. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon in the home in charge of Mr. **Fernal BROWETT**. Burial was in the Robinson's Run cemetery.

**Mrs. Denise STRIMEL VOLPE**, 41, died at 3:15 o'clock Saturday afternoon, July 6, 1935, in her home in Lorain, Ohio. Death ended a lingering illness of five years. She had been confined to her bed the past year and a half. Mrs. VOLPE was born September 15, 1894, in Jumet, Belgium, and brought to America by her parents at the age of 11. The STRIMELS first resided in Cecil, later removing to McDonald. On April 27, 1910, she was united in marriage with **John VOLPE** in Donora. They resided for 15 years in Cecil. From Cecil the VOLPEs moved to Lorain, Ohio.

Mrs. VOLPE is survived by her husband, three daughters, **Elda, Ellen and Erma**, and a son, **John, Jr.** A daughter Eva died December 7, 1932. She is also survived by her mother, Mrs. **J. B. ROBERTS** of McDonald and the following brothers and sisters: **Herman STRIMEL, Mrs. Robert HERD, Albert STRIMEL, Raymond STRIMEL, and Ferdinand STRIMEL** of McDonald, and Miss **Simone STRIMEL** of Lancaster.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon in the VOLPE home in Lorain, conducted by the Re. L. E. ROTHROCK of the Methodist church of Lorain, Ohio. Burial was in the Ridgeville cemetery.

**Melchoir WILLIAMS**, 74, died Tuesday evening, July 23, 1935, at 9:50 o'clock in his home in McKee Place. Mr. WILLIAMS had been ill of asthma and complications the past eight months. He was born January 21, 1861, in Belgium. On May 13, 1882, he was united in marriage with **Mary VINARION**, also of Belgium, and in 1886 they came to America.

Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAMS celebrated their golden wedding anniversary three years ago last May.

Besides his wife, he is survived by the following sons and daughters: **Seamont WILLIAMS** of Sturgeon and **Sylvester WILLIAMS** of McDonald; Mrs. **Helen JIANNINO** of Sturgeon; Kathryn, the wife of **William NOTTTE** of Holidays Cove, W.Va.; **Blanch**, the wife of **Sylvester DUCARME** of Southview, and **Rose**, the wife of **George CONLEY** of Walkers Mill. There are nineteen grandchildren. Funeral services will be held this Saturday.

**Nestor J. MATHIEU**, 70, died at 1:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 7, 1935, in the home of his daughter, **Mrs. Joseph VANDERBORD**, in Ambridge. Death was due to complications. He had been sick since the first of March. Mr. MATHIEU was born October 9, 1864, in Sallisalle, Belgium, a son of Celestin and Anastasia MATHIEU, and one of 11 children. About 45 years ago he came to the United States and on January 28, 1893, he was united in marriage with **Flora GILBERT** of Primrose. He was a member of Center U. P. church, Midway.

He is survived by his wife, who makes her home with her daughter in Ambridge, a daughter **Ellen**, the wife of **Joseph VANDENBORD** of Ambridge, and a son **Eugene** of Philadelphia. A brother **Severin** resides in Sallisalle, Belgium. There are two grandchildren. Funeral services will be held this Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, DST, in the home of his daughter, 1518 Ohioview avenue, Ambridge. Burial will be in the Center cemetery, Midway.

**Mrs. Desiree LEMAL**, 81, died at 3:37 a.m. Sunday, November 10, 1935, after an illness of several years of complications. Mrs. LEMAL before her marriage was **Desiree FAUGONNIER**. She was born July 15, 1854, in Antwerp, Belgium. At the age of 35 she came to the United States and settled in Sturgeon. She was united in marriage with **Celestine LEMAL**, May 1, 1890, in Pittsburgh. Her husband died a number of years ago. She is survived by one son, **Jules LEMAL** of East Lincoln avenue, McDonald, and one step-daughter, **Lena**, the wife of **J. B. TEILHET** of Farrell, formerly of McDonald. There are seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon in the home of her son, in East Lincoln avenue, conducted by the Rev. O. E. GARDNER. Burial was in the Robinson's Run cemetery.

**Alphonse GEORGE**, 69, died at 12 noon, Thursday, December 26, 1935, in his home in Sturgeon. He had been ill of pneumonia one week.

He was born May 28, 1866, in Jumet, Belgium, and was united in marriage to **Julia LAURENT**, April 26, 1901, in Belgium.

After coming to the United States he was employed by the Pittsburgh Coal Co. and had been an employee of this company the past thirty years. He had also been an active member of the Franco-Belgian club since coming here.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, **Mrs. Roland DRUGMAND** of Imperial and **Mrs. Abel MASQUELIER** of Sturgeon, a son, **Frank George** of Imperial and a brother, **August GEORGE** of Sturgeon. Five grandchildren also survive. Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon in his late home in Sturgeon, conducted by the Rev. L. C. MATTHEWS. Burial was in the Robinson's Run cemetery.

**Frank J. SCOUVART, Sr.**, 59, Avella merchant, whose grocery store was extensively damaged by fire Saturday morning, died early Wednesday, January 29, 1936, in his home in Avella after a long illness of a complication of diseases.

Born in Belgium, he came to the United States at the age of 10 and resided in the Cecil and McDonald districts where he was employed for eighteen years as a clerk and store manager. Thirty-one years ago he moved to Avella and opened his own hardware store, and seven years ago he also opened a grocery store there, conducting business in both until the time of his death.

He was prominent in that community. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and an elder of the First Presbyterian church of Avella.

Surviving are his mother, Mrs. **Petronella DELVAUX SCOUVART** of McDonald, the wife, Mrs. **Helen EGBERT SCOUVART** of Avella, three daughters, **Mrs. George P. SHANKS, Mrs. David H. WILLIAMS, and Miss Edna Mae SCOUVART**, and a son **F. J. SCOUVART, Jr.**, all of Avella. Five grandchildren also survive. Funeral services will be held in the home at Avella this Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock with the Rev. N. E. KOEHLER, Jr., pastor of Avella Presbyterian church, in charge. Burial will be in the West Middletown cemetery.

**Cesare J. LORANT**, 69, died Thursday, February 6, 1936, in his home in Cherry Valley of the effects of a stroke of paralysis suffered Wednesday. He had been in poor health since an earlier stroke two years ago. Mr. LORANT had lived in this section about 35 years. He was a native of Belgium, coming to this country when a young man. After coming to America he married Josephine, also a native of Belgium. He was well known in the Cherry Valley section. Much of his life he spent as a miner, but the last 10 or 12 years he had been a successful farmer.

He leaves his wife and two sons, **Arthur** at home, and **Achille P. LORANT** of Cherry Valley. He also leaves three brothers and two sisters, **Arthur LORANT** of Morgantown, W. Va., **Telesphore** and **Peter LORANT** of New Kensington, **Ermeline DESTREE** of Canada, and **Sylvie TRESSY** of Miami, Fla. The sisters were unable to attend the funeral, but the three brothers were present.

Services were held Saturday afternoon in the home of his son, **Achilles P. LORANT**, in Cherry Valley. Burial was in Fairview cemetery, Burgettstown.

**Mrs. Vigneron Williams**, 76, wife of the late **Melchoir WILLIAMS**, died at 9:30 o'clock Sunday evening, February 16, 1936, in her home in McKee Place, Sturgeon. Mrs. WILLIAMS was born December 25, 1860, in Auvlet (correct spelling: Auvelais), Belgium, and was united in marriage with Mr. Williams on May 15, 1883. They came to America in 1886 and made their residence in this locality. Mr. WILLIAMS died July 23, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAMS celebrated their golden wedding anniversary May 14, 1933. Mrs. WILLIAMS is survived by the following sons and daughters: **Seamont WILLIAMS** of Sturgeon, **Sylvester WILLIAMS** of McDonald, **Mrs. Helen JIANNINO** of Sturgeon, **Catherine** the wife of **William NOTTE** of Hollidays Cove W. Va.; **Blanche**, the wife of **Sylvester DUCHAMR** of Southview; and **Rose**, the wife of **George CONELY** of Carnegie. There are nineteen grandchildren.

Funeral services were held this Thursday afternoon in the late home in charge of the Rev. L. G. RICHEY of Franklin, W. Va. Burial was in the Robinsons' Run cemetery.

**Mrs. Jane DELVAUX SCHOLLAERT**, 40, wife of **William C. SCHOLLAERT** of Joffre, died at 4:40 a.m., Friday, February 21, 1936. She had been ill about five months. She was born in Belgium and came to this country at the age of eight years. Before going to Burgettstown 13 years ago she had resided in Charleroi, Donora, and Monessen. Surviving are her husband, William C. SCHOLLAERT, and a daughter Dorothy, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pierre DELVAUX, and three sisters, **Simone**, and **Denise DELVAUX** and **Mrs. Eston MOYER**, all of North Charleroi. The funeral was held from the home of Julian SCHOLLAERT in Sturgeon Monday morning, with requiem high mass in St. Patrick's church, Noblestown. Burial was in the Noblestown cemetery.

**Eli MORTELETTE**, 47, single, died Monday noon, April 20, 1936, in the State hospital in Torrance where he had been a patient the past eight years. Death was due to heart trouble. He is survived by five brothers and one sister: **Samuel** of Cleveland, Ohio, **Peter** and **Jules** of East Pittsburgh, George

of McDonald, **Rene** of Pittsburgh, and **Rachel**, the wife of **Victor CATRAIN** of McDonald. He was a son of Mr. and **Mrs. Pierre MORTELETTE**, who came to McDonald from Belgium over 40 years ago. Mrs. MORTELETTE died in 1923, and Mrs. MORTELETTE died in 1928.

Funeral services are being held this Thursday afternoon in the Irons Memorial French U. P. church, conducted by the pastor, Dr. Alexandre MAGE, who will be assisted by Mr. F. J. BROWETT. Burial in Hilldale cemetery.

**Mrs. Florentine DELGIGNESSE BOHY**, 75, died at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 6, 1938, in the home of her granddaughter, **Mrs. James PHILLIPS**, in Monessen, after an illness of several months. She was a daughter of Barney and **Victoria DELGIGNESSE**, and was born in the Province of Brabant, Belgium, coming to the United States in 1886. She was a former resident of McDonald. Mrs. BOHY is survived by two sons, **Leon** and **Oswal**, both of Monessen. There are three grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A sister survives in Belgium. Mr. BOHY died January 19, 1935.

Funeral services were held last Saturday afternoon in the PHILLIPS home, conducted by the Rev. Mr. BOETTCHER, pastor of the Monessen M. E. church. Burial was in Belle Vernon.

**Leon MONSEAU**, 52, died Thursday, July 7, 1938, in his home in Weirton, W. Va. after an illness of seven months. He was a son of **Juliette MONSEAU** and the late **Herbert MONSEAU**, and was born in Belgium. He had been a resident of Cecil for 35 years before going to Weirton where he was employed in the tin mill. Mr. MONSEAU was twice married. His first wife died 20 years ago. He was a member of LaSolidarite Association Mutuelle of Cecil. Besides his second wife, **Mrs. LaFrance MONSEAU**, he is survived by three sons: **Edward**, **Leon**, and **Florent**; two daughters: **Marie Calena** and **Henrietta**; his mother and his stepfather, Mr. and **Mrs. Maurice VERNET**; two brothers: **Sidney** of Weirton and **Albert** of Warren, Ohio; two stepsisters: **Mrs. Mary FERIAIRIE** and **Mrs. Edna BROWER**; and seven grandchildren. His father, a brother, **Edward**, and a sister **Henrietta BALON**, are dead.

Funeral services were held at one o'clock Sunday afternoon in the MONSEAU home in Weirton and at three o'clock in the Venice U. P. church, conducted by the pastor, the Rev. C. T. LITTELL, D. D. Burial was in the Venice cemetery.

**Mrs. Ida ROMAIN DELANEY**, 56, wife of **Jules DELANEY** of Champion hill, Sturgeon, died at 2:45 a.m. Tuesday, August 23, 1938, in the Mercy hospital after an illness of three years. A daughter of the late **Anthony** and **Philomene FREMAL ROMAINE**, she was born November 4, 1882, in Belgium and came to the United States with her parents at the age of five. She spent her entire life in Noblestown and Sturgeon. She and Jules DELANEY were united in marriage November 22, 1902, in McDonald.

Besides her husband she is survived by four daughters: **Juliette**, the wife of **Samuel WATTERS** of Oakdale, **Norma**, the wife of **Robert GAITENS, Jr.**, of Sturgeon, and **Rose Marie** and **Florence** at home; seven sons: **Raymond** of Noblestown, and **George**, **Jules**, **Arthur**, **Hector**, **Bobby**,

**and James**, all at home; one sister, **Mrs. Emile RANK**, Sr., of Sturgeon; two brothers: **Desire ROMAIN** of Sturgeon, and **Joseph ROMAIN** of Barberton, Ohio, and four grandchildren. One daughter died in infancy. Funeral services were held August 25 in the DELANEY home, conducted by the Rev. James G. BARRONS, pastor of the Noblestown U. P. church, and the Rev. W. V. RITCHIE, pastor of the Oakdale U. P. church. Burial was in the Robinson's Run cemetery.

**Frank MICHAUX**, 59, of 320 East Lincoln avenue, McDonald, died at 6:20 p.m. Saturday, September 24, 1938, in the Mercy hospital, Pittsburgh, of a hart ailment. He had been in ill health for three years. He was a carpenter by trade and had resided in McDonald the last 52 years. He was born April 5, 1879, in Charleroi, Belgium, and came to the United States with his parents at the age of seven. In 1903 he was united in marriage with **Mare DEKEGEL** in McDonald. Surviving are his wife, Mary; three daughters, **Mrs. Amelia YECKO** of Valley street, McDonald; **Mrs. Leona GOULRAND** of Houston and **Miss Doris MICHAUX**, at home, and one son **Harry** of the L. O. O. M. apartments, McDonald. There are five grandchildren. A sister, **Mrs. Leona GRABILL** lives in Everett.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon in the home, conducted by the Rev. A. R. ARMSTRONG of Washington and the Rev. Alexandre MAGE of the Irons Memorial French church. Burial was in the Robinson's Run cemetery.

**Mrs. Marie Ann BARBER**, 73, died at 9:15 p.m. Saturday, July 12, 1941, in her home in Monaca, following a six-month illness due to a paralytic stroke. She was born October 5, 1867, in Belgium. She is survived by one son, **John BARBER**, and one daughter, Margaret, the wife of **Nick ELDER**, both of Monaca; one brother, **Joseph BOUCHA** of New Sheffield, and two sisters: **Mrs. Peter J. CHARLIER** of McDonald and **Mrs. George DUJARDIN** of Baltimore, Md. Two brothers resided in Belgium. Her husband, **Harry BARBER**, died May 15, 1940. Funeral services were held July 16 in the BARBER home, conducted by the Rev. C. E. READ. Burial was in Sylvania Hills cemetery.

**Adolph CAMBIEN**, 85, died Sunday, August 10, 1941, in his home in Cecil. He was born May 23, 1856, in Belgium and came to the United States 48 years ago. He had been a resident of Sturgeon before moving to Cecil and was a retired coal miner. His wife, **Emily CAMBIEN**, died February 15, 1926. There are no relatives. Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon in the Coleman funeral home, Cecil. Burial was in the Venice cemetery.

**Louis GILLES**, 71, of McDonald, a former resident of Midway, died at 4:20p.m. Wednesday, July 8, 1942, in St. Margaret's Memorial hospital, Pittsburgh. He had been ill for two weeks. Born on August 27, 1871, in Alsement, (Aisemont) Belgium, he was the son of **August and Mary LEGREEN GILLES**, and came to this country many years ago. Mr. GILLES was married 51 years ago to **Leontine HOLS**, who survives. He was in business in Midway for 29 years as a merchant and had resided in McDonald for the past two years. Surviving in addition to his wife, are two sons, **Ferdinand** of Fowlersville, Mich., and **Edmond** of Midway;

three daughters: **Mrs. Louisa CULLEY** of McDonald, **Emma and Elsie** at home, and four grandchildren. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday in the home, 214 Barr street, in charge of the Rev. R. C. SUTTON, pastor of the Burgettstown, U.P. Church. Burial will be in Center cemetery, Midway.

**Joseph PIERRARD**, 48, died suddenly of a heart attack about 1:00 p.m. Saturday, July 18, 1942, in his home, 344 North street, McDonald. A son of **Philip PIERRARD** of McDonald and the late **Alice BERGER PIERRARD**, he was born June 23, 1894, in Belgium and came to the United States with his parents at the age of six years, Locating in McDonald. He and **Margaret ZIRWAS** of McDonald were married September 29, 1920, in McDonald by the Rev. W. D. IRONS. Mr. PIERRARD enlisted in World War I and was a first class private. He served eleven months overseas. He was a W.P.A. worker and was a member of La Solidarite association and the McDonald Volunteer Fire department. Besides his wife, he is survived by one daughter, **Mrs. Margaret SHOTIS** of Primrose; on son, **Philip PIERRARD** at home; one brother, **Emile PIERRARD** of McDonald, and two sisters: **Mrs. Edmond DILLON** of McDonald and **Mrs. E. A. RANK** of Sturgeon. There is one grandchild, **Rose Marie SHOTIS**. His mother died eight years ago; a sister, **Mrs. Theodore LEGROS** died August 15, 1929, and a daughter died in infancy.

Funeral services with military honors were held Tuesday afternoon in the Emile PIERRARD home, North street, conducted by the Rev. O. E. GARDNER, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church, McDonald, assisted by the Rev. Grant M. McKNIGHT, D. D. pastor of Robinson's Run church. Burial was in Robinson's Run cemetery.

Among the friends from out-of-town who attended the funeral were the Howard GILES family of Pittsburgh, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond D. ATTORIO of Ohio, and Mrs. Margaret GEHRKE of Buffalo, N.Y.

**Mrs. Julianne DAOUT VEREGHAN**, 70, of 235 Barr street, McDonald, widow of **Louis Joseph VEREGHAN**, drowned Thursday, July 23, 1942, in a pool known as the "Third Entry" near Sturgeon.

Mrs. VEREGHAN was reported to have left her home in the morning and had apparently walked about three miles from McDonald when the drowning occurred. The first knowledge of the tragedy came about noon when two Sturgeon boys, Louis DAMS and Glenn VEZIE, who had gone to the pool to swim, found her body floating on the surface. The body was removed to the James R. Coleman Funeral home at Cecil. A daughter of **John Baptiste and Angeline H. S. EDMINDE**, she was born December 19, 1869, in Belgium and upon arriving in the United States she located in Sturgeon, where she had resided for 43 years. After her husband's death in January 1940, she moved to McDonald and made her home with a nephew, **John DAOUT**. A brother, **Charles DAOUT**, resides in Cecil. Funeral services were held Monday afternoon in the DAOUT home in charge of Charles FIALON. Burial was in Robinson's Run cemetery.

<http://www.eghezee.org/patr/aiinf.htm> - published in the "Éghezée et Vous" (Sept 1988)

In 1647, Aische-en-Refail consisted of

- a high, medium and low domain with hunting rights, dependence of the Count of Namur;
- a seigneurie with feudal rights, quitrent and rents, in grain as well as in money and capons, which also belonged to the royal domain (with the Count of Namur as a sovereign);
- a seigneurie and feudal court (said of Walhain) under the jurisdiction of the old kingdoms of his Majesty in Brabant;
- a castle and a strong place surrounded with large ditches used as fishponds, a poultry, gardens, fruit trees, another farm, woods and meadows, all free of property tax, except for plots of little importance.

The whole was auctioned off to Aloys du Bois and would remain in the family until the 18<sup>th</sup> century and, as one descendant married Simon-Charles de Neuf in 1755, it's under that name that the seigneurie continued.

The Baron of Oultremont resided in the castle in 1845.

Over time, this important ensemble grew around the fief of Refait, given in 1211 by Théodoric of Walcourt, count of Montaigu, to Philippe, Marquis of Namur.

In 1289, The Count of Namur owns in Ays and in Refait the tallage, the feudal rights and all justice, except over the fief of Godefroid of Refait who fell under the jurisdiction of Brabant.

The castle of the Respaille in Aische was headquarters for a wildlife pest control system for the Count of Namur, given as a fief in 1403 to Godefroid de Brabant whose responsibility it was to receive, lodge and feed the Count's lieutenant, servants and dogs during wolf hunts.

The territory of Aische included three Courts of Justice: the most important one was the Seigneurie Court that covered the high, middle and low justice. It was made up of a mayor and four to seven deputy mayors, named by the Lord.

The feudal court of Walhain, dependence of Brabant, had a bailiff and 6 fief men, named by the Lord of Aische, and took care of feudal matters only. Finally the Court of Saint-Lambert of Liège who sold it in 1702, with permission from the pope and the Bishop of Namur, to Louis du Bois, Lord of Aische.

The 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century style big farms of Aische testify of its agricultural contribution over the years. Smaller farms are also found in the area:

- 174 in 1846 where 243 people lived,
- 261 in 1895 with 313 inhabitants,
- 145 in 1929, with 275 inhabitants,
- 247 in 1950 (193 inhabitants)
- and finally, 238 in 1959.

In 1855, 95 residents of Aische, (one tenth of the population) emigrated to Green-Bay, Wisconsin.

During archeological digs remnants of five Roman villas were found in Aische. The Brunehaut Road (a ancient Roman road), which touches one end of the territory stills serves as boundary between the Provinces of Namur and Brabant.

In 1895, Edouard VERHELST, a mathematician and doctor in physical sciences wrote an in-depth history on Aische en Refail; his hometown.

"When you look at the village", he wrote, "you see three monuments of the feudal era: the old castle still owned by the descendants of the lords of Aische who retained rights of justice until the French Revolution, the dungeon of the Bawette, by the Aische, the Tour Barn, remnant of the domain by the same name. The elegant spire of the new church marks the center of the village from where now emerge red tile roofs replacing the thatched ones. The farm of the Bawette, old fortified manor of the fief of Ansolville dating back to 1585. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century it belonged to the Lord of Walhain, then in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries to the Bawette family and today to Gilbert Paquet."

### **The Parish.**

The Parish of Aische is an old one; the first known priest, Henri de Liernu, is noted as the "rector ecclesiae de Ays" in 1277.

### **Le château.**

The castle of Aische-en-Refail was built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, in the fief of Refait, next to the old castle of Walhain the location of which can still be seen in a neighboring field.



In 1462, the VAULX family of Refayt became one of the most important ones in the County of Namur by forming the domain of Aische, grouping together the castle of Aische and its lands and dependences, remaining under the jurisdiction of the Court of Walhain while the right of high justice belonged to the counts of Namur.

Simon de Neuf, husband of Philippine du Bois, enlarged the castle between 1760 and 1780. He added 2 wings, straightened out the tower, enlarged the ditches, built a new bridge, surrounded by 430 ha of woods, including the wood of la Respaille. The attached farm dates back to the Spanish period, at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Beginning in 1830, the castle was no longer occupied permanently and it altogether ceased to be after 1865.

During the war, the castle was damaged, then new owners tore parts of it down. The beams and the stones were sold or used to remodel the farm.

Today there remains only a few walls, a pond and a court.

The castle was classified in 1978.

### The Manor of Là-Bas

The first known lord of the domain of Là-Bas was Jean de Vaul, in 1450. In 1686, the tax records show that the farm sat on 127 bonniers.

It was by far the biggest farm in the village. It was owned by the POSSON family. In 1734, the Barons of Posson rebuilt the farm currently attached to the castle as well as the old manor. Their coat of arms is found on the two towers: three cruets (in the dialect: "Posson" means "pints").

Made a noble in 1783, Lambert de Philippart married Philippine de Posson and inherited the domain. They had six children among whom Charles Philippart, burgermeister of Aische-en-Refail who died a bachelor in 1860. His sister, Rose Joséphine, was married in 1819, to the Count Philibert Emmanuel Van Goidtsnoven and inherited the property. They had one son: Eugène-Charles who fathered Léopold Van Goidtsnoven, husband of the Countess Van der Burch, who restored the castle to its current form in 1870. He also surveyed the park. The initials "L.V.G." are still found on the forged iron railing of the moat, in the molding and marble of the entrance hall.

In 1907, the Count of Aspremont Lynden married Count Léopold Van Goidtsnoven's only daughter and built the manor's right wing with the big conciergerie called "La Tour". His coat of arms is found in the castle's main gable. During WWII, both Prince Baudouin and Prince Albert camped on the property in 1942. At the time, the Manor also served as a hiding place for Jewish children. (under the patronage of Queen Elisabeth).

### Gazelle - 25 July 1855, Hull-Liverpool

<http://users.swing.be/sw032310/Emigrants%20Ships/ships%201855/3Gazelle.htm>

With added information from Jean DUCAT'S "*Passagers Belges partis vers l'Amerique de 1833 à 1855*"

See more information found in the civil registers of Aische-en-Refail, following this list.

LEMMENS, Louis Joseph	32	Aische-en-Refail	ABSELINS, François	16	Aische-en-Refail
FORTANT, Marie (Anastasie)	29	Aische-en-Refail	ABSELINS, Antoinette	14	Aische-en-Refail
LEMMENS, Marie Joséphe	6	Aische-en-Refail	ABSELINS, Désiré	12	Aische-en-Refail
LEMMENS, Alphonse Julien	1	Aische-en-Refail	ABSELINS, Marie Bastienne	11	Aische-en-Refail
LORGE, Jean Baptiste	31	Aische-en-Refail	ABSELINS, Joséphine	7	Aische-en-Refail
SIMON, Pierre Joseph	35	Liernu	ABSELINS, Augustin	3	Aische-en-Refail
LARANT (LORENT), Félicité	31	Liernu	ABSELINS, Virginie	6 m.	Aische-en-Refail
SIMON, Marie Thérèse	10	Liernu	NOLET, Eugène	69	Petit Rosière
SIMON, Séraphin	7	Liernu	LIBOTTON, Eugène	46	Petit Rosière
SIMON, Ferdinand	5	Liernu	NOLET, Rosalie	34	Petit Rosière
SIMON, Félicien	3	Liernu	LIBOTTON, Ferdinand	9	Petit Rosière
SIMON, Fanny	10 m.	Liernu	LIBOTTON, Mélanie	5	Petit Rosière
FERRY, Paul	37	Aische-en-Refail	HAUTECOEUR (HAUTECOUR), Jean Bapt.	39	Grand Rosière
DISNEUX (DESNEUX), Victoire	32	Aische-en-Refail	MARTIN, Marie Françoise	45	Grand Rosière
FERRY, Théodore	7	Aische-en-Refail	HAUTECOEUR, Marie Thérèse	10	Grand Rosière
FERRY, Paul	4	Aische-en-Refail	HAUTECOEUR, Jules Joseph	4	Grand Rosière
FERRY, Emile	6 m.	Aische-en-Refail	VAN DER AKEN (VANDENACK), Prosper	24	Thorembais
FERRANT (FERON), François Joseph	52	Aische-en-Refail	VAN DER AKEN (VANDENACK), Henri	29	Petit Rosière
FERRANT, François Joseph	19	Aische-en-Refail	BACLER (BADET), Constance	29	Petit Rosière
BACHOTS (BODOT), Lambert Joseph	52	Aische-en-Refail	VAN DER AKEN, Prosper	5	Petit Rosière
LEJEUNE Marie Thérèse	52	Aische-en-Refail	VAN DER AKEN, Emile	8 m.	Petit Rosière
BACHOTS, Antoinette	14	Aische-en-Refail	WILLEQUET, Eugène	19	Geest-Gérompont
BACHOTS, Joséphine	7	Aische-en-Refail	MICHOTTE, Jean Joseph	21	Gérompont
ABSELINS (ABSELIUS), Georges	43	Aische-en-Refail	JOSSART, Pierre	58	Orbais
RABAS (ROBAT) Marie Joseph	44	Aische-en-Refail	JOSSART, Rosalie	29	Orbais

JOSSART, Jean Joseph	24	Orbais	VERHAEGEN, Justine	7	Taviers
JOSSART, Eugène	30	Orbais	VERHAEGEN, Marie Josèphe	4	Taviers
THONNE (TONNE), Pierre Joseph	49	Orbais	VERHAEGEN, Louis Joseph	2	Taviers
THONNE, Marie Thérèse	46	Orbais	SERVAIS, Gustave	22	Grand Rosière
THONNE, Jean Joseph	18	Orbais	SERVAIS, Ferdinande	18	Grand Rosière
THONNE, Joséphine	13	Orbais	WILLEQUET, Prosper	26	Petit Rosière
THONNE, Emmanuel	18	Orbais	SERVAIS (LOUIS), Marie Thérèse	53	Geest-Gérompont
THONNE, Antoine	5	Orbais	CREVECOEUR, Eugène Joseph	25	Geest-Gérompont
THONNE, Marie Thérèse	2	Orbais	CREVECOEUR, Adélaïde Jos.	23	Geest-Gérompont
DELFOSSSE, Dieudonné	24	Tourinnes St Lambert	CREVECOEUR, Philippine	20	Geest-Gérompont
LETELLIER, François	24	Tourinnes St Lambert	CREVECOEUR, Marie Thérèse	18	Geest-Gérompont
DINO, Antoinette	22	Tourinnes St Lambert	CREVECOEUR, Jean Joseph	15	Geest-Gérompont
PINCHART, Constant	24	Tourinnes St Lambert	CREVECOEUR, Louis Joseph	12	Geest-Gérompont
DINO (DINAUX), Henri	19	Tourinnes St Lambert	WILLEQUET, Charles Joseph	1	Petit Rosière
SERVAIS, Prosper Joseph	33	Grand Rosière	GENIESSE, Clément	22	Perwez
CREVECOEUR, Eugène	28	Grand Rosière	SPLINGUAIRE, Charles Jos.	31	Dion-le-Mont
SERVAIS, Louis Joseph	4	Grand Rosière	SERVAIS, Pierre Joseph	25	Grand Rosière
SERVAIS, Melchior Joseph	1	Grand Rosière	DILLARCHE (DILHARDE), François Jos.	26	Offut
VERHAEGEN, Jean Joseph	38	Taviers	VAN CLEF, Angélique	27	Grand Rosière
MURAT(MEURA), Julienne	41	Taviers	DILLARCHE, Marie Thérèse	5	Grand Rosière
VERHAEGEN, Jean Baptiste	10	Taviers	DILLARCHE, Joséphine	2	Grand Rosière

Families from Aische-en-Refail found on FHL microfilm#1179881, Vital records 1802-1842

### ABSELIUS Family

Du quatrième jour du mois de Vendredi mil huit cent trente-huit,  
 à deux heures du matin  
 Acte de Naissance de jean françois Abseilius  
 né le troisième jour de Février à Aische-en-refail  
 à neuf heures du soir  
 fils de George Abseilius  
 profession maron demeurant à Aische-en-refail  
 et de Marie Joseph Robat  
 profession maron demeurant à Aische-en-refail  
 Le sexe de l'enfant a été reconnu être Masculin  
 Premier témoin François Joseph Bodart âgé de cinquante trois ans,  
 profession goutteux domicilié à Aische-en-refail  
 Second témoin jean Joseph a. Marin âgé de vingt-trois ans,  
 profession maron domicilié à Aische-en-refail  
 Sur la déclaration faite par George Abseilius père de l'enfant  
 Constaté suivant la loi par moi Jacques Joseph Art Boissin  
 de la commune d' Aische-en-refail faisant les fonctions d'officier public de l'état civil,  
 et après lecture faite aux témoins et déclarant il est signé au suscripteur par  
qui a déclaré le susdit enfant George Abseilius jean Joseph  
Marie  
J. J. Bodart J. J. Marin  
J. J. Art Boissin

**George ABSELIUS**, found in Namur on  
 23 April 1813, married on 20 February  
 1828, in Aische-en-Refail **Marie Joseph**  
**ROBAT**, born 7 February 1812, daughter  
 of Jean François ROBAT and Anne  
Joseph BOLEN

Their children were:

- **Jean François ABSELIUS**, born  
3 November 1838, in Aische-en-  
Refail
- **Antoinette Joseph ABSELIUS**,  
born in Aische-en-Refail on 2  
November 1840.
- **Desiree ABSELIUS**, born in  
Aische-en-Refail on
- **Marie Bastienne ABSELIUS**
- **Joséphine ABSELIUS**
- **Augustin ABSELIUS**
- **Virginie ABSELIUS**

### BAUDOT Family

**Lambert Joseph BAUDOT**, born in Liernu on 23 Germinal An 13, the son of Joseph BADOT (who died 24 April 1837) and of Marie Joseph JEANQUART (who died 3 Aug 1835)

1. was married in June 1830 in Aische-en-Refail

to Anne Joseph NANIOT, born in Aische-en-Refail on 28 Ventôse An 7 – died 22 September 1840, daughter of Maximilien Joseph NANIOT and Marie Joseph NANIOT (who died in Aische-en-Refail on 6 March 1829)

their children were:

- Lambert Joseph BAUDOT, born 20 December 1823, in Aische-en-Refail
- Marie-Barbe BAUDOT, born 14 July 1826, in Aische-en-Refail

2. was married on 12 January 1841 in Aische-en-Refail

to **Marie Therese LEJEUNE**, born 8 Floreal An 13, in Perwez, widow of Henri MATAIWE (who died 2 November 1834), daughter of Lambert LEJEUNE and Marie Catherine DUMONT (who died 29 June 1822)

Their children were:

- Antoine Joseph BADOT, born 29 September 1841, in Aische-en-Refail
- **Antoinette BAUDOT**
- **Josephine BODOT**

### **DESNEUX Family**

Jacques Joseph DESNEUX, born in Enine (Province of Namur) on 3 Thermidor An 5, son of Jacques Albert DESNEUX and Marie Françoise PIROTE, living in Grand Rosière (Province of Brabant)

Married on 13 October 1824, in Aische-en-Refail

Marie Joseph DUPUIS, born on 21 Nivôse An 8, in Aische-en-Refail, daughter of Theodore Joseph DUPUIS and Marie Françoise DUJARDIN

Their children were:

- **Marie Victoire DESNEUX**, born on 25 Nov 1824, in Aische-en-Refail
- Falvio DESNEUX, born on 8 June 1826, in Aische-en-Refail
- Theodore Joseph DESNEUX, born on 24 May 1828, Aische-en-Refail
- Marie-Therese DESNEUX, born on 8 September 1830, Aische-en-Refail
- Augustine Joseph DESNEUX, born 10 February 1836, Aische-en-Refail
- François Joseph DESNEUX, born 19 January 1837
- Jean-Pierre DESNEUX, born 16 February 1840, Aische-en-Refail

### **FERON Family**

**François Joseph FERON**, born in Folx-les-Caves on 7 January 1806, the son of Simon FERON and Anne Joseph COULISSSE (who died on 29 May 1812 in Ramilies)

Was married on 23 April 1828 to

Julienne Joseph BARBIER, born in Aische-en-Refail on 26 Brumaire An 14, the daughter of Henri Joseph BARBIER and Marie Therese DUPONT. She died before Francois took their son Francois across the Atlantic.

Their children were:

- Florence Joseph FERON, born on 18 May 1834, in Aische-en-Refail.
- **François Joseph FERON**, born on 3 May 1836, Aische-en-Refail.

### **FERRY Family**

Jean-Pierre Joseph FERRI, born in Flawinne (Province of Namur), died on 24 Nov 1827, at the age of 66. He was the son of Joseph FERRI and Marie Therese MALONNE

He married Marie Barbe Joseph EUGENE

Their children were:

- Marie Therese FERRI, born 1 Germinal An XI (1802) in Aische-en-Refail. She was married on 8 January 1828 in Aische-en-Refail to Emmanuel Joseph FALQUE, born 27 Thermidor An 13, son of Cornelis FALQUE and Marie Anne NIHOUL.
- Antoine Joseph FERRI, born 21 Brumaire An XIV (Birth record) or 20 Brumaire An X in Aische-en-Refail (marriage record); he was married on 16 August 1828 in Aische-en-Refail to Marie Caroline DUCHENNE, born in Ramilies on March 11, 1811, daughter of Jean Joseph DUCHENNE and Antoinette LENART who were married in Ramilies on 4 June 1817.
- Marie Catherine FERRI, born 10 February 1808, Aische-en-Refail – died 15 February 1811, Aische-en-Refail.
- Louis Joseph FERRI, born 16 April 1810, Aische-en-Refail – died 1 May 1810, Aische-en-Refail.
- Victoire Joseph FERRI, born 17 July 1811, Aische-en-Refail. She was married on 15 June 1830, to Jean Joseph LEMAIRE, born 14 Fructidor An 9, in Aische-en-Refail, son of Amand Joseph LEMAIRE who died in Aische-en-Refail on 19 October 1811, and of Anne Joseph CHARLIER.
- Augustine Joseph FERRI, born 9 May 1814, Aische-en-Refail
- **Paul Joseph FERRI**, born 25 February 1818, Aische-en-Refail. He was married to **Marie Victoire DESNEUX** \*

### **FORTEMPS Family**

Maximilien FORTEMPS, born in Aische-en-Refail on 28 January 1763, son of Henri Joseph FORTEMPS and Marie Therese LORGE, was married on 19 October 1814 to Marie Joseph ROBERT, born in Aische-en-Refail on 21 November 1787, daughter of Denis Joseph FORTEMPS and Anne Angelique SAMBREE.

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Their children were:

- Theodore Joseph FORTEMPS, born on 28 December 1815, Aische-en-Refail
- Josephine Anne Angelique FORTEMPS, born 24 July 1817, Aische-en-Refail
- Marie Joseph Justine FORTEMPS, born 11 June 1820, Aische-en-Refail
- Theodore Gislain Joseph FORTEMPS, born 9 June 1822, Aische-en-Refail
- Jean Joseph FORTEMPS, born 5 Sep 1823, Aische-en-Refail
- Anne Angelique FORTEMPS, born 29 November 1825, Aische-en-Refail
- **Marie Anastasie FORTEMPS**, born 3 November 1826, Aische-en-Refail. She married **Louis Joseph LEMMENS**

### **LEMMENS Family**

Francois Joseph LEMENS, born 21 July 1780, Aische-en-Refail, son of Jean Joseph LEMENS and Marie Catherine EUGENE

Married on 8 September 1817, Aische-en-Refail

Marie Therese TOUSSAIN(T), born in Aische-en-Refail on 17 April 1787, daughter of Jean Joseph TOUSSAIN and Marie Joseph VERAGHENE

Their children were:

- Jean Joseph LEMENS, b 6 February 1818, Aische-en-Refail
  - Anne Marie Joseph LEMENSE, born 17 November 1820, Aische-en-Refail
  - **Louis Joseph LEMENS**, born 5 July 1823, Aische-en-Refail \*
- He was married to Marie Anastasie FORTEMPS, born 3 Nov 1826, Aische-en-Refail, daughter of Maximilien Joseph and Marie Joseph ROBERT.
- Ferdinande Joseph LEMENS, born 22 July 1827, Aische-en-Refail

Other children of Jean Joseph LEMMENS and Marie Catherine EUGENE were:

- Marie Therese LEMENSE, born 27 January 1808
- Jean Joseph LEMENSE, born 22 August 1811
- Catherine Delphine LEMMENSE, born 24 September 1815
- **Ferdinand Joseph LEMENSE**, born 22 December 1818, who crossed the Atlantic aboard the David Hoadley (leaving Antwerp on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 1855) was followed later that year by his nephew Louis Joseph.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION: Brown County, Wisconsin**

A continuing series - submitted by Mary Ann Defnet

We continue the list of Belgians declaring their intention to become citizens in Brown County with 1896. For the following few years, the numbers are quite small. One reason, perhaps, was that by this time other County seats had been established in Kewaunee and Sturgeon Bay for settlers in Kewaunee and Door Counties. Names appear as written by the Clerk or the immigrant. Known corrections are in parentheses. These Declarations are on file at the Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin/Green Bay.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Birth Year</b>	<b>Port</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Declaration</b>
BASTEYNS, Noel	1874	New York	Aug 1881	31 Oct 1896
BILLIAU/BILLIAN, John,	1859	New York	Feb 1888	20 Oct 1896
CARRE, J.	1854	New York	May 1871	9 Jan 1896
CATHOOR, Frank	1860	Philadelphia	May 1893	26 Sept 1896
CHARLET, Victor	1847	New York	Mar 1895	7 Apr 1896
CRABBE, Emil	1875	Philadelphia	Sept 1893	31 Oct 1896
DAOUST, Eugene	1867	New York	Sept 1883	15 Dec 1896
DECLERCQ, Charles	1869	New York	Mar 1892	30 Oct 1896
DE KINDER, Peter R.	1858	New York	Feb 1893	1 Apr 1896
de LATTE, Joseph Amatus, Count de Meulemare	1866	New Orleans	May 1891	13 Oct 1896
DE LOOS, Peter	1842	Philadelphia	Mar 1893	2 Nov 1896
DEMUYSER, Louis	1875	New York	May 1888	30 Oct 1896
DERBIQUE, Jean Baptiste	1864	New York	May 1895	24 Oct 1896
DE STAERCKE, Jacobus	1858	New York	Oct 1888	4 Nov 1896
GILSOUL, Ferdinand	1854	Philadelphia	Mar 1882	30 Oct 1896
HANNON, J. B.	1852	Huron	July 1866	16 Dec 1896
JACQUET, Theophile	1863	Baltimore	May 1887	28 Oct 1896
LATOUR, Joseph C.	1856	Portland, ME	Mar 1872	8 Dec 1896

\* See the passenger list on the previous page

MAES, Albert	1874	New York	July 1892	26 Oct 1896
MAES, John B.	1828	New York	May 1893	26 Oct 1896
MATHOT, Arthur	1867	New York	May 1893	27 Oct 1896
MATHY, Henry	1839	New York	Apr 1856	19 Oct 1896
MOLLE, Constant	1875	Philadelphia	Nov 1886	19 Oct 1896
PELLEGRIN, Mathias	1856	New York	Mar 1893	27 Oct 1896
VANCOMER, Fred	1836	New York	Sept 1887	21 Oct 1896
VANDEN BRANDEN, Gustaf	1853	New York	May 1888	2 Nov 1896
VANDER AA, Jean	1827	St. Vincent, Minn.	Apr 1893	1 Apr 1896
VANDERGEETEN, Peter	1842	New York	May 1893	24 Oct 1896
VAN DER MODEN, Peter	1852	Buffalo	May 1894	23 Oct 1896
VANGELDEREN, Alois	1845	New York	June 1893	2 Nov 1896
VANHOO LANT, J. Batis	1858	Detroit	Feb 1893	1 Apr 1896
VAN LANDEGEN, Louis	1864	Detroit	Apr 1893	30 Oct 1896
VERDIGEN, Henri	1843	New York	Jan 1886	17 Oct 1896
VERSCHELDEN, Casimier	1865	Philadelphia	May 1893	26 Oct 1896
WOUTERS, Charles	1869	Philadelphia	July 1892	26 Oct 1896
BERGER, Joseph	1864	New York	Mar 1895	6 Apr 1897
DEBAUCHE, Jules	1868	New York	Apr 1894	24 July 1897
DE CONINCK, Joseph	1864	Detroit	July 1892	22 June 1897
NOPPE, Henri	1863	Detroit	July 1894	29 Mar 1897
SMITS, Peter	1846	New York	Jan 1897	6 Apr 1897
STIMART, Constant	1876	New York	Dec 1894	5 June 1897
DENEYS, Emile	1873	New York	Apr 1889	26 Mar 1898
DENEYS, Franciscus	1841	New York	Apr 1889	26 Mar 1898
DENEYS, Jule	1875	New York	Apr 1889	26 Mar 1898
MARCKX, Felix	1853	New York	Sept 1885	7 Nov 1898
VERDOOK (VERDOOT), Philip	1845	New York	1854	7 Nov 1898
BRYs, Philip	1874	New York	May 1892	29 May 1899
DELAHAUT, Leon J.	1873	New York	Nov 1889	14 Dec 1899
BOLSSSENS, Constant	1854	New York	June 1880	2 Nov 1900
FLEMMING, August	1863	New York	May 1892	3 Nov 1900
FRANCOIS, Alexander	1866	Philadelphia	Nov 1897	1 Nov 1900
HEY NEN, Jos.	1869	New York	Apr 1897	31 Oct 1900
MATHEYS, Emile	1863	Portland, ME	Apr 1871	2 Nov 1900
MATHYS, Victor	1871	New York	July 1892	10 Oct 1900
RADELET, Louis	1875	New York	Mar 1892	27 Mar 1900
STORDEUR, Julius	1854	Detroit	Nov 1871	2 Apr 1900
VAN LANDEGHEM, Pieter	1876	New York	July 1899	12 Oct 1900
VANREMORTEl, Joe	1875	New York	Apr 1891	24 Oct 1900
WILLAERT, Henry	1875	New York	Aug 1892	15 Oct 1900
BOSQUIN, Louis J.	1870	New York	Jul 1887	23 Mar 1901
DENEYS, Adolph	1877	New York	Apr 1889	1 Apr 1901
BILDINGS, Fred	1860	New York	Jan 1883	19 Sept 1902
DE CALLEWART, Amiel	1875	New York	May 1888	27 May 1902
DE LEERS, Joseph	1841	New York	Jun 1869	15 Mar 1902
DEN RUYTER, Emmanuel	1874	Philadelphia	Sept. 1901	1 Oct 1902
D'HONDT, Andreas	1878	New York	June 1899	17 Oct 1902
DIELEN, Frank	1872	New York	Nov 1894	11 Oct 1902
HEY NEN, Achille	1877	New York	Aug 1901	19 June 1902
VANNIEUWENHOVEN, Emile	1878	Green Bay	Feb. 1901	1 Apr 1902
VAN REMORTEl, Fred	1876	Detroit	June 1893	4 Oct 1902
DALEBROUX, Florian	1852	New York	Mar 1855	5 Sept 1903
LACOURT, Desire	1837	New York	Dec 1855	5 Sept 1903
THIRION, Seraphin	1864	New York	Sep 1883	2 Apr 1903

**KLEIN-ARENDT**By Bill DIEDERICH - <http://klein.family-history.com/Klein00ArendtMootz.htm>

**Jean Nicolas KLEIN**, also known as John Nicholas Klein, was born 2 June 1820, perhaps at Stockem, near Arlon in the Province of Luxembourg, Belgium. He died 16 December 1894, age 74, of cerebral apoplexy at Town of Belgium, Ozaukee Co., Wisconsin and is buried in St. Mary's cemetery at Lake Church, Town of Belgium.<sup>1</sup>

He first married **Maria ARENDT** but we do not know when or where the marriage occurred.

She was born about 1826, probably in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. She died 15 January 1859<sup>2</sup>, age 33, probably in the town of Belgium, and is buried in Holy Cross cemetery there.

Jean Nicolas and Maria (ARENDT) KLEIN had at least five children:

**Christina KLEIN**

**Wilhelm KLEIN = Catharine PIRRUNG**

**Dominic KLEIN = Anna LEACH**

**Margaretha KLEIN = Michael HUBING**

**Anna KLEIN = Sebastian B. KRIER**

He then married **Margaretha MOOTZ** 29 March 1859 at Holy Cross Roman Catholic church. The witnesses were **Wilhelmina GLODT** and **Nicholaus GOSCHE**. The marriage is recorded in the marriage register of the church but not in the marriage records of Ozaukee County. She was born in 1823, probably in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The MOOTZ family is believed to have migrated from the Sudetenland to Gonderingen, about eight miles northeast of the City of Luxembourg, during the 1700s. The Sudetenland is an area that straddles the modern-day border between Poland and Czechoslovakia. She died of dropsy, on 9 April 1898<sup>3</sup>, age 75 in the town of Belgium, Ozaukee Co., Wisconsin and is buried in St. Mary's cemetery at Lake Church. According to this record, she was born in the year 1831 in Luxembourg. However, the record gives her age at death as 76. Jean Nicolas and Margaret are buried together.

Jean Nicolas and Margaretha (MOOTZ) KLEIN had at least five children:

**Maria KLEIN = Francis SCHMIT**

**John KLEIN = Mary MARTIN**

**Nicholas KLEIN = Mary WESTER**

**William KLEIN = Mary PASTORET**

**Anna Margaretha KLEIN = William FELTES**

Jean Nicolas KLEIN migrated to the United States in the summer of 1847, entering the country at the Port of New York in August. He traveled immediately to Port Washington, then the county seat of Washington Co., Wisconsin Territory, where he bought 20 acres in the town of Belgium from Nicholas GOSCHE for \$70 on 23 September 1847. The property is described as follows<sup>4</sup>: *"The North Half of the North West Quarter of the North West Quarter of Section Number Twenty Two (22) of Township Number Twelve (12) North of Range Number Twenty Two (22) East, of Washington County<sup>5</sup>, Wisconsin Territory, containing Twenty acres..."*

*Nicholas Gosche signed with his mark and the deed was witnessed by Jacob Thomas Foster and Edson Birchard. It was not recorded however, until 1 December 1875."*

Today, this 20-acre tract lies entirely within the village of Belgium and is bounded on the north by Main street (county highway D) and on the west by county highway KW (known as the middle road).

The old wooden schoolhouse, which burned down in 1990, lay immediately to the south of the property.

In addition to this 20 acres, Jean Nicolas Klein purchased a 40-acre tract in Section 16 from the State of Wisconsin. The property is described as follows<sup>6</sup>: *"The North West quarter of the South East quarter in Section No. Sixteen (16) in township No. twelve (12) North of Range No. twenty two (22) East, containing forty acres more or less ...."*

The patent deed was signed 3 January 1861 by **Olen W. RANDALL**, governor of Wisconsin and **G. R. HARVEY**, secretary of state. It was not recorded until 30 March 1868. This was part of the so-called school land, which the federal government had granted to Wisconsin in 1846 to enable the new state to raise money to build a university. The school land consisted of one square mile (Section 16) out of every township. We don't know exactly when this land was purchased by Jean Nicolas Klein,

<sup>1</sup> (See Ozaukee County death certificates, v 2, no. 913)

<sup>2</sup> Her death and burial are recorded in the records of the Holy Cross Catholic church but not in the death records of Ozaukee County.

<sup>3</sup> Her death is recorded in Ozaukee County death records, v 3, p 149

<sup>4</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 29, p 146,

<sup>5</sup> Ozaukee Co. was created from Washington Co. on 7 March 1853.

<sup>6</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 20, p 519, Patent no. 1778

but it was probably shortly after he purchased the 20 acres from Nicholas GOSCHE. He did not receive a deed until he had paid for the land in full.

On 8 May 1848, Jean Nicolas KLEIN declared his intention to become a United States citizen. This is the only copy of his signature we have.

**“TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN, }  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, } ss**

*John Nicholas Klein personally appeared before the subscriber, the clerk of the District Court of the United States, for said county, being a Court of Record, and made oath that he was born in Belgium on or about the year Eighteen hundred and Nineteen that he emigrated to the United States, and landed at the port of New York on or about the month of August in the year 1847; that it is bona-fide his intention to become a Citizen of the United States, and to renounce all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to Leopold King of Belgium whereof he is a subject.*

*Subscribed and sworn to the Eighth day of May A.D. 1848.*

*s/ Jean Nicolas Klein*

*s/ Benj H. Moos, Clerk by I.C. Loomis} Deputy Clerk”*

The **1850 census** of the town of Belgium was taken in September. On 23 September, Allen E. Daniels enumerated three persons in the household of J. Nicholas Klein:

J. Nicholas	KLEIN	32	M	Farmer
Mary	KLEIN	23	F	
Cristena		1	F	

His real estate was valued at \$300. According to this census, he and his wife were born in Germany and their daughter Cristena was born in Wisconsin.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Declaration**

On 6 March 1854, Jean Klein and two of his neighbors in Section 16 bought and sold access roads to one another. These access roads enabled them to get from the section line road, now called county highway D, to their land-locked property. They are still visible today. Just drive west on county highway D for a half mile west of county highway KW, stop, and look north. John Klein and Lorenz Casper paid Peter Roller and his wife Elizabeth \$10 for an access road described as follows<sup>8</sup>:

*“Commencing on the West Side of the South West Quarter of the South East Quarter of Section Sixteen (16) in Town Ship Twelve (12) Range Twenty two (22) East on the South West Corner thereof, thence running East one rod<sup>9</sup>, thence North Eighty rods, thence West one rod, thence South Eighty rods being half an acre, Said tract of Land is intended to be a private road for the use of the parties of the Second part but Peter Roller his heirs and assigns will and Shall have the privilege to travel use and drive on Said road, the fences must be made by the grantors.”*

The deed was witnessed by J. W. Lutfring and Peter Roller. It was not recorded until 18 October 1865.

The same day, Peter Roller paid Jean Klein and his wife Mary \$10 for an access road described in as follows<sup>10</sup>:

*“ Commencing on the South Side of NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 in Section Sixteen, Town Twelve, Range twenty two East on the SE corner thereof, running thence West Seventy nine rods, thence North one rod, thence E Seventy nine rods, thence South one rod, grantors have to make line fence on the South line of the NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 in Sec 16....”*

The deed was witnessed by J. W. Lutfring and Hubert Zirbes. Mary Klein's mark was attested by Hubert Zirbes.

This deed was not recorded until 28 February 1866. The same day Lawrence Caspers paid Jean Klein and his wife Mary \$10 for an access road described as follows<sup>11</sup>:

*“Commencing on the North West corner of the North West quarter of the south east quarter of section number sixteen (16) Town Twelve of Range No twenty two east thence running south eighty rods thence east one rod thence north eighty rods, thence west one rod to the place of beginning, being half an acre. The same land is intended to be a private road for the use of Lorenz Caspers, but John Klein & his heirs and assigns may travel, drive and ride on it....”*

The deed was witnessed by Hubert Zerbes. Mary Klein's mark was attested by Peter Bellets. The deed was not recorded until 22 October 1866.

The **1860 census** of the Town of Belgium was taken in July.

On 10 July, Herman J. Schulteis enumerated seven persons in the household of Jean Nicholas Klein:

<sup>7</sup> See 1850 census of Town of Belgium, Washington County, Wisconsin, dwelling unit 1295.

<sup>8</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 17, p 331

<sup>9</sup> A road one rod wide is 16-1/2 feet wide.

<sup>10</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 17, p 513

<sup>11</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 20, p 78

Jean Nicholas KLEIN	40	M	Farmer
Margaretha KLEIN	31	F	
Wilhelm KLEIN	9	M	
Dominique KLEIN	7	M	
Margaretha KLEIN	5	F	
Anna KLEIN	2	F	
Maria KLEIN	3/12	F	

His real estate was valued at \$1,000 and his personal property at \$300. According to this census, he and his wife were born in Luxembourg and their children in Wisconsin. His wife could not read or write. The three oldest children had attended school within the year. See 1860 census of Town of Belgium, Ozaukee Co., Wisconsin, dwelling unit 930, family 808.

According to the 1860 census of agricultural production, Jean Nicolas KLEIN owned 34 improved acres of land and 26 unimproved acres. The cash value of his farm was \$1,000. The cash value of his farm implements and machinery was \$80. On 1 June 1860, he owned two milk cows, two working oxen, two other cattle and four swine. His livestock was valued at \$100. His grain production for the year ending 1 June 1860 was 30 bushels of wheat, 90 bushels of rye, 100 bushels of oats, 30 bushels of Irish potatoes, 15 bushels of barley, 40 pounds of butter and five tons of hay. The value of animals slaughtered during the year ending 1 June 1860 was \$35.

On 14 March 1868, John Nicholas Klein and Margaret his wife paid Henry Michels and Anna his wife \$1,000 for two parcels of land totaling 80 acres. A 60-acre parcel lay directly across the road, which is now the main street of the Village of Belgium from the 20-acre parcel purchased in September 1847. The other 20 acres is not contiguous.

The property is described as follows<sup>12</sup>:

*"The North Half of the North West Quarter of the South East quarter of Section Number fifteen in Township Number Twelve North of Range Number twenty two (22) East; and also the South Sixty acres of the West Half of the South West quarter of Section Number fifteen (15) in Township Number Twelve (12) North of Range Number twenty two East, containing in all Eighty acres, more or less, together with all the buildings thereupon."*

The deed was witnessed by Peter Jones and Lorenz Schüller. It was not recorded until 1 December 1875.<sup>13</sup>

In order to pay for this property, Jean Nicolas Klein and Margaret his wife sold the 40 acres and an access road in Section 16 to Catharine Glodt for \$1,000 on 18 March 1868. The property is described as follows<sup>14</sup>:

*"The North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section No. Sixteen (16) in township no. twelve (12) North of range no. twenty two (22) East*

*And a piece of land Commencing in the West Side of the South West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Sixteen, in township no. twelve Range no. twenty two (22) East, on the south West Corner thereof, thence running East one rod, thence North eighty rods, then West one rod, thence South eighty rods, containing in all forty and one half acres more or less. Said tract of Land is intended to be a private road for the use of the parties of the Second part...."*

Margaret signed with her mark. The deed was witnessed by Peter Jones and Johan Decker. It was recorded 27 May 1870. This was the property, which Jean Nicolas Klein had acquired by patent from the State of Wisconsin many years before.

The **1870 census** of the town of Belgium was taken on 6 June 1870 by S. E. Moore who enumerated eight persons in the household of J. N. Klein:

<b>KLEIN</b> J. N.	51	M	Farmer
Margarett	45	F	Keep House
William	19	M	At home
Dominick	17	M	At home
Margarett	15	F	At home
Anna	13	F	At home
Mary	10	F	At home
John	9	M	At home

His real estate was valued at \$3,000 and his personal property at \$600. According to this census, neither he, his wife, nor their three older children could read or write. The two youngest children Mary and John had attended school within the year. See 1870 Census of Wisconsin, v 1, p 9.

Although Luxembourg is given as the place of birth for both J. N. Klein and his wife in the 1870 census, Belgium is listed as John N. Klein's birthplace and Luxembourg is listed as his wife's birthplace in the 1880 census.

<sup>12</sup> Ozaukee Co. deeds, Book 29, p 147

<sup>13</sup> See the plat maps reproduced on the next three pages. One of these maps is dated 1892, another is dated 1914 and the third is dated 1985.

<sup>14</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 24, p 98

The **1880 census** of the town of Belgium was taken on 12-14 June 1880. Seven persons were enumerated in the household of John N. Klein<sup>15</sup>:

John N. KLEIN	60	M	Farmer
Margaret	55	F	Keeping House
Mary	20	F	At home
John	19	M	Farming
Nicholas	17	M	Farming
William	14	M	At school
Margaret	11	F	At school

On 10 December 1887, Dominick Mueller paid Jean Nicolas Klein and Margaretha Klein his wife the sum of \$1 for an access road described as follows<sup>16</sup>:

*"Commencing on the South East corner of the South West quarter of the North East quarter in Section No. sixteen (16) Town No. twelve (12) Range North twenty two (22) thence running West seventy nine rods (79), thence North One rod (1), thence East seventy nine rods (79) then South One rod (1) clear ground. The fences are to be made and kept in repair by Lawrence Caspers his heir or assigns forever."*

This deed was witnessed by Jno P. Ney and Nick Gilson. It was recorded 28 July 1902.

On 20 September 1893, Jean Nicolas Klein and Margaretha Klein his wife sold a small piece of land to the Town of Belgium for \$50. The parcel is described as follows<sup>17</sup>:

*"A piece or parcel of land beginning at a point which is one hundred feet west of the South East Corner of the South West quarter of the South West quarter of section No Fifteen (15) Township No twelve (12) Range No twenty two (22) East running thence North forty-two feet (42 ft.) from highway thence West Thirty feet, thence South forty two feet (42 ft) thence East thirty feet to place of beginning."*

John Nicolas Klein signed the deed as Jean N. Klein and his wife Margaretha signed with her mark. It was witnessed by Jno P. Ney and Jacob Streff and recorded 21 September 1893.

On 17 May 1894, Jean N. Klein and Margaretha his wife sold their 100 acre-farm to their son William for \$2,000 and support. The tract is described as follows<sup>18</sup>:

*"The North half of the North West quarter of the South East quarter of section number fifteen (15) and the South Sixty (60) acres of the West half of the South West quarter of Section number fifteen (15) and also the North half of the North West quarter of the North West quarter of Section No twenty two (22) all in Township No twelve (12) North of Range No Twenty two (22) East and Containing in all One hundred acres of land more or less"*

Jean Nicolas Klein signed the deed as Jean N. Klein and his wife Margaretha signed with her mark. It was witnessed by Jno P. Ney and Nicolas Fontaine and recorded 11 June 1894. He died in December of that year and his wife Margaretha died in 1898.

The Port Washington Star did not publish an obituary of Jean Nicolas Klein. However, the Port Washington Zeitung published a brief and inaccurate note in its issue of Thursday 20 December 1894. This is a translation of the German text.

*"Dom. Klein, who had been a farmer for many years near Belgium Station. He died Sunday evening while sitting in his chair. The deceased was seventy years old and was considered one of the older settlers in the T. of Belgium. He leaves his wife and six children. He was buried in the Lake Church cemetery."*

<http://klein.family-history.com/index.html>



<sup>15</sup> See National Archives microcopy T132, roll 1441, p. 23

<sup>16</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 47, p 514

<sup>17</sup> Ozaukee County deeds, Book 41, p 251

<sup>18</sup> Ozaukee Co. deeds, Book 41, p 561 (#52152)

by Bruce Bolinger

*Part I, in issue 95, described Service EVA, a WWII Resistance organization in Brussels specializing in housing escaping Allied fliers who had been shot down, pending their being turned over to other escape lines which spirited them out of Nazi-occupied Europe. A Dutch escape line, organized by Karst Smit, a Dutch mounted policeman, would move them across the Dutch-Belgian border and on to Brussels where they were delivered to the reception point, the apartment of Charlotte Ambach and her mother Elise Chabot in the suburb of Ixelles.*

One day in 1942 **Charlotte Ambach** returned home from her secretarial job to find a visitor at the apartment she and her mother shared. He was **Eduard Cleeren**, a Belgian Army officer, who had escaped to England after the Belgian surrender. There he had been trained and then parachuted back into Belgium with orders to set up a Resistance organization. Cleeren asked if he could use their apartment as a safe house and as a place to hold organizational meetings, to which the women agreed. When Charlotte was offered a job as a stenographer by the Todt Organization, the German company specializing in construction of military facilities and rebuilding of roads, bridges, and rail lines in the occupied countries, Cleeren advised her to take it. Henceforth, when typing memos, Charlotte would make an extra carbon copy for Cleeren, providing him with valuable intelligence.



**Charlotte Ambach**



**Elise Chabot**

Eduard Cleeren's work put him at great risk. On one occasion he was almost caught on a train carrying a radio transmitter, but he passed it off as an EKG device intended for medical purposes. He told Charlotte and Elise that if anything happened to him, they should contact Ernest Van Moorleghem, assistant police commissioner for Ixelles. When the Germans finally captured Eduard, Charlotte waited a few days and then contacted Van Moorleghem. Ernest was already deeply involved in the Resistance. He was the police officer who, on behalf of Karst Smit, interrogated Capt. Kopp, the German agent who was pretending to be a Canadian flier (see Part I).

Even under the most innocent circumstances, people in Belgium could be swept up in raids by the German police. Once, while at a bar in Brussels, Charlotte was taken in for questioning just because she was present. Shoved into the back seat of the German police car with two other prisoners, and while the attention of the policemen was elsewhere, she slipped a small piece of paper having to do with troop movements into her mouth and swallowed it. Another document, a small photograph of a German Air Force

emplacement, she crumpled between her fingers and then dropped onto the street when they got out of the car. With no justification for being held, she was released.

Charlotte Ambach and Ernest Van Moorleghem fell deeply in love. By 1943, she had turned 21 and he was 29. Charlotte said of Ernest, "he was very bright, intelligent, dedicated, and loyal." Karst Smit, the Dutch mounted policeman who worked with Ernest, remembers him as a handsome young man. Records in the National Archives reveal that he assisted 55 Allied fliers to escape, this in addition to his other Resistance work.



**Ernest Van Moorleghem**

Among the first escapees helped by Charlotte and Elise were Dutch political opponents of the Nazis, including H.P. Linthorst-Homan, who after the war became governor of the province of Friesland. A French chef, who was an escaped prisoner of war, showed his appreciation by cooking the two women a dinner at their apartment. By July 1943, Allied fliers were arriving as well. Typically, Alphonse Ecrinier, member of the "Comite de Direction" of Service EVA, (see Part I) would call to let Charlotte know that there was a flier to be picked up, often at the North Station in Brussels. On other occasions the flier's guide might be the student, Willem Schmidt, of the Dutch escape line; the head of the escape line, Karst Smit; or Eugene van der Heijden (see Part I), and the guide would deliver the flier directly to their apartment. When the guide arrived with his charge, it was an opportunity for him to pick up messages, have tea with the two women, and talk for a half-hour, while the flier had some refreshments. The comings and goings of so many young men might have attracted the neighbors' attention but Charlotte and her sister Madelon Frisque, who lived on the floor above, were both attractive young women and just passed them off as friends.

Usually the flier would be guided by Ernest Van Moorleghem from the Ambach-Chabot apartment across central Brussels to the fishmarket of Prosper Spilliaert, at 167 Avenue de la Reine in the Brussels commune of Schaerbeek, for processing. In all the time that Charlotte and Elise were helping the fliers, Charlotte never knew where Ernest took the men. Nor did she know any of the leaders of Service EVA. Ecrinier she never met, and it was only his voice on the phone that she could recognize. This compartmentalization of functions within Service EVA

prevented a worse disaster from occurring when the Germans first penetrated the organization in November 1943.<sup>16</sup>

### Disaster Strikes

The last flier assisted by the Karst Smit-Ambach-Chabot-Van Moorleghem combination was Tom Applewhite, an American bombardier on a B-17. Shot down on Nov. 11, 1943, he spent two nights hiding with a Dutch farm family in the village of Well on the north side of the Maas river not far from the city of 's-Hertogenbosch. By Nov. 13 escape arrangements had been worked out and he was turned over to Karst Smit's escape line. On Nov. 14 Eugene van der Heijden took him from the shelter in the woods on the Dutch-Belgian border to the Ambach-Chabot apartment in Ixelles. Ernest Van Moorleghem then guided him to Spilliaert's fishmarket. Applewhite was to be the last man through this combination of Resistance links.

The searching Germans quickly captured most of the other members of Applewhite's crew. One man, Nello Malavasi, evaded capture up to Nov. 15, the day after Tom Applewhite had reached the fishmarket. While waiting with Willem Schmidt, his guide, at Turnhout for a train to Antwerp, they had to take shelter from a heavy rainstorm. The only place to get out of the downpour was a restaurant full of German soldiers. Malavasi was of Italian descent and his looks drew the unwanted attention of the Germans, who soon realized he was an American flier. Both men were arrested. When Charlotte Ambach arrived at the North Station to pick up Malavasi from Schmidt, she waved hello to Willem as the two men came down the platform, but the man with Schmidt was not Malavasi but a Luftwaffe policeman who shoved a pistol in her face and said, "Hände hoch!"

Next came the arrests of Charlotte's mother and sister. It was only the fact that Charlotte was late in returning home with the flier that tipped Elise that something was wrong, giving her enough time to hide incriminating papers on a deep window sill high up in the back wall of their tiny hallway toilet. From the living room window of their third floor apartment she could see the German police as they piled out of their cars and raced up the winding staircase to arrest her. By Nov. 16, the German net had widened to engulf several of Karst Smit's operatives and Ernest Van Moorleghem. On Nov. 20, Eugene van der Heijden saw German police on their way to arrest Karst Smit and called Karst's police barracks to warn him to go into hiding. Eugene knew it was too dangerous to remain at his



**Eugene van der Heijden**

home in Hilvarenbeek any longer, and went into hiding as well. By January, two of Eugene's brothers and his father were arrested, never to return from the concentration camps. Four of the students at the shelter in the woods on the border were captured and died at German hands. After the war the van der Heijden family was honored by Yad Vashem. Eugene received the American Medal of Freedom.

Charlotte Ambach, Elise Chabot, and Ernest Van Moorleghem were tried by a German military tribunal, and on June 2, 1944 found guilty and sentenced to death. Ernest Van Moorleghem and the guide Willem Schmidt were executed. Karst Smit avoided arrest by hiding in a Protestant church in The Hague. The church was only used for Sunday services; the rest of the week Karst would ride his bicycle around inside the church to keep fit. Allied authorities next sent Karst to Paris to help set up another escape line, but he was betrayed by another member of the Dutch resistance, Christian Lindemanns, known as "King Kong" for his tremendous size. Lindemanns' pregnant wife and brother had been arrested by the Germans. In a desperate move to save them, Lindemanns offered the Germans an entire escape line, including Karst Smit, in exchange. Smit said that, had it not been for the Normandy invasion in June 1944, which distracted the Germans, he would have been executed. Instead, sent to a concentration camp, he survived, finally escaping from his SS guards during the Russian advance. His parents had been notified that both of their sons had been killed in the war. When the war ended, Karst came home.



**Karst Smit**

Although the Nazi government had revoked the German citizenship of Charlotte and Elise, they were still treated as Germans for purpose of punishment and were imprisoned in Germany pending their execution. From their prison cell in Waldheim, they had been hearing the sound of artillery since April 13, 1945. On May 6, Charlotte heard the doors to the cells being opened--by a Russian soldier who had obtained the keys. When he came to their cell, all she saw was his sleeve because he was instantly mobbed by the women wanting to embrace him. Charlotte's mother had lost 80 lbs. since their arrest. Before leaving the prison, some of the inmates examined the prison files relating to them. Charlotte learned that she, Elise, and the others in her group were scheduled to have been executed May 22. After the war, Charlotte and Elise were honored by the governments of Belgium, the Netherlands, the UK, and the USA. Both received Belgian citizenship from a grateful Belgian government. Charlotte was made a Knight in the Order of Leopold II.

Before his arrest, Ernest Van Moorleghem had given a packet of love letters for Charlotte to Karst Smit for safekeeping. Karst hid them under a plank in the floor of his room in the police barracks at Baarle-Nassau. After the war, Karst returned to the barracks and retrieved the letters. Not knowing if Charlotte would be able to handle it emotionally, he waited a year before giving them to her. Charlotte never

<sup>16</sup> Interviews with Charlotte Ambach, Karst Smit, and Tom Applewhite, 2002. National Archives files of Ernest Van Moorleghem and Alphonse Escrinier.

married. She died April 9, 2003 at her home in Green Valley, Arizona. A picture of Ernest was still on a table in her living room, a ribbon in the Belgian national colors of red, gold, and black across the picture's lower left corner.<sup>17</sup>

### The Bombing of the Fishmarket

With the wave of arrests, the fishmarket's role as a processing center for arriving fliers ended, other locations being used from then on. But Prosper Spilliaert, his wife, and stepson continued to receive fliers and guide them to safe houses until well into January 1944. On May 9, 1944, the US Army Air Corps conducted a bombing raid of the marshalling yards in Brussels. The risk of stray bombs made it too dangerous for the Belgians to remain out in the open. Hearing the air raid sirens, Spilliaert began to lower the heavy roll-down shutter on the front of the fishmarket. One of the Service EVA members, Blanche Page, came running up seeking shelter. With the metal shutter almost all the way down, she threw herself on the ground and rolled under it into the fishmarket as Spilliaert finished lowering it. Usually Spilliaert didn't bother going down into the basement during air raids but Page insisted, and they both hurried down below street level. It was then that an American bomb hit just behind the fishmarket, demolishing the entire building and trapping them in the basement until civil defense workers could pull them out by way of the coal chute.

By one of those bizarre coincidences that sometimes occur, the newspaper *L'Illustré*, sent a photographer to take pictures of the aftermath of the air raid. He snapped a picture of a man and woman hurrying down the debris-littered street carrying several packages. The picture appeared in the paper on May 16 but gave no identification of the people involved. Without knowing it, the photographer had captured the images of Prosper Spilliaert and Blanche Page carrying to a safer location all the records of Service EVA's members and the fliers they had helped. There was one fortunate consequence of the bombing. Spilliaert and his family were not there when the German police came for them.<sup>18</sup>



**Prosper Spilliaert  
and Blanche Page**

### KLM - The False Escape Line

The increasing number of fliers being received and housed in Brussels by Service EVA in early 1944 resulted in too many safe houses for Gaston Matthys, the "welfare officer", to be able to visit as he saw to the needs of the fliers. To deal with this workload, duties of the leaders of EVA were reshuffled and the safe houses in Brussels were divided into two geographical sectors, one under Matthys and the other under Jean Portzenheim (for both men, see Part I). As a security measure, the two men were not to have any contact with the safe houses in the other man's sector. Only Charles Hoste,

who recruited the locations, would know where all the escapers were hiding. It is fortunate that this reorganization took place, otherwise what happened next would have had far worse consequences for the fliers and their helpers.<sup>19</sup>



**René Van Muylem**

The next blow to Service EVA's operations came in early 1944 from the Abwehr, the German military counterintelligence and counterespionage service, and its agent **René Van Muylem**, a Flemish collaborator. Born in the province of Antwerp to a father with strong Flemish nationalist beliefs, Van Muylem set himself up in business as a hair dresser,

later moving to Cologne. Bombardments by the RAF destroyed his business there and he

returned to Belgium. On the advice of his younger brother, a member of the Black Brigade, René went to the offices of the VNV (Vlaams National Verbond) in Antwerp, to see about employment as a propagandist in the German labor camps where there were thousands of Belgian workers. It was probably at the VNV HQ where he met a German agent of the Abwehr who recruited him into their attempts to infiltrate the escape lines.

Abwehr officials in Belgium conceived of a plan whereby they would create a false escape line in Antwerp using innocent people who wanted to assist the Allies. The false line came to be known as the KLM line. Some Resistance members were taken in by the scheme, including Jean Portzenheim, in charge of one of the sectors of safe houses for Service EVA. The Abwehr even paid some of Portzenheim's expenses. But the Abwehr's objective was not just to catch Allied fliers and their helpers. Probably more important to it was the opportunity to extract valuable intelligence from the fliers who thought they were in friendly hands—information on the airmen's units, bases, locations of airfields, their planes' armament and radar, where they were shot down, and their helpers.<sup>20</sup>

A letter written after the war by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Robert Giles of Spindale, North Carolina, describes how he and another flier were guided "to a rather luxurious apartment where we were 'entertained' by a prosperous-looking businessman and his wife. This man was supposedly the head of the organization in Antwerp." Another man "who spoke excellent English with an American accent" conducted them to another apartment where they were "told that we would have to be questioned some to finally establish our identity as American airmen" and not "English-speaking German flyers". "The questioning was conducted very skillfully." Still believing they were going to be taken to France, the two fliers were guided up the street to another building. "We entered a

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> National Archives file of Prosper Spilliaert. Interview with Spilliaert's daughter-in-law, Mrs. Raymonde Hendricks, by Louis Van Den Brande, 2002.

<sup>19</sup> Vos, Jacques (see footnote 5).

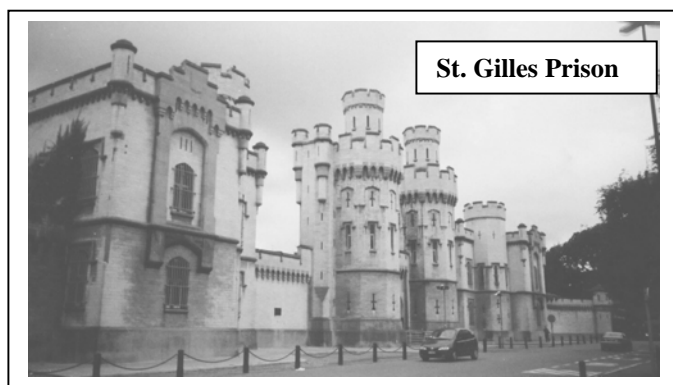
<sup>20</sup> De Decker, Cynrik, "René Van Muylem, Agent of the Abwehr," unpublished MSS, 2002.

building and there we were in Gestapo headquarters in Antwerp.”<sup>21</sup>

When Belgium was liberated in September 1944, Van Muylem fled to Germany, then Austria. Returned to France by the Germans in 1945, possibly for sabotage assignments, he managed to get a job in a U.S. Army mess. But one of the American airmen Van Muylem had captured spotted him there and alerted his superiors. Belgian police arrested Van Muylem in Paris. He confessed that he was responsible for the German capture of 177 Allied airmen. The totals may have been much higher. He was tried, found guilty, and executed May 29, 1948.<sup>22</sup> One of the many members of Service EVA ensnared by the KLM line was Blanche Page, who had survived the bombing of the fishmarket on May 9.

#### The Phantom Train – September 1-3, 1944

On August 25, 1944, Gen. von Choltitz, the German commander in Paris, signed the act of surrender. Paris was liberated. The British Army now turned north—Brussels and Antwerp were next. St. Gilles, the main prison in Brussels, held 1500 political prisoners, including many members of Service EVA, such as Blanche Page, and some 50 Allied fliers. By September 1 the prisoners in their cells were already celebrating their imminent release. Family and friends packed the balconies and roofs of the buildings surrounding the prison, waiting to see their loved ones. But shortly before midnight, the German commander of Belgium, SS Gen. Richard Jungclaus, ordered the 1500 prisoners to be shipped to Germany. When the prisoners were ordered out of their cells to be loaded onto trucks, they fought back but fists were no match for rifle butts and bayonets. As the convoy of trucks made its way to the Gare du Midi railway station, the desperate prisoners wrote messages on scraps of paper and torn remnants of clothing pleading for help, which they threw from the trucks to the onlookers on the streets.



Another chaotic scene ensued at the Gare du Midi where the SS men had to force the prisoners into the cattle cars while holding back the hundreds of relatives who were trying to prevent the prisoners from being deported. When the assistant stationmaster arrived for work early that morning he realized what was happening and ordered that the train's departure must be delayed by every possible means. The

engine's oil pump was torn out and two successive engineers were made unavailable to take out the train, one having deliberately injured himself. While the packed train sat in the station, a railway worker, out of sight of the SS guards, tapped on the sides of the cattle cars, and whispered to the prisoners, "Don't worry, you won't cross the frontier."

When the train finally did get underway, in the middle of the afternoon on Sep. 2, it was only because SS guards had guns at the head of the third engineer. But railway workers ensured that signals were always red; another train blocked its way; railway signalmen forced it onto a siding; the fireman blew the whistle so much that steam power was lost; and so on. It took eight hours to go to Malines, a town only twelve miles north of Brussels, where the German plans called for picking up a load of Jews. But the engineer devised another delay. Pretending that the engine needed more water, and knowing that the water tower at Malines was destroyed, he convinced the guards into letting him divert the train to another town, Muizen, where the train spent the night of Sep. 2-3. By now the Nazi officials had no idea where the train was.

Meanwhile, diplomats from neutral nations had been pleading with Gen. Jungclaus to allow the return of the train. He refused until the Resistance relayed a warning to him that unless it was returned, they would attack German hospital trains carrying wounded German soldiers. He finally relented.

On Sep. 3 the "Phantom Train" returned to Brussels where International Red Cross workers freed the prisoners. Fifteen hundred people had been saved. The British Army liberated Brussels on Sep. 4.<sup>23</sup>

#### The Price They Paid

One hundred eighty-six Belgians and Dutch made up the Service EVA escape line, doing everything from guiding and sheltering fliers, taking their photos for false ID, fixing their teeth, carrying messages, interrogating them to ensure they were not German agents, providing medicine, even performing surgery. The number of fliers aided—from the United States, Britain, Canada, and New Zealand—was at least 140 and may have been over 200.<sup>24</sup>

But they paid a high price. By the time of the Liberation, at least thirty-five members of Service EVA had been arrested by the Germans (some figures put it at 60-70). Of those, seventeen were deported to Germany, where three of them disappeared, and another four were known to have died (one by execution). It would have been far worse if the events of Sep. 1-3, 1944 had been different.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Copy of letter addressed "Dear Otten Family," National Archives file of Harrie Otten.

<sup>22</sup> De Decker, *op. cit.*

<sup>23</sup> Rigby, Françoise, *In Defiance*, London: Elek Books, 1960, pp. 151-160. "The Last Train from Brussels," *The Evaders*, date and author unknown. Cooper, Alan W., *Free to Fight Again*, Wellingborough, England: William Kimber & Co., 1988, pp. 178-182. "Nazi Ghost Train," *History's Mysteries*, *The History Channel*, Cat. No. AAE-42835, 2000 A&E Television Networks.

<sup>24</sup> Bernard, Henri, *Un Maquis Dans La Ville*, Belgium: La Renaissance du Livre, 1970, pp. 284-292. Vos, Jacques (see footnote 5).

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*

**Author's note:** For much of what I have learned about escape lines in northwest Europe, I am indebted to the late Mary Akins as well as many other specialists in the subject, including Cynrik DeDecker, Michael LeBlanc, and Jacques de Vos. Personal interviews with some of the participants, including the late Charlotte Ambach, as well as Tom Applewhite, Jan Naaijken, and Karst Smith, have been a source of inspiration, and I am grateful for the time they have given me. Any errors of fact or emphasis in the above article are entirely my responsibility.

**Suggested reading:** In addition to the items cited in the footnotes, see: Darling, Donald, Secret Sunday, London: William Kimber & Co., 1975. Ford, Herbert, Flee the Captor, Nashville: Southern Publishing Assn., 1966. Neave, Airy, Little Cyclone, London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1954, and Saturday at M.I.9, 1969. Ottis, Sherri Greene, Silent Heroes, Lexington, Ky.: University Press of Kentucky, 2001. Watt, George, The Comet Connection, Lexington, Ky.: University Press of Kentucky, 1990.

## Area News:

### WISCONSIN CORNER

The Peninsula Belgian-American Club began its new season on April 17, 2003. (Meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday through October.) Harry CHAUDOIR, who has been President of the organization since 1968, announced his retirement. Elections took place on May 15<sup>th</sup> and new officers will assume their duties on June 1<sup>st</sup>. They are: James LAMPEREUR, President; Allen ALEXANDER, Vice-President; Kim POTIER, Secretary-Treasurer. Bertha VILLERS was elected to another term as Trustee. Other Trustees are Roger FERRON and Mary Ann DEFNET.

The 150th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Belgians in northeastern Wisconsin has stirred interest in the ancestry of Club members. A collection of members' pedigree charts is being preserved and plat maps showing land ownership in Brown, Door, and Kewaunee Counties are being drawn up. Club members will participate in other activities throughout the summer.

The main celebration will be held on October 5 with a Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Champion, location of the first settlement. A memorial service will be conducted at the Grez-Doiceau monument across from the church. This will be followed by a dinner for dignitaries, Club members, friends, and members of the Wallonie-Wisconsin Society of Belgium.

*Mary Ann Defnet*

## TO & FROM

**From: Len KNOTTS, [LenKnotts@aol.com](mailto:LenKnotts@aol.com): RAHIER**

I recently posted an inquiry about information on My GGgrandfather Jean-Joseph Rahier who was from Liege/Battice area in Belgium whom I believed arrived in Green Bay, Wisconsin USA, between 1939 & 1840. I later discovered that his 2nd son John was not born in Green Bay in 1840 but 1842.

## **Research Helps: ONLINE**

### **Péruwelz and Tournaisis, Belgium**

<http://users.skynet.be/genehist/>

including : Généalogie de la famille belgo-américaine DIEU (from Ville-Pommeroeul). The ancestors of Ronald William Dieu

contact person: [rondieu@aol.com](mailto:rondieu@aol.com)

as well as extracted parish records information for Wadelincourt, Basècles, Baugnies, Calenelle, Wasmes-Briffueil, Roucourt, Brasménil, Pipaix, Ramegnies, with historical background. In French

### **Société Royale d'Archéologie, d'Histoire et de Folklore de Nivelles et du Brabant Wallon**

<http://www.san-niv.be/>

### **Liège**

<http://bib.chiroux-croisiers.liege.be/Ourtel/index.htm>

### **Geneabel**

<http://www.geneabel.org/>

I received 4 letters from researchers that all said, "Belgians did not settle in WI until 1853" and "The first group of Belgian immigrants arrived here in 1853 from the environs of the village of Grez-Doiceau."

HOWEVER- One wonderful lady who also made one of the above statements, and believed that there were only 2 Belgians in WI in 1850, had enough interest in the little documentation that I had to go to the trouble of doing further research in spite of the fact that she believed otherwise. I hope she doesn't mind me mentioning her name- this very kind lady was Mary Ann Defnet, a member of the Peninsula Belgian Club.

It is great to be right, but the point of my message is that even if you have an opposing view it is important to do the necessary research to PROVE that someone else's "scanty" information is either correct or incorrect.

HOORAY! *Len*

*Here's Mary Ann's answer:*

SURPRISE! I've been convinced! There was a Belgian in Green Bay before 1850---your ancestor! I didn't find any other ones, except the two I mentioned before who were in the 1850 Census. But, here is the amazing story:

Today I went to the Area Research Center at the University and looked through the Index to Births for the 1840's. Nothing in 1840, but found "**John ROACHIER**", son of John Joseph ROACHIER and Ann MAELES, born 29 September 1842 (Volume 1, page 173 - Brown County). I made a copy for you. I then went to the Census Index again, but found nothing for 1850. I thought I'd try Declarations of Intention to Become a Citizen, and there was one for **Jean Joseph RAHIER**. He signed it himself and I can see where they might have thought it was ROCHIER, not RAHIER. He stated that he was born about 1812 and landed at the port of New York about August 1842. The Declaration occurred 26th of September 1843.

That poor wife---traveling across the ocean in her condition and giving birth just a month after arriving from New York to a near desolate place in the middle of the United States. (Wisconsin didn't become a State until 1848.) The settlers in Green Bay at that time were mostly French Canadians, Germans, some English, and some Indians. It must have been a shock to a young bride! From the Declaration, you can see that they stayed at least one year, but left before 1850.

When I got home I again checked the Baptismal Index from St. John the Evangelist and found the record as: John **Peter ROACHIER**, son of **John Joseph ROACHIER** and **Anne MAELIS**, baptized 29 September 1842.

### To Helen SMITH from Regine BRINDLE

Just wanted you to know... I really appreciate your telling me your interest in the GEORGE line. Finding out what lines our members are researching helps us to know what they would like to see in Belgian Laces.

I went to the FHC this morning and found some information that relates to the obituary found in this issue. You will notice a discrepancy in the birth date. The one I list here is the correct one, as it came right off the birth record. Hope you can put this information to good use.

**To all the members:** Let us know what lines and what towns are of interest to you. I do have some limitation as to getting information about Flemish towns but if someone can translate, I will be more than happy to include that as well.

**Alphonse GEORGE** was born 28 May 1865 (this is the correct year), the son of **Jean Baptiste GEORGE** and **Ursule SERVAIS**.

I have his marriage record as well. I could never find that of his parents though, which leads me to believe they were married elsewhere.

His siblings were:

- **Marie Catherine GEORGE**, b. 10 Jan 1846, Jumet
- **Palmire GEORGE**, b. 8 sep 1848, Jumet
- **Juliette GEORGE** (rec#137), b. 3 May 1851, Jumet
- **Marie GEORGE**, b. 16 Jan 1854, Jumet
- **Auguste GEORGE** (rec#355), born 16 Oct 1856 and twin brother **Jean Baptiste GEORGE** (rec#356), Jumet
- **Edmont Louis Joseph GEORGE** (rec#55), born 9 Feb 1859, Jumet
- **Gabriel GEORGE** (rec#199), b. 18 May 1864, Jumet
- **Alphonse GEORGE** (rec#255), Jumet

His marriage record states the following:

On 24 July 1890, in Jumet

**Alphonse GEORGE**, 25y, b. 28 May 1865, Jumet, son of Jean Baptiste GEORGE and Ursule SERVAIS married

**Josephine BERTH**, 24y, b. Jumet 23 Dec 1865, daughter of **Jean Francois BERTH** and **Clemence LANIENS**, both of Jumet

Their marriage legitimizes their daughter **Alphonsine Marie Therese BERTH**, b. 18 Feb 1889, Jumet

I also found another marriage record, of his sister Marie where the father's death is mentioned and gives another clue about the family.

**Joseph BRUYERE**, 30y, b. Lessines 15 Jul 1861, son of **Charles BRUYERE** (d. Jumet 30 Sep 1872) and **Florentine RAYNAUD** (d. 14 May 1881)

md 5 May 1892, Jumet

**Marie GEORGE**, 38y, b. Jumet 16 Jan 1854, widow of **Louis Joseph DRAILY** (d. Jumet 22 Mar 1891), daughter of Jean Baptiste GEORGE (d. Jumet 19 Oct 1890) and Ursule SERVAIS.

### QUERIES

#### BL03-4: SAUCEZ-DUEZ

Ron HAMILTON - [unigifs@penn.com](mailto:unigifs@penn.com)

I am looking for information on my g-g-grandfather, **JOHN BAPTIST SAUCEZ**. I do not know when or where he was born or who his parents were. He married **MAUDINE DUEZ**, but I don't know when or where. Their son **SYLVA SAUCEZ** was born in Cuesmes, Belgium on 7 July, 1880. Maudine immigrated to the US in 1900 and was listed as a widow. I do not know when or where John Baptist died or where he is buried. The family story goes that sometime between 1880 and 1900 John was injured in a mining accident, probably in the Cuesmes area. He suffered serious injuries to his leg and it had to be amputated. It is said that infection set in and the infection was the cause of death.

#### BL03-5: RENVILLARD

Ron HAMILTON - [unigifs@penn.com](mailto:unigifs@penn.com)

**Leocadie DUEZ** came to the US in 1900 along with **Marya DUEZ**, b. about 1872. Aunt Marya married **Arthur RENVILLARD**, also from Belgium

### ANSWERS

#### BL02-416: REGNIER/RENIER

Hooray! Success at last! After a search of more than 10 years, the birth record of **Remi (Raymond) REGNIER** was finally found at Grand-Leez, Belgium. When Remi's wife died in childbirth, the son was given up for adoption and lived his life with another surname. The search for the "real" father became a passion. The puzzle was solved with the help of a misspelled note on family papers, the research of **Louis Van Den Brande** in Belgium, and the FHL microfilm from Grand-Leez.

#### BL03-4: SAUCEZ-DUEZ

**Sylva SAUCEZ** was born July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1880. The record is dated July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1880 and states that the child was born "the day before last" (l'avant-veille), so that makes the birth date July 9 and not the 7<sup>th</sup>. "Maudine DUEZ" is actually **Amandine DUEZ** and "John Baptist SAUCEZ" is Jean Baptiste.

There is a **Jean Baptiste SAUCEZ**, b. in Cuesmes, 4 March 1848 (rec#26), son of **Pierre Joseph SAUCEZ**, 35y and of **Adrienne HANNECART**.

And an **Amandine DUEZ** b. 24 March 1848, Cuesmes (record #34), daughter of **Jean Baptiste DUEZ**, 26y, and of **Leocadie BROHEZ**.

#### BL03-5: RENVILLARD

**Arthur RENVILLARD** was born 13 Nov 1865, Cuesmes, the son of Constant RENVILLARD (23y old) and Marie Louise DESMET. His siblings were:

- **Uranie RENVILLARD**, born 16 Aug 1867
- **Francois RENVILLARD**, born 15 Sep 1869

## Belgian Classics:

Taken from "Belgium Today" [www.diplobel.us](http://www.diplobel.us)

### **"The Queen Elizabeth Musical Competition"**

The Queen Elizabeth musical competition is back after a one year break. The 109 pianists competing in this year's contest were winnowed down to twelve. The rankings of these finalists in one of the world's most prestigious but grueling competitions were revealed by midnight on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Included in the groups are 3 Koreans, 2 Japanese, 2 Chinese, 2 Russians and a native of Kazakhstan who studied piano in Russia, 1 Italian and 1 German.

#### **Finals Program:**

Severin von Eckardstein: Prokofiev n°2

Wen-Yu Shen: Brahms n°2

Roberto Giordano: Liszt n°1

Kasumasa Matsumoto: Rachmaninov n°2

Jin Ju: Tchaikovsky n°1

#### **Results**

First prize : Severin von Eckardstein

Second prize : Wen-Yu Shen

Fourth prize : Roberto Giordano

Fifth prize : Kazumasa Matsumoto

Sixth prize : Jin Ju

### **Embassy Participates in Cathedral Festival**



Queen Fabiola with the finalists (above)



Queen Fabiola and Severin von Eckardstein (left)



Flower Mart, an annual springtime festival organized at the Washington National Cathedral attracted over 20,000 people on May 2 and 3. Belgium was the featured country at the fundraiser whose proceeds go towards the maintenance of the Cathedral's gardens and grounds.

One star of the Belgian tent was floral designer Geert PATTYN, who came to Washington specifically for this event. His original fruit and vegetable carpet and imaginative floral arrangements were definitely crowd pleasers.

Providing musical entertainment in the Embassy tent were Paul OORTS and Karen ASHBROOK, who performed traditional Belgian folk music and the Piet Werbrouck Jazz

Quartet, while several lace makers from the Chesapeake Region Lace Guild demonstrated their timeless craft.

The raffle of a brilliant cut diamond, donated by the Diamond High Council, and the sale of chocolates, waffles and lace helped fill the Flower Mart coffers.

A big hit with the Flower Mart public were the magnificent Charles V period costumes loaned by the Belgian Tourist Office in New York. Young and old alike wanted a photo taken with one of the costumed characters evoking the Ommegang, an annual historical pageant in Brussels, or with the Gilles de Binche.

Visitors to the Belgian tent also admires the old marionettes, perused contemporary comic books and had a chance to walk away with handsome tourist brochures.

Flower Mart offered Belgium an occasion to help the Washington Cathedral and, in the process, to make many new friends in the Washington community.

<http://www.edow.org/news/photos/flowermart2003/>



## **EVENTS OF INTEREST**

### **June 17 – September 17 : Los Angeles, CA**

Illuminating the Renaissance: The Triumph of Flemish Manuscript Painting in Europe, an exhibition comprising manuscripts, drawings and paintings at the Getty Museum.

Info: [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu) or 310-440-7300

### **July 11 – New York, NY**

Belgian beer tasting and beer dinner at Oscar's, Waldorf Astoria Hotel

Info: 212-247-6351