

# LUXEMBOURG AMERICAN GAZETTE

Under the High Patronage of His Royal Highness Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg

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FALL 2013

## Luxembourg Heritage Weekend & Luxembourg Fest Are a Resounding Success



Luxembourg Fest Parade with Traditional Hämmelsmarsch Procession of Sheep

Photo—Sam Arendt

The 2013 Luxembourg Heritage Weekend and the 27th Annual Luxembourg Fest of America were a resounding success. Over a four day period, from August 8-11, thousands of Luxembourg Americans, residents of the Grand Duchy and Luxembourg enthusiasts gathered to celebrate the unique bond between Luxembourg and the United States. Heritage Weekend and Luxembourg Fest were sponsored by the Luxembourg American Cultural Society (LACS).

Highlights of this year's Fest included the 50th anniversary celebration of Rosch Kriepps' 1963 book and documentary film *Luxemburger in Amerika*, as well as performances by *Saxitude* band and the *Men's Choral of Luxembourg*, and the premiere of Luxembourg's *Bofferding* beer in the United States.

Heritage Weekend began on Thursday, August 8, with the groundbreaking for the new Grand Duke Henri Plaza and the Belgium Village Hall in the New Luxembourg Development. The LACS, Ansay Development Corporation, Village of Belgium and Belgium Area Chamber of Commerce welcomed special guest, His Excellency Jean-Louis Wolzfeld, Luxembourg's Ambassador to the United States. Following the ground breaking ceremony, LACS members gathered at the Belgium House for dinner and the Society's annual membership meeting.

LACS Board Chair David Perrott presided at the annual meeting and the Society's 2012 Annual Report was presented by Kevin Wester, Executive Director, and Edward Zapp, LACS Board Treasurer. Following the meeting, Lisa Oberg, LACS member and librarian/professional genealogist from Seattle, Washington, offered a presentation about recording oral family history.

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Remember the LACS in Your Will



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Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube!



### Cultural Center Hours:

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday: 10AM–4PM

Saturdays (1st and 3rd): 1–4PM

Also by appointment

Groups are welcome!

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**Sara Jacoby** – Operations & Events Manager  
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## From the Executive Director

Dear LACS Members & Friends,

As we come to the close of 2013, all I can say is WOW, what a year! The highlight of this year is certainly the retirement of the debt on the Luxembourg American Cultural Center in February 2013—nearly one year earlier than anticipated. The Center is now paid off and this puts us on an even stronger financial footing. Looking forward, the LACS is beginning the planning process to launch both a Planned Giving Program and LACS Endowment Fund in 2014. This will help us perpetuate our mission for generations to come.

In addition to retiring the debt on the Cultural Center, these are some additional highlights from this past year:

- Led our 5th annual *Discover Luxembourg Tour*;
- Created four special exhibits at Cultural Center;
- Cataloged donation of *Jean Lanners Collection* of 185 pieces of fine art;
- Continued development of LACS regions in Aurora, Illinois and Central Minnesota;
- First LACS National Day Celebration in Twin Cities;
- Annual *Sounds of Luxembourg Concert Series* with Luxembourg's acclaimed pianist—Jean Muller;
- Hosted Luxembourg culture, heritage and genealogy workshops in four States;
- Developed a consultation process to assist people with *Reclamation of Luxembourg Nationality*;
- Welcomed three university interns from Luxembourg and three from the United States;
- Coordinated successful Luxembourg Heritage Weekend and 27th Annual Luxembourg Fest of America;
- Introduced Luxembourg's *Bofferding* beer to North America;
- Began accessioning and cataloging LACS photo collection of over 500,000 images;
- Developed a curriculum for elementary school age visitors to Cultural Center;
- 50th Anniversary Re-edition of the book and documentary film *Luxemburger in Amerika*;
- Developed and launched new LACS website.

What an amazing year it has been! None of these accomplishments would have been possible without YOU—our faithful and generous LACS members and friends. Let's continue to work together to celebrate the ties we cherish between Luxembourg and America!

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Kevin Wester". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kevin Wester  
Executive Director



|                         |                   |                    |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| ◆ CULTURAL SOCIETY      | ◆ MEMBERSHIP      | ◆ SHOP             |
| ◆ ROOTS & LEAVES MUSEUM | ◆ TOUR LUXEMBOURG | ◆ DUAL CITIZENSHIP |
| ◆ RESEARCH CENTER       | ◆ CONTACT US      | ◆ DONATE           |

#### HOURS

|             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| MONDAY      | by appointment |
| TUESDAY     | by appointment |
| WED-FRI     | 10am - 4pm     |
| 1ST+3RD SAT | 1pm - 4pm      |

#### ADMISSION

|         |      |
|---------|------|
| MEMBERS | FREE |
| ADULT   | \$9  |
| CHILD   | \$5  |

#### CONTENT SEARCH


## LACS SPONSORS REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOOK



Visit the Luxembourg American Cultural Center Today!



## LACS Launches NEW Website—[www.lacs.lu](http://www.lacs.lu)

The LACS is proud to launch its news website! The new LACS website can now be found at [www.lacs.lu](http://www.lacs.lu). Note the use of ".lu" instead of ".org". The LACS website is now hosted in Luxembourg! Special, special thanks to LACS member Daniel Toth of Strassen, Luxembourg, who donated the design, engineering and hosting of our new website through his company, e-biz Solutions, located

in Contern, Luxembourg. We cannot thank Daniel enough for his generosity and support! Special thanks, too, to Sara Jacoby and the LACS Marketing & Communications Committee who oversaw the development of the website. Stay tuned for more information about the new and improved MEMBERS-ONLY SECTION of our new website. So visit [www.lacs.lu](http://www.lacs.lu) and check it out!



## 2013 LACS Annual Fund Appeal



LACS Members L-R: Terry Sveine, Sophie Myck, John Magerus, Lisa Oberg  
Photos—Allen Buchholz

### Why do LACS Members Lisa Oberg & John Magerus ♥ LACS?

#### LISA OBERG—SEATTLE, WASHINGTON (LIBRARIAN/PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGIST)

I ♥ LACS because of the world-class Cultural Center it sponsors. The Roots and Leaves Museum tells the unique story of Luxembourg and America and it educates visitors about the impact of Luxembourgers on life in America. The LACS' Dooley-Wagner Research Center, the largest of its kind in North America, is a treasure trove of resources for anyone who wants to discover more about their genealogy and heritage.

#### JOHN MAGERUS—RACINE, WISCONSIN (RETIRED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR/ADMINISTRATOR)

I ♥ LACS because it provided so many opportunities for cultural exchange between Luxembourg and America including tours, internships, hosting Luxembourg visitors, musicians and artists as well as researchers and academics. Luxembourg Fest of America brings together Luxembourgers and Luxembourg Americans from around the world to celebrate and learn more about each other!

Show how much YOU ♥ LACS! Make your tax-deductible gift to the Annual Fund today! You can make your gift online at [www.lacs.lu](http://www.lacs.lu).





On Friday, August 9, about 85 people gathered for the LACS' annual Cultural Conference at the Prairie Conference Center in nearby West Bend, Wisconsin. The focus of the conference was the 50th Anniversary of Rosch Krieps' book and documentary film *Luxemburger in Amerika*. LACS Board member and noted Luxembourg American author/historian, Fausto Gardini, facilitated the conference. Fausto translated the 1963 book by Krieps and, in collaboration with Krieps and the LACS, the book premiered in English as *Luxembourgers in America*. Also premiered at the conference was the 50th anniversary re-edition of the documentary film *Luxemburger in Amerika*. The film was also translated into English and reproduced as a collaboration between Krieps, the Roots and Leaves Society and Luxembourg's National Center for Audiovisual. As part of the conference, the audience skyped with the 87-year-old Rosch Krieps and his wife Heng who reside in Luxembourg.

On Friday evening, members of the LACS' Grand Ducal Circle of donors gathered at the Cultural Center to be recognized for their contributions this past year. As part of the celebration, the LACS' construction mortgage was burned. In February 2013, the LACS retired its \$1.6 million debt and concluded its *Roots and Leaves Capital Campaign* which began in 2007. The LACS is proud to say that the Cultural Center is now debt-free!

On Saturday morning, the 27th Luxembourg Fest of America was kicked off with the annual Fest Parade down Main Street of Belgium. The Red Lion of Luxembourg led the parade followed by *Saxitude* band performing the traditional Hämmelesmarch with its procession of sheep. Military units, fire engines, floats, musical groups, various Luxembourg societies from across the Midwest, antique cars, farm machinery, honored family floats and the singing of the *Men's Chorale of Luxembourg* highlighted the parade.

Following the parade, visitors enjoyed an art & craft fair, food and refreshments, music, honored family exhibits, children's enrichment activities, book signings with Fausto Gardini and Mark Speltz, gift shop, a book sale, French and German translations, genealogy and cultural center tours as part of the weekend's activities. Luxembourg's very own Bofferding beer was introduced at

the Fest. Within four hours, the 1,250 bottles of Bofferding were wiped out!

At noon, the 3rd annual "Minute To Win It Treipen Eating Contest" took place. Sixteen contestants from throughout the United States participated in the contest. Corey Dimmer, a Luxembourg American from Belgium, Wisconsin, was the winner devouring nearly a pound and half of Luxembourgish treipen in just a minute. He was crowned the 2013 Treipen Eating World Champion.

On both Saturday and Sunday afternoon the *Men's Chorale of Luxembourg* performed at nearby St. Mary's Church in Belgium, built by Luxembourg immigrants in 1884. The *Men's Chorale*, under the direction of Ms. Josee Faltz, performed for a full capacity crowd and mesmerized audiences with the quality of their singing.

Saturday evening, 275 guests gathered at the Prairie Center in nearby West Bend, Wisconsin, for the 2013 Green Heart Gala Dinner Auction. The Gala is the LACS' largest fundraiser and helps offset the cost of the Society's operations. Guests enjoyed the Gala's silent auction, raffles, wine pull, backwards bingo, live auction and a delicious dinner. The Gala has become the Luxembourg American social event of the year.

On Sunday morning, about 600 worshipers gathered in the Belgium Community Park to celebrate an outdoor Mass. Fr. Dwayne Thoman, pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Dubuque, Iowa, and a Luxembourg American, presided at the Mass. Following Mass, the 2013 Honored Families were highlighted in a pageant. This year's Honored Families included: Bichler, Gilson, Hansen, Hoffmann, Hubing, Speltz, Theisen and Wenner. At the pageant, the 2013 Fest Duke and Duchess were crowned. Windy and Helen Kalmes of St. Donatus, Iowa, were chosen as this year's Duke and Duchess. Despite a rainy Sunday afternoon, hundreds gathered to enjoy the day.

The LACS offers its heartfelt gratitude to all of the sponsors, underwriters, volunteers and participants who made this year's Heritage Weekend and Luxembourg Fest a resounding success. We look forward to the 2014 Heritage Weekend and Luxembourg Fest—August 7-10, 2014.

**Top to Bottom:** Groundbreaking for new Belgium Village Square and Grand Duke Henri Plaza; Saxitude Band Performing at Cultural Center; Premiere of Bofferding Beer; Men's Chorale of Luxembourg Performing at St. Mary's Church; Duke & Duchess Windy & Helen Kalmes; Cultural Conference with Fausto Gardini

*Photos—Sam Arendt & Allen Buchholz*





Clockwise From Top Left: 2013 Honored Families; Speltz Family representatives at the Fest; Rose Homan & Kathy Beck at the Wenner Family Exhibit; Bichler Family in Fest Parade; Gilson Family members at their Honored Family Exhibit; Hubing Family representatives at the Fest

Photos—Allen Buchholz & Sam Arendt

## Luxembourg Fest of America 2013 Celebrates Honored Families

Proud descendants from California, Florida, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, Washington, and Wisconsin participated in the Honored Families program of the 2013 Luxembourg Fest of America. They represented these families: **Bichler, Gilson, Hansen, Hubing, Speltz, Theisen-Hoffman, and Wenner.** Once again the exhibits they prepared were a highlight of the Fest and attracted many visitors.

Among those honored this year was the first family participating from the Luxembourg-American community of Rollingstone, Minnesota, the Speltz family. Another Minnesota family, the Theisen-Hoffmans, was among the earliest settlers in Stearns County, Minnesota, arriving there in 1856, after having first settled in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1847.

Two Luxembourg American families from Iowa were among this year's participants. The Wenner

family was especially pleased to be at the Fest since one of their ancestors, Regina Wenner Beck, was among those interviewed by Roger Krieps for his 1963 book *Luxemburger in Amerika*. The Hansen family, whose ancestors settled in Alton, Iowa, shared many artifacts from their history, including a traditional song sung at all family gatherings.

The three remaining families have Wisconsin ties. The Bichler ancestor, Henry, came to Port Washington in 1855. He was a tailor and fought in the Civil War. The history of the Gilson family is also associated with Port Washington. Theodore came to America in 1848 and with his son John established a foundry in 1868 that operated for a hundred years. The Hubing family settled in the Belgium, Wisconsin, community, having arrived in the United States in 1847. The Hubing & Hammes grocery store was a focal point of the Belgium community for many years.

As in past years, there were reunions of family and friends and discoveries made by participants and visitors to the exhibits. Rose Homan, who presented the Homan family last year and the Wenner family this year, proudly shared that she has discovered another Luxembourger ancestor, and is now 15/16ths Luxembourger. Marjorie Hubing McCormick expressed her appreciation for the Luxembourg American Cultural Society, its staff and volunteers, and their role in preserving the history of Luxembourg American families. She added: "It's great to have a central storage area for our Luxembourger ways!"





Miami University—John E. Dolibois European Center in Differdange, Luxembourg

Photo—Tim Miller

## The Rise of the Miami University Dolibois European Center (MUDEC) from the Centre Settegast to the Château de Differdange (1968-2013)

### REMINISCENCES OF A CONTEMPORARY SURVIVOR

The history of MUDEC is intimately connected with the U.S. involvement in World War I, World War II and the Cold War. In the wake of WWI, John Dolibois, founding father of MUDEC, emigrated with his family to the United States where he eventually became Vice President of Miami University and played a decisive role in establishing the Miami University's first Center in Luxembourg City in September 1968. As a

consequence of the Cold War, Ivan Lakos escaped from Hungary when the Red Army crushed the Hungarian Revolution in 1956, and Ekkehard Stiller, less than ten years later, passed through West Berlin on his way to Western Germany to find a second home in the U.S. and like Ivan Lakos, to study and begin a successful University career, both eventually ending up as directors of MUDEC. Individual human destinies this way are often shaped by great historical events.

Eight directors, two deans, three assistant directors, well over a hundred professors paid their contribution to MUDEC and more than 10,000 American students spent a decisive time of their University curricula in Luxembourg whereas well above 100 Luxembourg students did the same on the Oxford campus. Hundreds of Luxembourg and European families, some for many years, welcomed American students and endeavored to make them feel at home. Each of the eight directors left his mark on the institution. Each of the three assistant directors likewise played a key

role on stage and behind the scenes.

**The founding director, Warren Mason** (1968-1970), had a keen academic vision and an exceptional public relations talent from the beginning on, set MUEC into the Luxembourg and European context as a highly respected institution. These were the Settegast years in the center of Luxembourg City. He was very efficiently supported by Anne Steinmetz, secretary, housing coordinator, and a real number two of the Center.

**Jerry Collester** (1970-1972) presided over the transfer from the two-apartment facility of Settegast into a larger house with a student lounge and greater classroom space into the train station quarter, 9, rue Goethe.

**Leslie Brady** (1972-1977), a Europeanized former U.S. diplomat, added to the Center a badly needed library and extended the program through bringing in visiting scholars from the main campus. The ratio between male and female students, which at the beginning had been even, changed to 1:3 in favor of women.



**Pierre Sotteau** (1978-1979), gave the Center a French touch supporting the language program and celebrating with top University and Luxembourg government officials its 10th anniversary in 1978.

**Charles Teckman** (1979-1980) presided over the transition towards the restructuring of the Center's program, curriculum, enrollment and financial bases. He expanded the potential of stimulating study tours for U.S. teachers and students. He brought in the School of Education, which, besides Arts and Science and Business, became a major recruiting reservoir of future students.

**Warren Mason** (1980-1982) on his second stint gave his powerful impetus to the new Center, which moved from rue Goethe to the more spacious facilities of Avenue Monterey. The student enrollment, which had steadily risen from 38 students to 60 now passed beyond 80 and came close to 100.

**Ivan Lakos** (1982-1989), with a wise balance of experience and innovation presided over seven years of steady growth and stability. He could rely on the active support of Maisy Dumont, the real shadow manager of the premises, who never failed to find solutions for the most diverse problems. The Center's name changed from MUEC to MUDEC in honor of John Dolibois who meanwhile had occupied the position of U.S. Ambassador to his homeland from 1981-1985.



Ambassador John E. & Winnie Dolibois at 25th Anniversary Celebration of Miami University–Luxembourg

*Photo—Miami University*

**Ekkie Stiller** (1989-2009) inaugurated a very special era in which he left his mark on the Center with the move in 1997 from the Avenue Monterey in Luxembourg City to the Château de Differdange, a transfer, not without risks, but which proved a success. It provided living

space for American faculty in the Château and allowed enrollment to increase from 100 to more than 120 students. The course offerings were expanded, study tours were added, cooperation with the nearby, newly-founded University of Luxembourg was scheduled for the future. Most importantly, by identifying closely with faculty and students, Ekkie Stiller marked the atmosphere with his irrepressible enthusiasm and unbending motivation which ensured his lasting popularity. Ekkie's outstanding merits were honored in his last years by the elevation of the Center to a Campus and the Director's position to that of a Dean. His faithful second in command, Maisy Dumont, also after 20 years of active service left her position in 2002 to Raymond Manes, whose managing talents as an exceptional administrator allowed a smooth transition from Ekkie Stiller to Thierry Leterre.



Dr. Thierry Leterre, Current Dean of Miami University–Luxembourg

*Photo—Miami University*

**Thierry Leterre** (2009-present) is actively preparing the Center for a new direction in its academic and cultural activities, emphasizing its role as an autonomous Campus with a truly European and global vocation while also introducing new technologies. New programs are continuously being implemented, including the first-ever global Service-Learning courses and cultural programs intended to facilitate students' sense of personal autonomy and discovery abroad.

Meanwhile, because MUDEC has now over 10,000 alumni, it has become the home base of

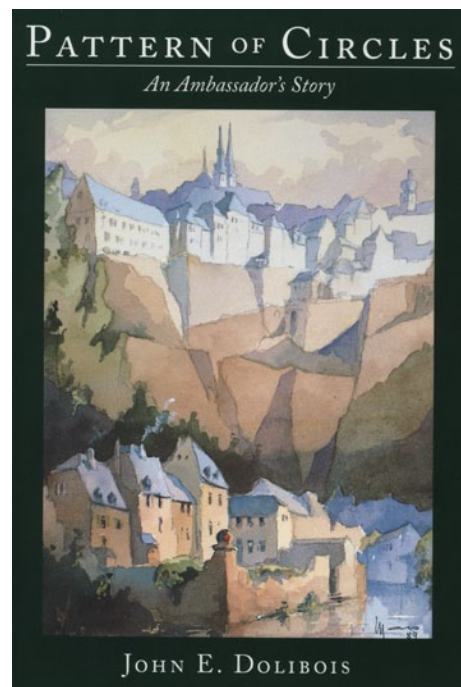
a global community. Miami University hosted its first European Reunion and Networking Event from July 14-17, 2011, at the Château de Differdange in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. This proved to be an opportunity for the "last of the Mohicans" to reconnect with a slight touch of nostalgia, the veteran warriors of the Center's early years. MUDEC celebrated its 45th Anniversary the week of October 14-17, 2013.

■ *By Dr. Emile Haag Professor of History, Dolibois European Center Faculty*



Emile Haag, Long-time History Professor at Miami University–Luxembourg

*Photo—Miami University*



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# Krier Foods Inc.—Formerly The Krier Preserving Company—Celebrates 100th Anniversary



J. B. Krier, Founder of The Krier Preserving Co.

*Photo—LACS Collection*

October 2, 2013 marked the 100th anniversary of the canned food and beverage legacy of The Krier Preserving Company of Belgium, Wisconsin, known today as Krier Foods, Inc. Now a fifth generation, family-owned and operated business, Krier Foods, Inc. has roots in the food and beverage industry dating back to 1909 and its founder J. B. Krier, who was the son of Luxembourg immigrants John Krier and Mary Katherine Mans, of Bertrange, Luxembourg.

In 1909, J. B. Krier entered into a partnership with Peter L. Pierron and J. P. Pierron and organized the Belgium Cannery. This cannery was located just west of the train tracks near downtown Belgium on what is today known as the Texas Camp for migrant workers at the cannery. Krier was a gifted, energetic entrepreneur and served as the general manager for this original cannery. Tradition holds that he had a differing business philosophy from the Pierron brothers which led him to sell his interest in the Belgium Cannery in 1912 so as to start his own cannery.

J. B. Krier founded The Krier Preserving Company in 1913 with initial capital of \$25,000. Original stockholders included J. B.'s sons Mike Krier and George Krier as well as his brothers-in-law, J. M. and Nic Hubing, attorney William F. Schanen, local banker F. J. Wittmeyer, Frank Pauly, Mike J. Hubing, Joseph Pirrung and Math Kartheiser. The canning factory was located at what is today 705 Main Street in Belgium and became an icon of the community.

Because of his farming background, J. B. and his sons, Mike and George, were knowledgeable about growing peas and other vegetables. This knowledge was utilized to ensure that quality was maintained from the field through the harvesting and canning processes in order to obtain the finest finished product.

In 1916, J. B. Krier retired and sold his shares to his other sons, Henry Krier and Fred Krier. At that time, J. B.'s oldest son, Mike Krier, was elected President to replace his father. With an ever expanding business, a second cannery



The Krier Preserving Company's Famous Logo

*Photo—LACS Collection*

plant was built in 1923 in nearby Random Lake, Wisconsin. A tornado severely damaged the plant on opening day and 20 workers narrowly escaped death.

In 1934, Mike Krier died unexpectedly and George Krier was elected president. In 1942 George, Henry and William Krier purchased all common stock and the company became completely family owned. J. B. Krier died in 1947 at the age of 84. That same year, George and William Krier sold their interest in the company to Henry Krier and his sons, Jerome and Raymond. Henry Krier then became president of The Krier Preserving Company.



The Krier Preserving Company late 1920s

*Photo—LACS Collection*





L-R: The Krier Preserving Company's Pea Harvest - 1910s; Krier Foods, Inc. Today - High Tech Automation

Photo—LACS Collection

The Belgium plant operated two canning lines equipped with the latest machinery and had a capacity of producing 80,000 cases of vegetables per day. As the harvest season progressed, cans of beans, beets, carrots, mixed vegetables, stew mix, peas, potatoes, kidney and lima beans, and pork and beans moved along the conveyors in the Belgium plant. The products were marketed under the names *Krier's Best*, *Belle of Belgium*, *Serve-U-Rite* and *Sunbonnet*.

The Krier Preserving Company owned a large amount of acreage in the area and a large portion of what they canned came from their own fields. They also purchased a substantial quantity of what they canned from regional farmers. Over the years, the company employed thousands of regional residents in full-time and part-time positions.



L-R: John Rassel & Bruce Krier (President of Krier Foods) at 100th Anniversary Celebration

Photo—Sweet Feet Photography

As the need for more temporary summer help increased, migrant workers from Texas and Mexico were employed. The work force grew during the peak canning season, the demanding months being June through November. Many migrant families returned year after year because the company provided a good working environment. Some of these migrant workers planted roots as permanent residents in the region.

In 1959, The Krier Preserving Company expanded its vegetable canning operation to include a significant move into beverage processing within its existing plant structure. In 1964, Ray Krier became the third generation president of the company. Also that year, the company built a new beverage plant in Random Lake. Custom canning of national name brand beverages became a hallmark of the company. In 1966, the *Jolly Good* soda line was added. The name was taken from an original vegetable label from the earlier years of the company.

In 1962, The Krier Preserving Company purchased the Wisconsin Foods fruit packaging division in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, from Ward Foods of New York. They began to bottle juices under the titles of *Fruitland Fruit Juice* and *Chere-Fresh*. In 1982, the company name—*The Krier Preserving Company*—was changed to *Krier Foods, Inc.* to reflect the ground swell of national consciousness regarding sodium and other preservatives.

In 1986, Ray's son, Bruce Krier, became the fourth generation president after Ray's death. Bruce Krier immediately consolidated the assets of the Sturgeon Bay division into the Belgium and Random Lake vegetable plants. In 1988, Krier

Foods, Inc. sold its vegetable canning plants in Belgium and Random Lake to Lakeside Foods, Inc. of Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Krier Foods, Inc. continued to use a portion of its Random Lake plant to operate as a privately held company specializing in carbonated and non-carbonated beverages.

In 1992, Krier Foods, Inc. became one of the few early beverage companies to fill pasteurized juices into single serve aluminum cans. This furthered its relationships with nationally branded beverage companies. In 2000, Krier Foods, Inc. expanded its filling of pasteurized juices into single serve plastic bottles. In 2006, John Rassel, nephew of Bruce, joined the company as a fifth generation member of the Krier lineage. In 2007, the *Jolly Good* soda line was discontinued as nationally branded volume now dominated the company's production capacity.

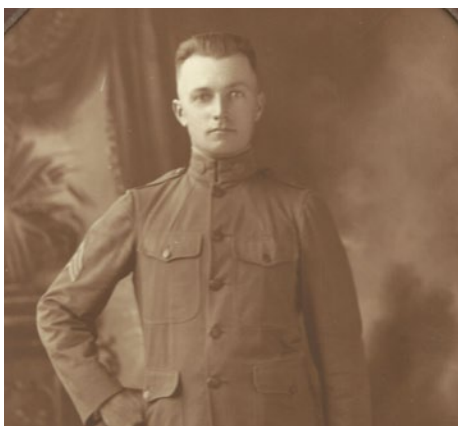
As it celebrates its 100-year legacy in the food and beverage industry, Krier Foods, Inc. continues as an innovative leader in the carbonated and non-carbonated beverage industry. The LACS wishes Bruce Krier, John Rassel and all of the Krier Foods family heartfelt congratulations as they celebrate their centennial anniversary. The LACS also offers its gratitude to Bruce Krier for his enduring support of the Cultural Center which is memorialized in the Center's *J.B. Krier Willkommen Center*, named after Bruce's great-grandfather, the founder of The Krier Preserving Company.

## News Briefs In & Around the LACS



### THAT'S SO CHEESY: LUXEMBOURG AMERICAN CHEESE FACTORIES

Check out the LACS' newest special exhibit which will focus on Luxembourg American Cheese Factories. The exhibit will be featured in the Cultural Center's *Acuity Exhibit Area* and will run from December 1-April 30, 2014. This exhibit isn't only for Cheese heads from Wisconsin! All are welcome to visit the Cultural Center to view the exhibit!



### COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR I

2014 marks the beginning of a four-year commemoration of the centennial of World War I (1914-1918). The LACS is working collaboratively with Luxembourg's National Military Museum in Diekirch, Luxembourg, to create special WWI exhibits at both the Cultural Center and in Luxembourg. These special exhibits will focus on the Luxembourg American experience of WWI, including Luxembourg Americans who served in WWI. We are sending out the call to all LACS members to share stories, photos, letters, memorabilia, etc. about your Luxembourg American loved one who had a connection to WWI. If you have something to share, please contact the LACS at [admin@lacs.lu](mailto:admin@lacs.lu) or call 262-476-5086.



### LACS RECEIVES MAJOR DONATION OF LUXEMBOURG STAMP COLLECTION

The LACS received an amazing archival donation during Heritage Weekend in August. At that time, John Gilson (LACS member), the grandson of Fred Gilson, one of the best-known members of the historic Chicago Luxembourg community, donated his grandfather's lifelong collection of stamps, first day issues, etc. The collection contains thousands of items and reflects Fred Gilson's life-long passion for philately (the collection and study of stamps) and Luxembourg, his homeland. Fred Gilson was born in Mertzig, Luxembourg, in 1889 and emigrated to America in 1911. He operated a well-known employment service and travel agency in Chicago. He also served as Grand President of the Luxembourg Brotherhood of America, Vice Consul in the Chicago Consulate, Secretary of the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce and was chairman of the reception for Grand Duchess Charlotte while she was in exile in America in 1941. He was close personal friends of the Grand Ducal Family who gifted him with many stamps for his collection and was twice knighted by the Grand Duchy. The LACS offers its heartfelt gratitude to John & Theresa Gilson for gifting us with such a magnificent collection that pays tribute to one of the most influential Luxembourg Americans of the 20th century.



### BE AN HONORED FAMILY AT LUXEMBOURG FEST OF AMERICA 2014

Show your Luxembourg pride and love for your family by being an Honored Family at next year's Luxembourg Fest—August 9-10, 2014 in Belgium, Wisconsin. Honored Families set up a small exhibit about their family which can include family photos, memorabilia and genealogy. Honored Families are also highlighted during special pageantry at Luxembourg Fest. This is a great opportunity for your own "mini-Family Reunion" in the fun and enriching context of Luxembourg Heritage Weekend and Luxembourg Fest. To learn more about being an Honored Family, contact the LACS at [admin@lacs.lu](mailto:admin@lacs.lu) or call 262-476-5086. All families with Luxembourg roots are invited to participate!



## News Briefs In & Around the LACS

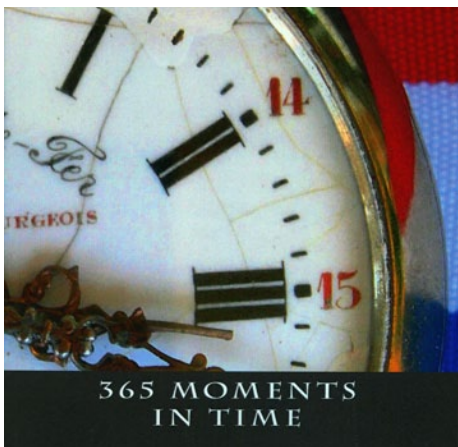


### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2014 SOUNDS OF LUXEMBOURG CONCERT SERIES

The LACS is honored to announce its 2014 *Sounds of Luxembourg Concert Series*. This year's concert series will feature Luxembourg's premiere, young lyric soprano – Claudia Galli. Claudia is a multi-cultural Luxembourger in that her father is of Italian ancestry and her mother of Portuguese descent. The LACS is proud to bring Claudia to the United States in partnership with Luxembourg's Ministry of Culture, Music LX, as well as numerous local sponsors. Mark your calendars for the following concerts with Claudia Galli:

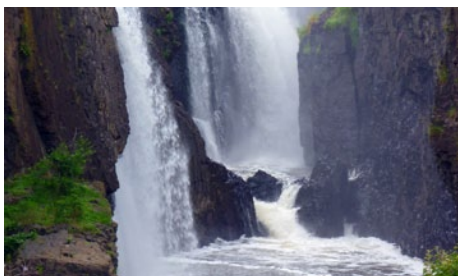
- **Tuesday, March 11**—Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, New York, New York
- **Saturday, March 22**—Luxembourg Embassy Series, Washington, DC
- **Monday, March 24**—Cathedral of St. Mary, St. Cloud, Minnesota
- **Thursday, March 27**—Viterbo University, La Crosse, Wisconsin
- **Sunday, March 30**—Clarke University, Dubuque, Iowa
- **Wednesday, April 2**—Marmion Abbey, Aurora, Illinois
- **Saturday, April 5**—Historic St. Mary's Church, Belgium, Wisconsin

More details will follow!



### FAUSTO GARDINI RELEASES NEW BOOK – 365 MOMENTS IN TIME

Fausto Gardini, historian/researcher/author and LACS Board Member, has done it again! He recently released his latest book entitled *365 Moments in Time*. Inspired by the works of Luxembourg authors Jean Baptiste 'Batty' Weber (1860-1940) and Evrard 'Evy' Friedrich (1910-1989), Fausto's *365 Moments in Time* is a compilation of daily happenings. The featured event can be an anecdote, a biography, a tragic or a happy event, a historical fact, a passenger list or some other trivia. The topics are based on occurrences of particular interest to descendants of Luxembourgers in America as it focuses, with a few exceptions, particularly on the past 200 years. The book features 48 rare pictures from Fausto's archive. *365 Moments in Time* will be available worldwide on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) as of November 18, 2013. To learn more about Fausto and his research visit [www.faustogardini.com](http://www.faustogardini.com).



### MEMORIALS & CELEBRATION GIFTS

Looking for a special way to memorialize someone or to celebrate something special in the life of someone living? Consider a memorial or celebration gift and support the mission of the LACS. Memorials gifts can be made in memory of someone who has died in the past or in memory of a loved one who has recently died or as a gift from you for a friend or relative's loved one who has recently died. Celebration gifts can be made in special recognition of someone's birthday, anniversary, graduation, retirement, wedding or any other significant occasion. Memorials of celebration gifts of any amount are welcome and help support the mission of the LACS. To learn more visit [www.lacs.lu](http://www.lacs.lu) or [admin@lacs.lu](mailto:admin@lacs.lu) or call 262-476-5086.



### COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS & PAVERS

Looking for a special gift for someone or a way to honor your own family? Commemorative bricks and pavers are still available at the Luxembourg American Cultural Center. Bricks are available for a donation of \$175 and pavers are available for a donation of \$600. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Bricks and pavers make great gifts for the holidays, an anniversary, a birthday or any special occasion. Or simply get a brick or paver to recognize your family at the Cultural Center. To learn more or to place your order, visit [www.lacs.lu](http://www.lacs.lu) or [admin@lacs.lu](mailto:admin@lacs.lu) or call 262-476-5086.



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## Remember the Luxembourg American Cultural Society

Is your Luxembourg Heritage something you treasure?  
Is the pride you feel as a Luxembourger something you want to pass on to future generations?  
Is your family's story something you want to ensure isn't lost over time?



### REMEMBER THE LACS IN YOUR WILL AND ESTATE PLANNING

Carry on your personal legacy through the mission of the LACS. Consider remembering the LACS in your will and estate planning.

Three examples of language for including the LACS in your will:

#### If bestowing a specific dollar amount:

To the Luxembourg American Cultural Society, Inc., Belgium,  
Wisconsin (Tax ID—05-0622320), the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_;

#### If bestowing a share (or percentage) of the remainder of your estate:

To the Luxembourg American Cultural Society, Inc., Belgium,  
Wisconsin (Tax ID—05-0622320), \_\_\_\_\_ shares (or \_\_\_\_\_ %).

#### If bestowing the residue of your estate:

To the Luxembourg American Cultural Society, Inc., Belgium,  
Wisconsin (Tax ID—05-0622320), the residue of my estate.

For more information, consult your legal or financial advisor or  
contact Kevin Wester, Executive Director, 262-355-5758 or  
[kwester@luxamculturalsociety.org](mailto:kwester@luxamculturalsociety.org)