

## Sick and Visiting Report

Don Vermeulen will have surgery in January.

Tom VanDamme is home and recuperating and is gaining some weight.

Remi VanOphem was told by his Doctors to stay off his feet.

Ed VanRossen's wife Helen fell and broke her hip.

Ron Nybour had a stent put in his heart and is doing fine.

May you all have a speedy recovery and have a Healthy New Year.

*Etienne Elskens,  
Sick and Visiting Chairman*

## Entertainment Report

It is hard to believe that my first year taking care of the club entertainment is over already. It has been a fun and learning experience finding out what the members like and what they would like to see in the future. I would like to thank Bob Putrycus for being there when I had questions throughout the year. Also a special thank you to my wife Suzy for being there every step of the way.

Please mark your Calendar for our first Activity in 2020. Sunday Feb. 16th from 1pm to 5pm at Bath City Bistro in Mt. Clemens.

We will have Feather bowling, cards (31 and euchre), pizza buffet and beer and wine.

Cost: \$5.00 dollars /person  
Limited to the first 75 paid in advance

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

*Butch DeSmet  
586-805-0065*

## Recreation Report

### BIEN

Roger Omeye 53 pts  
Bob Maes 47 pts

### CHAMPIONS

Roger Omeye 490 pts

### DARTS

Ed DeSmet 658 pts

### CHAMPIONS

Ed DeSmet 41 pts

### EUCHRE

John Vanek 39 pts  
Damien Chun 38 pts  
Ander Reyntiens 38 pts

### CHAMPIONS

Andre Reyntiens 355 pts

### PINOCHLE

Ray Huyghe 277 pts  
Gary Huyghe 254 pts

### CHAMPIONS

Etienne Elskens 2331 pts

### "31"

Bryan Huyghe 3 pts  
Don Vermeulen 3 pts

### CHAMPIONS

Bryan Huyghe 14 pts

## The Belgian American Association Executive Board

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# The Belgian American Association

*January 2020*

## Quarterly Member Bulletin 1

theBAA.us



*Proudly Promoting Belgian  
Heritage and Serving Detroit's  
Belgian Community Since 1927*

## Presidents Report

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and look forward to a healthy New Year.

We had many events for our members, trough bowling, golf outings, and casino trips, our joint BAA/BACC picnic and memorial Mass, BAA Band concerts, social dinner events, beer tour and the outing at Total Sports. We try to provide a variety of events for you to attend and will do so again this year.

I want to thank our Board members for their continued support and hard work to make our organization the best for you.

Please save the date Saturday, January 25, 2020 for our Annual Meet the Board Party. This will be held at the Assumption Cultural Center at 21800 Marter Road, in St. Clair Shores. The doors will open at 4:30 pm. The BAA Band will play while we enjoy appetizers and cocktails. There will be some speeches followed by the Scholarship winners, the Man of the Year award and game winners. A great sit down dinner will be served with music, dancing and our traditional raffle. All members and guests are welcome. Be sure to contact Bob Grant to reserve your table.

Our goal for 2020 will continue to be "Membership Matters". I encourage each member to sponsor a new member!

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact me at r.hison@att.net or (586)772-9027.

*Bob Hison,  
President*

## Scholarship Report

We had five applicants for our scholarships this year, and all were good candidates. The executive board deliberated and examined for a long time to select the winners as follows:

Jaclyn Deprez, is the daughter of Eric and Jennifer Deprez, granddaughter of Roland and Maggy Deprez (Roland did not participate in the selection process). She is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High school with a 3.8 G.P.A. and an S.A.T. of 1170. She is attending Michigan State University majoring in Kinesiology. While in high school she played varsity girls' basketball in 10th, 11th and 12th grade, and was captain in her senior year. She also played varsity soccer for four years, and was captain of the soccer team her senior year. She was varsity football manager in the 11th and 12th grades, and was a member and board member of the Salem Organization of Student Athletes. She also worked with her church helping to prepare and deliver food to the homeless in Detroit, and she raised money for the Goodfellow's Christmas drive. Jaclyn also coached youth soccer and read books to elementary school student in the Plymouth-Canton School District. When she wasn't doing anything else, Jaclyn participated in club soccer tournaments throughout the Midwest.

Jaclyn Melasi is the daughter of John and Trish Melasi, granddaughter of Bill and Virginia Galbraith, and great granddaughter of Arthur and Emma DeRuyck. She is a graduate of Utica Eisenhower High School with a G.P.A. of 4.06 (Valedictorian) and an S.A.T. of 1350. She is attending Michigan State University in the honors program. While in high school, Jaclyn took a number of advanced placement courses and was awarded an Advanced Placement Scholar with honors and a Presidential Award. She was a member and secretary of the National Art Honor Society and a member of the Comic Book Club. She also studied piano from fifth grade on. Outside of school, Jaclyn worked at Kroger's in 10th grade and Debbie's Dollar Store in the 11th and 12th grades.

Our final winner is Zachary Werbrouck, the son of Kevin and Julie Werbrouck and grandson of Donald and Yvette

## Scholarship Report Continued

Werbrouck. He is a graduate of Utica Stevenson High School, and is attending Wayne State University majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He had a G.P.A. of 4.06 and an S.A.T. score of 1460. Zach also took a number of advanced placement courses and was valedictorian. During his years in high school, Zach was on the Robotics team, marching band, symphonic band chess team, National Honor Society, baseball team, Tri M society and Social Studies Olympiad. Also his robotics team--the Thunderchickens--was runner-up in the World Championships in 2018 and won it in 2019. When he wasn't doing all this, he volunteered at St. Frances de Chantal Church and Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

These young people are fine examples of our scholars, and also a credit to their family's parenting. I hope you noticed that their ties to the B.A.A. go beyond their fathers to a grandfather and even a great grandfather. We congratulate them on their accomplishments and wish them well in their futures. They're eligible for membership in the B.A.A. or the Auxiliary, and we hope they take advantage of the opportunity.

*Al VanDenBergh Jr.,  
Scholarship Chairman*

## Obituary Report

The following members recently passed away.

Name	Joined BAA
Michael Descamps	October 2005
Albert Syoen	September 1968 (Life Member)

May our deceased brothers rest in peace and let Perpetual light shine upon them.

*Michael Gray,  
Obituary Chairman*

## Band Report

Brother Members,

The BAA Band Christmas concert, Under the direction of Larry Huntington, was held on Wednesday, December 11th at St. Lucy Church social hall. As always, we had great support from Fr. Jim, Diane, and the friendly / helpful St. Lucy staff. The attendance was very good, approximately 150 people. The concert ended with Al Vandenberg getting everyone in the Christmas spirit with our Christmas carol sing-a-long.

A big thank you to the many helpers including: Norm Kay for helping set up. The kitchen set up & cleanup crew including Diane Baier, Pat VanDenBergh, Maureen Kay, and my wife Jan Alec & Mike Ouvry for bringing the flags. St. Nikolas (Ivan Callebaut) also made his traditional appearance. He handed out tangerines (for health) and coins (for wealth) to the youngsters in the crowd.

The Band looks forward to our next 2 events in 2020 including :  
The BAA installation Party on Saturday, January 25th.  
The BAA Band 88TH annual spring concert and dance on Sunday, April 26th. Tickets will be available in January.

*Larry Mahieu, Band Chairman  
Belgianband@gmail.com*