



# The American Club of Brussels

# News & Events

An International Club with an American Heart

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## "Nuts!" Night

December 16, 2013



Join us on Monday evening, December 16, for a gala, black-tie dinner dance at the Renaissance Hotel in Brussels. An evening to remember and to enjoy thoroughly! A portion of the proceeds from the dinner will go to the Community Help Service and other organizations that help the international community and contribute to Belgo-American friendship.

Nearly 70 years ago, in the final months of WWII, Hitler threw his last resources into a major offensive on the Western Front. On December 16, 1944, up to 25 Wehrmacht divisions attacked along a narrow front in the Ardennes region in Belgium. For several days the battle raged on with heavy losses on both sides. This episode of the war has become known as the Battle of the Bulge.

One of the most remembered events of this battle has been US General McAuliffe's refusal to surrender to Nazi forces that had encircled his 101 Airborne division in Bastogne. His statement "Nuts!" has become a symbol of American resilience in the face of overwhelming odds.

On December 16 of this year, the American Club of Brussels is organizing the first "Nuts!" night in Brussels in a spirit of reconciliation with our German friends and in recognition of Belgo-American friendship. The evening will bring together many members of the American community in Belgium as well as a large number of representatives of the locally-based international and Belgian business world.

The evening's festivities will begin with an aperitif, followed by a three-course dinner. After dinner, there will be a cash bar and live music so you can dance the night away. And, to add to the entertainment, there will be a silent auction!

Join us for a wonderful event, which will be repeated every year on December 16th!

**Event Details:**

**Date:** Monday, December 16, 2013

**Time:** Aperitif at 7:00 p.m.; dinner at 8:00 p.m.

**Place:** Renaissance Hotel, Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels

**Price:** €80. For active military personnel: the € equivalent of \$80 and a one-year free membership in the ACB (value: €140).

**Public Transportation:** Buses 12, 21, 22 27, 34, 38, 64, 80 and 95: Luxembourg

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, December 11 by email to [info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Nuts!" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, December 11. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

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## Dates to Remember

- October 30: Halloween Party with AmCham Belgium
  - November 16: Henry Van de Velde exhibition
  - November 28: Thanksgiving Dinner at the Sheraton
  - November 29: Final Friday Cocktails
  - December 1: Roger van der Weyden exhibition
  - December 16: "Nuts!" Dinner Dance
  - January 3: First Friday (Ring in 2014 with other ACB members!!)
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## Joint ACB & AmCham Belgium Halloween Party



The American Club of Brussels and AmCham Belgium invite you to celebrate Halloween a day early this year – on Wednesday, October 30. Please join us for this annual celebration. Costumes are encouraged. There will be snacks, a cash bar, and prizes for the best female and best male costume, so be sure to come in your most creative Halloween attire. There will be lots of young professionals present, thanks to our collaboration with the Australia Society, the Canadian Club of Belgium, InterNations, and the Irish Club of Belgium. This is an ideal opportunity to network and meet new people in an enjoyable way.

### Event Details:

**Place:** Renaissance Brussels Hotel, Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels (Ixelles)

**Date:** Wednesday, October 30, 2013

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Price:** €10

**Public transportation:** Walking distance from Place du Luxembourg

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Monday, October 28 by email to [info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Halloween" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Monday, October 28. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

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## A Guided Visit to the Henry van de Velde Exhibition



Van de Velde (1863-1957) was trained as painter, but developed further as an architect, interior designer, designer, teacher and artistic adviser. He left an impressive oeuvre and built up an international career, boasting a great number of creations in Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands and France. Among his best-known buildings are the villa Bloemenwerf in Uccle, various Art Nouveau residences in Weimar, the Kröller-Müller Museum in Otterlo and the modernist Boekentoren of the University of Ghent. He was one of the originators of the school of art that gave rise to the Bauhaus and founded the La Cambre School of art in Brussels. In his furniture, silverware, porcelain, jewelry, book bindings and other creations, he proved able, as no other, to combine practical utility with elegant sturdiness, thereby gaining international renown.

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Henry van de Velde, the exhibition *Henry van de Velde – Passion - Function - Beauty* will be a chronological survey of the life and work of this multi-faceted artist, based on a never previously seen assembly of works of art and a multitude of documents, including photographs and letters. It is being set up by the Royal Museums of Art and History in co-operation with the Klassik Stiftung Weimar. Numerous other activities to do with Van de Velde and organized by other bodies will be taking place under the umbrella of this retrospective.

Please note that this visit is limited to 20 people.

**Event Details:**

**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2013

**Time:** 10:15 a.m.

**Place:** Royal Museums of Art & History, Parc du Cinquantaire 10, 1000 Brussels (Albert-Elisabeth entrance)

**Price:** €25 for members, €35 for non-members.

**Public Transportation:** Metro: Schuman or Mérode; buses 22, 27 and 36.

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, November 13 by email to [info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "van de Velde" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, November 13. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

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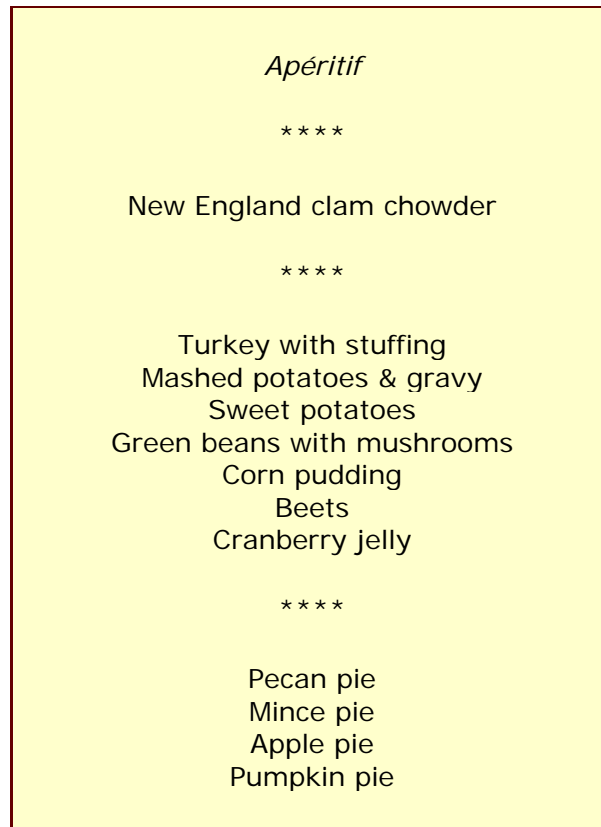
## Thanksgiving Dinner



Join the ACB for one of its most popular social events – a traditional Thanksgiving dinner of roast turkey with all the trimmings, followed by an assortment of real American pies.

This very American event will be held on Thanksgiving Day itself, Thursday, November 28, at 7:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel in Brussels. Whole turkeys are carved and served family-style at tables for eight. It's just like home, only better, because someone else does the cooking.

The menu is:



We look forward to seeing you at one of the Club's very best annual events!

**Event Details:**

**Place:** Sheraton Brussels Hotel, Horizon Room (30th floor), Place Rogier 3, 1210 Brussels (St.-Josse-ten-Noode)

**Date:** Thursday, November 28, 2013

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Price:** €70 for ACB members (includes *apéritif*, one-half bottle of house wine, soft drinks, and mineral water); €80 for non-members. €38 for children under 12.

**Public transportation:** Metro lines 2, 3, 4, 6: Rogier

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Friday, November 22 by email to [info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Thanksgiving" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Friday, November 22. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

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# Final Friday Cocktails

Friday, November 29  
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



**Le Méridien Brussels**  
**Carrefour de l'Europe 3**  
**1000 Brussels**

The [American Club of Brussels](#) is happy to welcome our friends from:  
[Brussels British Network](#)  
[The Canadian Club of Belgium](#)  
[InterNations - American Network](#)  
[The Irish Club of Belgium](#)

And anyone else that would like to join us...

Cash bar open to all. No reservation is required

## The American Club of Brussels Wants You

Would you like to have fun, make new contacts and help the Club? Then become a "Meet and Greet" host at our monthly Final Friday Cocktails.

No experience necessary. Your job definition is to greet attendees and ensure that people feel welcome and meet other people.

Your Club runs on volunteer power, so please volunteer for this essential task. Contact Brian Dunhill at [bdunhill@gmail.com](mailto:bdunhill@gmail.com) for further information.



## A Guided Visit to the Rogier van der Weyden Exhibition



Join us on Sunday, December 1st for a guided visit of the fabulous exhibit, The Heritage of Rogier van der Weyden: Painting in Brussels 1450-1520.

The exhibition at the Royal Museum for Fine Arts is devoted to painting in Brussels in the period between the death of Rogier van der Weyden (1464) and the activity of Bernard van Orley (1515-1541).

At that moment, Brussels was a thriving town, the Coudenberg Palace being the favorite residence of the dukes of Burgundy. It was surrounded by the palaces of courtiers and noble families like the Nassaus or the Ravensteins. They were all important patrons of the arts.

Building on the results of recent research and existing studies, the exhibition presents an overall picture of painting in Brussels in the late 15th and first years of the 16th centuries, tackling the subject from various viewpoints: historical, iconographic, stylistic, technical, economic and in terms of work organization and exact copying.

Please note that this visit is limited to 15 people

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Sunday, December 1, 2013

**Time:** 4:00 p.m.

**Place:** Royal Museum of Fine Arts, Place Royale 3, 1000 Brussels (Gresham entrance)

**Price:** €25 for members, €35 for non-members.

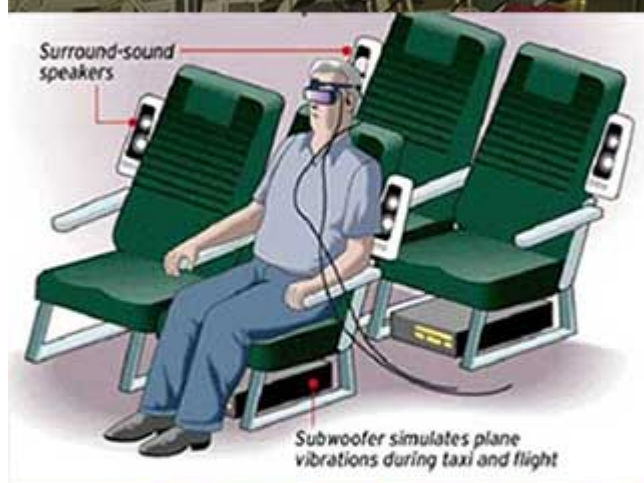
**Public Transportation:** Metro: Gare Centrale/Centraal Station or Parc/Park; buses 27, 38 and 71: Royale; Trams: 92 or 94: Royale

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, November 27 by email to [info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "van der Weyden" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, November 27. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

# Introducing – Virtual Reality Medical Institute (VRMI)



*We are pleased to introduce to you this month the ninth corporate member to be profiled in News & Events. Dr. Wiederhold often attends ACB events and would be pleased to chat with you about this exciting new technology.*



Virtual Reality Medical Institute (VRMI) is a Belgian corporation located on the Université Catholique de Louvain's Woluwe Saint Lambert campus. Chosen as one of the first occupants of the Brussels Life Science Incubator (BLSI) for advanced technology and healthcare start-ups, VRMI was also one of the Belgian SME's who participated in the June 2013 Belgian Economic Mission to California, led by Prince Philippe, now King Philippe, of Belgium.



In 2013 VRMI established a private behavioral healthcare clinic in Brussels to serve the needs of the expat community. Specializing in stress management, treatment of psychophysiological disorders (headache, pain), phobias, panic, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), the clinic uses virtual reality (VR) and three-dimensional computer simulations in combination with physiological monitoring and feedback. President Brenda Wiederhold received her doctorate in Psychology in California, is licensed in both Belgium and California, and holds international certifications in biofeedback and neurofeedback.

Using a Combined Communications Platform of an annual international conference, specialized workshops, clinician training courses, a peer-reviewed scientific journal, a quarterly magazine, and a website information portal, VRMI is also active in informing and educating the general public, policymakers, funding agents, industry and academia. Having been involved in R&D projects in Europe, Asia, and the U.S. for the past 25 years, the principals of VRMI are now actively involved in bringing over 30 developed products and protocols to market. VRMI is currently seeking a distribution channel partner, angel investment, or venture capital to help realize this goal.

VRMI has established affiliates in both China and the U.S. and envisages the goals of the EU in developing the healthcare of the future. VRMI has expertise in simulation technologies in three main areas: 1) treating patients with stress, anxiety, trauma, and chronic pain; 2) training for military medical and civilian first responder populations, and 3) enhancing medical educational programs. Working closely with the Belgian Erasmus Program, VRMI also serves as a mentor to Young Entrepreneurs.

For more information please contact:  
Professor Dr. Brenda K Wiederhold, Ph.D., MBA, BCB, BCN  
President  
**Virtual Reality Medical Institute**  
**30 Clos Chapelle aux Champs, 6th Floor**  
**1200 Woluwe Saint Lambert**  
Tel. +32 2 880 6226  
<http://www.vrphobia.eu>  
<http://www.youtube.com/VirtualMedical>  
<http://twitter.com/VirtualBrenda>

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## Community News

### Brussels American Community Chorus

The Brussels American Community Chorus welcomes singers from any country, both adults and students 12 years and older. No experience or audition is needed. Beginning on October 7, we meet every Monday (7:30-9:00 p.m.) in Kraainem. The music includes holiday songs in many styles.

Contact: [lamdm@attglobal.net](mailto:lamdm@attglobal.net).

## Seminar on Retirement



### November 27, 7 p.m. onwards in the company of BRUSSELS RETIRED EXPATS

Written by a group of American and British expats who took the decision to stay on in Belgium when they retired, the book *Retiring in Belgium* is the result of the research they did together when coming to that decision.

The book is a useful tool to help people think about retirement in a constructive way. It is not a definitive guide, but does give clear direction on where to look for help and what questions to ask. The book will be available for purchase at the event and all proceeds go to charity: the Community Help Service and the British Charitable Fund.

Le Méridien, Carrefour de l'Europe 3, 1000 Brussels  
Free admittance but please confirm your attendance: [Cafe.Litteraire@lemeridien.com](mailto:Cafe.Litteraire@lemeridien.com)



### The American Club of Brussels c/o Renaissance

Brussels Hotel  
Rue du Parnasse 19  
B-1050 Brussels  
Tel: 02/219.58.08

[info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)  
[www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org)

**The American Club of Brussels** is one of the oldest American clubs in Europe, founded in 1921 to foster Belgian-American relations. Although our members comprise more than 20 other nationalities from all walks of life, the ACB retains its American flavor. Some of us are long-time residents in Belgium. Many of us are newcomers. We all enjoy ourselves and the club's wide variety of social and cultural activities.

The ACB is a great way to expand your circle of friends and to discover more of the delights of Belgium. Try us.

