



The American Club of Brussels

News & Events

An International Club with an American Heart

December 2013

- "Nuts!" Night
 - Dates to Remember
 - Final Friday November
 - Visit to Belfius Art Gallery
 - Dine-Out at L'Huître
 - Past Events
 - Community News:
 - "America" Concert by the Brussels Philharmonic Orchestra
-

"Nuts!" Night

December 16, 2013

On December 16, 1944, the Battle of the Bulge began on the Western Front of World War II, and lasted until January 25, 1945, inflicting heavy casualties. During the Siege of Bastogne, despite overwhelming odds, U.S. Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe responded to a request to surrender the town with the one word answer, "Nuts!" This marked the turning point of the Battle of the Bulge for the American troops and on December 30, 1944, General McAuliffe was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by General Patton for his actions at Bastogne.



Almost seventy years later, the American Club of Brussels invites you to "Nuts!" Night to remember the courage and indomitable spirit of those who sacrificed so much during the Battle of the Bulge. The event features a commemoration ceremony honoring all those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice in order to lay the groundwork for the peace, freedom and friendship we now enjoy.

In the spirit of reconciliation and friendship, the ceremony will include U.S. Ambassador to Belgium Denise Bauer and representation from all those affected by the Battle of the Bulge – friends, allies and former foes who now all stand united as we build on the lessons of the past and address the challenges of the future together.

Event Details:

Date: Monday, December 16, 2013.

Time: Registration and drinks at 7 p.m. Ceremony begins at 7:45 pm, followed by dinner. Cash bar available after dinner.

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

Dress: Black tie or dress uniform

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

Sign up: Reservations should be made by Friday, December 13 by email to info@americanclubbrussels.org, online at 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 Friday, December 13. Cancellations after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Hotel Reservations: For attendees who wish to stay the night in Brussels, the Renaissance Hotel is offering a special room rate of €127 that includes breakfast. Please register directly with the hotel by December 9, 2013.

Dates to Remember

- November 29: Final Friday Cocktails
 - Attention! Canceled: Rogier van der Weyden exhibition (December 1), closed early by the museum
 - December 16: "Nuts!" Night
 - January 3: First Friday (Ring in 2014 with other ACB members!)
 - January 18: Belfius Art Gallery Visit
 - January 21: Dine-Out at L'Huitrière
 - February 2: Super Bowl
 - February 14: Chocolate Workshop
-

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:
[Australia Society Belgium](#)
[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 for further information.

Visit to Belfius Art Gallery

Join us on Saturday, January 18, 2014 and take the elevator up to a bank vault full of art (*Brisure*, Belfius).

It feels weird, all those security people. Even in the elevator: escorting you up and down again. As if you're allowed to visit the vault. And maybe it is, in these times of crisis. Anyway, the Belgian bank Belfius (formerly Dexia) has been collecting Belgian art since 1960 and its collection comprises more than 4,500 works. It is considered to be one of the largest private collections in Belgium. Due to the economic crisis, Belfius stopped buying art in 2008, but like other banks (ING, Cera) these days, it is trying to make its art collection more visible and accessible. Hence: *Brisure* (website: [Dutch/French](#)), which you can visit every third Saturday of the month (*till March 16, 2013*). Curator Stef Van Bellingen has come up with a nice way to get around the problem that Belfius has stopped buying art: he has asked 22 'young' Belgian artists to link one of their works to a work of art in the Belfius collection. The exhibition space might feel a bit strange, but *Brisure* does offer a nice overview of contemporary Belgian art, with works by Wim Delvoye, Jan Vercruyssen, Rinus Van de Velde, Nadia Naveau and Berlinda De Bruyckere. You'll be able to see some other works of the collection too (Luc Tuymans) before being escorted down again.

The permanent collection includes works from many Belgian artists of the 19th and 20th centuries (James Ensor, Rik Wouters, René Magritte, Paul Delvaux...) and contemporary art (Luc Tuymans, Wim Delvoye, Berlinda De Bruyckere, Hans Op de Beeck...).



The temporary exhibit, Masters of Expressionism, will allow you to discover expressionism through the works of some of the best Belgian artists. The first half of the 20th century saw the birth of painting where the canvas became much more than a simple reflection of reality. Constant Permeke, Frits Van den Berghe, Gust De Smet, Jean Brusselmans, Edgard Tytgat, and Auguste Mambour.

Our guide will be Mrs. Lieve Dejonghe, who has so beautifully shown us the Watteau exhibit and the Hôtel Solvay. The guided tour will last approximately 1½ hours.

Please note that this visit is limited to 15 people.

Event Details:**Date:** Saturday, January 18, 2014**Time:** 2:15 p.m.**Place:** Belfius Bank, Bd. Pacheco 44, 1000 Brussels**Price:** €10 for members, €20 for non-members.**Public Transportation:** Metro: Gare Centrale/Centraal Station or Botanique/Kruidtuin; buses 29, 38, 65, 66 and 71: Gare Centrale/Centraal Station; trams 92 and 94 (Botanique or Gare Centrale).**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, January 15 by email

(info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at 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 "Belfius" in the communications section of the virement. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, January 15. Participants cancelling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Dine-Out at L'Huîtrière

January 21, 2014



Dine-out hosts Inez Schreiden and Cobb Rogers propose to start the New Year off in style by returning to the site of one of our most popular dine-outs of recent years, the fabulous L'Huîtrière in the heart of Place Ste. Catherine.

Whether you're a veteran of ACB dine-outs or a newcomer (and we'd especially like to see those who are experiencing a dine-out for the first time), join us for an evening of delightful cuisine and great company in one of Brussels' most famous fish restaurants.

We propose a three-course menu with a variety of choices for the very attractive price of €30 per person for ACB members (with supplements possible, as detailed below).

MENU

Soupe de Poissons & sa rouille, croutons

[fish soup]

or

6 Huîtres creuses de Zélande

[oysters]

(+€3 supplement)

* * *

½ Homard à la crème de chicons

[lobster]

(+€3 supplement)

or

Pavé de bœuf, sauce poivre crème

[beef]

or

Cabillaud, beurre blanc ciboulette

[cod]

* * *

Mousse au chocolat belge

[chocolate mousse]

or

Dame Blanche

[ice cream]

This is a members-preference dine-out, meaning that ACB members and their guests have first priority. Until January 7, we will only register members and will place non-members on a waiting list.

Event Details:

Place: L'Huîtrière, Quai Aux Briques 20, 1000 Brussels

Date and Time: 21 January 2014, 7:30 p.m.

Price: €30 to €36 for ACB members (depending on selection of supplementary dishes), €35 to €41 for non-members. As always, beverages are at the individual discretion of the diner.

Registration: No later than 17 January with payment to hold your place and with completed selection of all menu options (remember to adjust your payment if you choose either or both of the supplementary selections of oysters and lobster). You may register by e-mail to info@americanclubbrussels.org, online at 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 "January Dine-Out" in the communications section of the virement. Cancellations are possible until noon on Friday, January 17. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

If you are late or cannot come at the last minute, please call Cobb Rogers at 0478/719.788 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Past Events - This Is What You Missed!

October 28 - Pioneers' Dinner



October 30 - Halloween Party (with AmCham Belgium)



Community News

"America" Concert by the Brussels Philharmonic Orchestra



With its "**America**" concert the **Brussels Philharmonic Orchestra** will introduce you to the world of two Broadway composers: Gershwin, with original works from his classic repertoire and Bernstein, fantastic musical Jack of all trades.

Program:

Porgy and Bess Suite, George Gershwin

Rhapsody in blue for piano and orchestra, George Gershwin

Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story*, Leonard Bernstein

An American in Paris, George Gershwin

Soloist: Boyan VODENITCHAROV – piano (Prize winner at the 1983 Reine Elisabeth Competition)

Internationally renowned soloist, equally acclaimed in Europe, USA, Canada and Japan. Piano tutor at the Brussels Koninklijk Conservatorium.

Conductor: David NAVARRO TURRES. Awarded Master in Conducting by the Brussels Conservatoire Royal and Master in Clarinet and Chamber Music at the Chile Conservatorio Nacional.

The **BRUSSELS PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**, founded in 2002, reputed and hosted by various public and private authorities, provides a permanent workshop for young musicians to develop their artistic skills and perfect their integration within the symphonic orchestra. They are accompanied by experienced musicians.

Event Details:

Date: December 20, 2013

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Place: Conservatoire Royal de Belgique, Rue de la Régence 30, 1000 Brussels

Price: €19; -18/+65: €15

Reservations: <http://www.ticketnet.be/fr/manifestation/idmanif/9707/>; tel. 070/66.06.01 (€0.30/min.)



**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
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.

