



The American Club of Brussels
News & Events
An International Club with an American Heart

January 2015

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A Unique Visit to Maasmechelen Village



Are you a shopaholic? Looking for outstanding items at advantageous prices? If so, then do join us on Saturday, January 10, for a very special event at Maasmechelen Village.

Discerning shoppers have discovered that this is the place to find leading designer labels at exceptional prices. Maasmechelen Village is home to more than 100 luxurious boutiques offering leading local and international brands at reduced prices all year round. Shopping is a real pleasure here thanks to the spacious 21st-century village-style setting that lends itself to a relaxed and stress-free atmosphere.

Maasmechelen Village is one of the ACB's most recent corporate members and is offering an outstanding event for our members. Chauffeured transportation to and from Maasmechelen Village will be provided. Upon arrival, we will be met by a hostess who will accompany us to a private VIP lounge, where welcome drinks, champagne and lunch will be waiting for us.

We will receive a short explanation about the January sales and a Boutique Directory. After a day of shopping, the chauffeur will drive us back to Brussels at 5:30 p.m.

Please note that this visit is limited to 30 people and is a Members Priority Event.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, January 10, 2015

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Renaissance Brussels Hotel, rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels

Price: free for members. €10 for non-members.

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

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Friday, January 2, online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (0476/996.870). Non-members will be accepted after December 15 on a "space available" basis. Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Maasmechelen" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Friday, January 2. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Dates to Remember

- January 10 – Trip to Maasmechelen
- January 17 – Visit to Belfius Art Gallery
- January 14 – Book Club
- January 22 – Dine Out
- January 30 – Final Friday
- February 1 – Super Bowl

2015 Individual Membership Dues

A gentle reminder that annual dues for 2015 for individual members are due in January. All individual members have recently received an invoice and we hope that you will pay your dues promptly.

Visit to Belfius Art Gallery



Join us on Saturday, January 17, 2015 and take the elevator up to a bank vault full of art. It may feel weird, all those security people in the elevator: escorting you up and down again. However, 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.

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, Berlinde De Bruyckere, Hans Op de Beek...).

The temporary exhibit, *Les Fiancés*, brings together works from the Belfius collection and from the S.M.A.K. in Gent. The creations of four Belgian artists are on show: Leo Copers (Gent, 1947), Thierry De Cordier (Audenaarde, 1954), Jan Van Imschoot (Gent, 1963), and Jan Vercruyse (Ostend, 1948). The exhibition puts the emphasis on the artists and not just on art in and of itself. The works of these four artists, well represented in the Belfius collection as well as in the collections of the S.M.A.K., reveal the leading role these four artists played in the second half of the 20th century.

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

Please note that this visit is limited to 20 people.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, January 17, 2015

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/Kruidtuin).

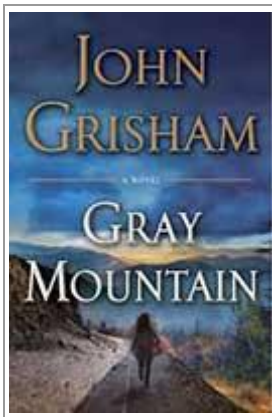
Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, January 14 by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (0476/996.870). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Belfius" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, January 14. Participants cancelling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

The Canadian Club of Belgium &
The American Club of Brussels
welcome you to our **Reading Group**
on the second Wednesday of the month
from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
(CCB and ACB members only)

We are asking you to present us a book of your choice (American or Canadian authors preferred) that you have read and that you have really enjoyed. This gives all members who are passionate about reading a chance to read and discuss different genres of literature.

If you have not read the book, if do not have a book you wish to present, but you are able to come just at the last minute, please join us anyway.

January 14 – presented by Geneviève Bergiers



Gray Mountain
by John Grisham

When Lehman Brothers collapsed, Samantha Kofer lost her job, her security, her future. She is now an unpaid intern in a legal aid clinic deep in small-town Appalachia. This is coal country. Meth country. The law is different here. And standing up for the truth means putting your life on the line.

The reading group will be hosted at Cook & Book, Place du Temps Libre 1 (Woluwe Shopping Center), 1200 Woluwe-St-Lambert. WiFi free of charge!
Contact: Geneviève Bergiers, tel. 02/660.57.65, genevieve@chiropractorbergiers.be

February 11 – your suggestions for a book still possible

More info about the Clubs:

- The Canadian Club of Belgium
www.ccbcanada.be
- The American Club of Brussels
www.americanclubbrussels.org

Final Friday Cocktails

Friday, January 30

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



**Renaissance Brussels Hotel
(ground floor near the bar)
Rue du Parnasse 19
1050 Brussels (Ixelles)
(walking distance from Place du Luxembourg)**

Extend the glow of holiday cheer and sharing with friends. Come to the American Club's January Final Friday on January 30. Ring in 2015 a second time with fellow club members and guests from other organizations: [ACAB](#) (American Clubs and Associations in Belgium). And anyone else that would like to join us...

Cash bar open to all.

Newcomers to Belgium and prospective ACB members are especially welcome.

No reservation is required. Bring a guest or two.

Super Bowl XLIX Tailgate, Viewing and All Around Party



Super Bowl Sunday, one of the quintessential non-holiday feasts, is something to be experienced with friends! Join the American Club of Brussels as we enjoy the Game, Commercials, Half Time show, Food or any other reason that you watch this game.

7:00-9:00 p.m.	Tailgating games, food (if we can get a permit to bbq out on the street), pre-game on TV
9:00 p.m.	Video of past commercial favorites
10:00 p.m.	Football simulation game on wii or x-box
11:00 p.m.	Introduction of Brussels Tigers (our local American football team)
12:00 a.m.	Last chance for boxes
Rest of night	Coverage of the game

Event Details:

Date: Sunday, February 1, 2015

Time: 7 p.m. until the game is over...

Place: The Big Game, Rue Henri Maus 5, 1000 Brussels

Price: €10 for ACB members, Brussels Tigers and DAB members; €15 for non-members

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Friday, January 30, online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (0476/996.870). Payment to ACB at BE55427919588144 (BIC/SWIFT: KREDBEBB) will confirm your reservation. Be sure to mention "Superbowl" in the communications section of the *virement*. Note that cancellations are possible until noon on Friday, January 30. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Corporate Profile: Maasmechelen Village



We are pleased to introduce to you this month the newest corporate member of the American Club, Maasmechelen Village, who has very generously offered a trip to their premises on January 10. Please see lead article of this newsletter.

MAASMECHELEN  VILLAGE
CHIC OUTLET SHOPPING®

At the crossroads of Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands, Maasmechelen Village is home to more than 100 boutiques, offering leading local and international brands at reduced prices, all year round.

Along the open-air, pedestrianised boulevard, brands like Links of London, Guess, Façonnable, Sarah Pacini, Escada, Lacoste, Karen Millen, Ted Baker, UGG® Australia and Swarovski are selling their collections with savings of 30% to 60% on the recommended retail price.

Until 31 January 2015, there are super chic reductions of up to 50% off the outlet price in the boutiques.

Shopping is a real pleasure here, thanks to the spacious twenty-first-century village-style setting that lends itself to a relaxed and stress-free atmosphere. After all that shopping, you might choose to relax and dine in one of the restaurants and cafés located in the Village. With regional and international dishes on the menu, you'll be spoilt for choice. Enjoy the champagne and wine bar or a wide variety of organic tea and coffee at the Winter Terrace until February 3.

With glorious countryside, picturesque villages, historic cities and fine gastronomic heritage nearby, make your visit to Maasmechelen Village part of a longer stay in the region.

Maasmechelen Village is only a one hour drive from Brussels and offers more than 1,600 free parking spaces. Not in the mood to drive your car? Step on board the Shopping Express®, the shuttle service running daily from the center of Brussels to Maasmechelen Village. In January 2015, your trip with the Shopping Express® will be free of charge. To guarantee your seat, book online at Maasmechelenvillage.com/shoppingexpress. Sit back, relax and enjoy the journey.

Maasmechelen Village is open seven days a week

Monday to Friday: 10.00–18.00

Saturday and Sunday: 10.00–19.00

January 3 and 4: open from 9.00 to 20.00 – January 10 and 11: open from 9.00 to 19.00

For more information, visit MaasmechelenVillage.com.

This is What You Missed!

November 16 – Tree Planting



Corporate Member Serendip Spa would like to thank ACB members and friends for joining them on their annual Tree Planting event. Organised by Melissa Rancourt, one of our newest ACB Board Members, this year's event brought the total up to over 9,000 trees planted in the Sonian Forest.

During this year's event, more than 80 adults and children (plus a few enthusiastic tree-planting dogs) came together with the help of sponsors Greenlight, Yo e An, UBI and ACB to have an incredible day in the forest. Together, we managed to plant 1,200 trees in less than 2 hours.

November 27 – Thanksgiving Dinner



Community News

Brussels Jazz Festival



© JP Dodel Photography

Cécile McLorin Salvant will be featured at the Brussels Jazz Festival on January 19 at Place Flagey, Studio 4, at 8:15 p.m.

What Cécile McLorin Salvant loves most is to unearth obscure jazz and blues in order to breathe new life into them on stage. The theatrics of her performance and the range of her vocal register make her a singer and actress of high repute. Her latest album, *Woman Child*, was nominated for a Grammy in 2014.

Barn Dance

FRIENDS
BARN DANCE
INTERNATIONAL
AWAY THE WINTER BLUES!
SATURDAY
31ST JANUARY 2015
at
DE KAM
Cultural Centre
Beekstraat 172
1970 Wezembeek

All welcome from 7.30 pm onwards

LIVE MUSIC WITH CALLER

Tickets 20€ incl. Food
Reservations advised
All profits to Charity

Music by:
The Ticker Fixers

Tel: Jenny 02/653 65 90 (after 5.00 pm)
Email: christine.royce@telenet.be

The American Club of Brussels is supported by:



The American Club of Brussels

c/o Renaissance Brussels Hotel
 Rue du Parnasse 19
 B-1050 Brussels
 Tel. 0476/996.870

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 twenty 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.

