



## The American Club of Brussels

# News & Events

An International Club with an American Heart

### June 2015

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- Joint ACB/AmCham Ambassador's Dinner
- A Guided Visit to the Autrique House
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### Ommegang Dinner



Once again, the ACB offers members and guests a unique opportunity to view the **Ommegang procession on the Grand'Place** while dining in one of the most elegant restaurants in Brussels.

La Maison du Cygne is housed in a former 17th century guild house that overlooks the **Grand'Place**. **From the balcony and windows of a large private dining room**, we will have an unparalleled view of the Ommegang as the pageant unfolds on one of the most beautiful squares in the world.

## Menu "Made in Belgium"

### **Panko de Gambas au Curry Rouge et Avocat**

Breaded Large Prawns with Red Curry and Avocado

### **Cabillaud sur Peau, Viennoise de Morilles, Blettes, Cacahuètes et Blanche de Bruxelles**

Cod, Viennese style Morels, Peanuts and Belgian Beer

### **Poire Williams Confite et Gaufre de Bruxelles, Glace aux Noix de Pécan**

Conserve of Williams Pear and Brussels Waffle, Pecan Nuts Ice Cream

### **Moka et Mignardises**

Coffee and Biscuits

### **Vin blanc: Mathys Sauvignon (1 bouteille pour 2 personnes)**

White wine: Mathys Sauvignon  
(1 bottle for 2 persons)

The Ommegang takes place on Tuesday, June 30. Ommegang (literally "walk-around") is a faithful recreation of a splendid pageant that was first performed in 1549 for Emperor Charles V, his son Philip II, and the knights of the Order of the Golden Fleece.

Staged at night on the illuminated Grand'Place, the two-hour extravaganza includes flag-throwers, folk dancers, archers, acrobats, jesters, jugglers, fire-eaters, falcon-trainers, folkloric giants, stilt-walkers, and the famous Gilles of Binche. Descendents of the nobility of the time play the roles and wear the coats of arms and sumptuous costumes of their ancestors.

This is a spectacular affair, and one of the biggest festivals in the country. Our dinner evening at La Maison du Cygne offers, literally and figuratively, a window on this amazing event. Bring your camera.

Please note that this is a **Members Priority** event (ACB, AWCB and Irish Club of Belgium). Non-members may only sign up as of Thursday, June 18.

#### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Tuesday, June 30, 2015

**Time:**

- Open cash bar: 7:00 p.m.

- Dinner: 8:00 p.m.

**Place:** Salon Louis XIV, La Maison du Cygne, Grand'Place (entrance: Rue Charles Buls 2), 1000 Brussels

**Price:** €75 for ACB, AWCB and Irish Club of Belgium members; €85 for non-members

**Dress code:** Coat and tie requested

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Friday, June 26, online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@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 "Ommegang" in the communications section of the *virement*.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Friday, June 26. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

## Dates to Remember

- May 29: Final Friday Cocktails
- May 30-31: Relay for Life
- May 31: Guided walking tour of cartoon murals in downtown Brussels
- June 13: Expat Club excursion to Verdun
- June 19: Members-priority event at the Cercle de Lorraine
- June 20: Guided visit to the Cauchie House in Etterbeek
- June 21: ACB Brunch organized by Bookalokal
- **June 23: Joint ACB/AmCham Ambassador's Dinner**
- June 26: Final Friday Cocktails
- June 27: Guided visit to the Maison Autrique
- June 29: Annual General Meeting
- June 30: Ommegang Dinner at La Maison du Cygne
- July 4: Brussels American Community 4th of July festivities
- September 10: Antwerp Expat Night
- **October 17: "Grease" Night**
- November 26: Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
- January 23, 2016: ACB 95th Anniversary Gala Dinner

### **Notice to All Members of The American Club of Brussels**

All ACB members, in accordance with the Club's Statutes and By-Laws,  
are invited to attend the

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**on Monday, June 29, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**

at the  
**Renaissance Brussels Hotel**  
Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels (Ixelles)

#### **Agenda:**

- Approval of the financial accounts for the fiscal year 2014 and the budget for the fiscal year 2015.
- Voting/confirmation of members of the Executive Committee.
- Voting/confirmation of new Governors:
  - Melissa Rancourt (USA/French)
  - Ashley Burleson (USA)
  - Michael Cazelet (USA)
  - Aurelia Takacs (USA/Belgian)

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- Accepting the resignations of the following Governors:
  - Carolina Anon
  - **Rob O’Riordan**
  - Timothy Speelman
  - Katherine Woodcock
  
- **Voting on amendment to Chapter II “Members, Membership Fees (dues), Exclusion and Resignation”, article 2 § 10 of the By-Laws:**  
~~§ 10. A senior executive of a corporation adhering to the Association as a corporate or patron member may be designated by that corporate or patron member to enjoy the rights and privileges of an active member and further may be invited on an annual basis, to sit on the Advisory Council as described in Chapter III, Article 1. The same privileges would accrue to an individual patron member.~~
  
- **Voting on amendment to Chapter III “Administration and Management; Board of Governors, ~~Advisory Council,~~ Officers, ~~Executive Committee - Representation”, articles 5 and 6 of the By-Laws:~~**

Article 5. The Board of ~~Governors~~ delegates its powers in respect to the daily management of the Association and the execution of its decisions to an Executive Committee consisting of the Officers. ~~Two members of the Executive Committee, one of which must be the President, or the 1st Vice President, or the Treasurer, shall legally represent the Association.~~ The Executive Committee appoints and revokes agents, employees, or workers and fixes their remuneration.

Article 6. The Board of Governors, acting as a board, represents the Association towards any third parties and in justice. Without prejudice to the general power of representation of the Board of Governors as a board, the Association is validly represented in justice and towards third parties, including any public officer:

  - either by any three Governors acting jointly, provided that one of these Governors must always be either the President, the First Vice President or the Treasurer of the Association;
  - either, within the limits of the daily management, by two members of the Executive Committee, provided that one of these members must always be either the President, the First Vice President or the Treasurer of the Association.

They will not be required to provide any evidence of a prior resolution of the Board of Governors.

In addition, special proxy holders, acting within the limits of their mandate, validly represent the Association.

## Final Friday Cocktails

**Friday, May 29  
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)**

The American Club of Brussels is happy to welcome our friends from [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.

## A Guided Visit of the Comic Strip Route in Brussels



Join us on Sunday, May 31, for a unique guided visit to the comic strip murals in the center of Brussels. We will explore the city and its famous comic strip frescoes. This tour will take you along several walls and statues of our famous comic book heroes such as Tintin, the Smurfs, Lucky Luke, Astérix and Obélix and many others. The project began in 1991 thanks to the initiative of the local authorities in collaboration with the Belgian Comic Strip Museum to acknowledge Brussels as the capital of comic strips.

**We will meet on the Grand' Place at 3 p.m. and the tour will last approximately two hours.**

Please note that this visit is limited to 20 people.

**Event Details:****Date:** Sunday, May 31, 2015**Time:** 3:00 p.m.**Place:** Grand' Place, 1000 Brussels**Price:** €10 for ACB and AWCB members, €15 for non-members.**Public Transportation:** Metro: Gare Centrale/Centraal Station; buses 29, 38, 63, 65, 66 and 71: Gare Centrale/Centraal Station; trams 3, 4: Bourse.**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, May 27, online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@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 "Cartoons" in the communications section of the *virement*.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, May 27. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

## Welcome to Summer at the Cercle de Lorraine



Join us on Friday, June 19, for the American Club's Summer Drink at the Cercle de Lorraine - Brussels' most prestigious business club set in the historical "Hotel de Mérode" on Place Poelaert, opposite the Palais de Justice.

We'll be hosted by the Cercle's president Baudouin Velge and the general manager Olivier Boels. They'll be more than happy to take us around the premises for a private visit.

Cash bar. The Cercle will offer the zakouskis.

This is a **members-priority event**. Non-members may sign up as of Friday, June 12.

**Event Details:****Date:** Friday, June 19, 2015**Time:** 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.**Place:** Cercle de Lorraine, Place Poelaert 6, 1000 Brussels**Price:** Cash bar.**Public Transportation:** Metro: lines 2 & 6: Louise/Louiza; Trams: 92 & 93: Poelaert; trams 94 & 97: Louise/Louiza.**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, June 17, online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)), or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (0476/996.870). Though there is no entrance fee (and therefore no cancellation fee), please notify the club office if you cannot come.

## A Guided Visit to the Cauchie House



Join us on Saturday, June 20, for a guided visit of the Cauchie House in Etterbeek.

The Cauchie House was built in 1905 by Art Nouveau architect, painter and designer Paul Cauchie, in Etterbeek, Brussels, next to the Cinquanteenaire. Its façade is remarkable for its allegorical sgraffiti: a giant advertising billboard for an artist couple.

Cauchie met his future wife at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts. Carolina 'Lina' Voet achieved a very good level in painting, enabling her to teach drawing and painting privately. They married in 1905 and decided to build a house on the 6 meters (20 ft)-wide plot of land Cauchie bought next to the Cinquanteenaire Park. He designed the front of the house with the intention of advertising and selling their work: sgraffiti for him and art teaching for her. As the house was easily seen from the neighboring roads, it drew the attention of passers-by and demonstrated their know-how.

At the very center of the façade, Cauchie drew the words *"Par Nous – Pour Nous."* The house was designed from the very beginning as a joint work intended for private use. Cauchie did the drawings for the house but worked together with his wife to design and decorate their home-workshop. Cauchie and his wife filled the house with their multiple works of art (paintings, wall coverings, furniture...). The Cauchie house is a good example of the application of the principle of "total art" in architecture.

Our guide will once again be the excellent Lieve De Jonghe.

Please note that this visit is limited to 15 people.

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Saturday, June 20, 2015

**Time:** 1:45 p.m.

**Place:** Maison Cauchie, rue des Francs 5, 1040 Etterbeek

**Price:** €15 for members, €20 for non-members

**Public Transportation:** Metro: Merode; buses 22, 27, 61 and 80: Merode; Trams: 81 or 83: Merode

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, June 17, online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@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 **"Cauchie" in the communications section of the virement.**

Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, June 17. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

## American Club Brunch



Bookalokal has arranged a brunch for ACB members for Sunday, June 21, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Join fellow members for a delicious start to your Sunday.

The full menu –which includes 10 starters, a main dish and dessert– can be found on the Bookalokal website, see below. There will be a maximum of 16 guests and the host will be Guiliana in Ixelles. The private address will be given to those who book. The cost is US\$33.

The code for booking is ACB. The link for the details and information is:  
<http://bookalokal.com/meal/55512704d73fdc0e54695a9d>



## Ambassador's Dinner

AmCham Belgium and the American Club of Brussels are pleased to invite you to their prestigious Joint Gala Dinner. We are delighted to have, once again, as our guest of honor, the US Ambassador to Belgium, Denise Campbell Bauer. This is an excellent opportunity to hear Ambassador Campbell Bauer speak on the most relevant topics for the Belgian-American business community. Denise Campbell Bauer has been serving as U.S. Ambassador to Belgium since September 2013. Spouses and partners are welcome to attend.

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Tuesday, June 23

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

**Place:** Steigenberger Grandhotel, avenue Louise 71 Louizalaan, 1050 Brussels

**Dress Code:** Black Tie preferred

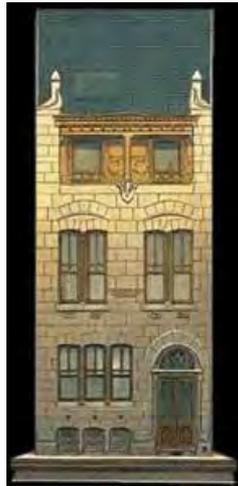
**Price:** €140 for ACB and AmCham members; €280 for non-members

**Sign up:** Reservations must be made by June 16 via the AmCham website:

[www.amcham.be](http://www.amcham.be) using the coupon code **GALA062015ACB**. Please indicate if you require a vegetarian meal.

Cancellations are possible until close of business on Tuesday, June 16. Participants cancelling after this time, as well as no-shows, will be billed the full cost of the event.

## A Guided Visit to the Autrique House



Join us on Saturday, June 27 for a guided visit of the Autrique House in Schaerbeek.

The Maison Autrique was the first town house built by Victor Horta. This dwelling was already innovative for its application of a novel 'Art Nouveau' decorative scheme that didn't include references to other historical styles. However the floor plan and spatial composition of the Maison Autrique remained rather traditional. On the deep and narrow building plot the rooms were organized according to a traditional scheme used in most Belgian town houses at that time. It consisted of a suite of rooms on the left side of the building plot flanked by a rather narrow entrance hall with stairs and a corridor that led to a small garden at the back. From the three room suite only the first and the last had windows so that the middle room (mostly used as a dining room) was rather gloomy.

Built by Horta in 1893 for his friend Eugène Autrique, the Maison Autrique constitutes the missing link between traditional private architecture and the emerging Art Nouveau style. All typical Art Nouveau characteristics are already present in this early work of Horta: fine iron pillars and columns of the façade, sgraffito, stained-glass, mosaics, and the importance of natural light and decorative elements of floral inspiration. These characteristics were to be developed and magnified by Victor Horta and his disciples.

In 2005, the Autrique house received the Medal of Europa Nostra for *"the scrupulous restoration of an early masterpiece of Victor Horta, and for the creation of a scenography which pays tribute to the private architecture of Brussels and opens a door to an imaginary world."*

Our guide will once again be the excellent Lieve De Jonghe.

Please note that this visit is limited to 15 people.

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Saturday, June 27, 2015

**Time:** 10:45 a.m.

**Place:** Maison Autrique, 266 Chaussée de Haecht, 1030 Brussels

**Price:** €15 for members, €20 for non-members

**Public Transportation:** Buses 65 and 66: Robiano; Trams 25, 62 and 92: Robiano

**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, June 24, online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), by email ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@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 "Autrique" in the communications section of the *virement*.

Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, June 24. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

## Brussels American Community Independence Day Celebration



Members of the American Club of Brussels and their family members and friends are invited to attend the Brussels American Community Independence Day Celebration on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to midnight. Admission is free; the only cost is for your food and drink. This fabulous event will be held at the Brussels American School, Kennedylaan 12, 1933 Sterrebeek. It is being organized by the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux with the support of several American clubs and associations in Belgium.

**The day's events begin at 3:00 p.m. with an exhibit of World War II vehicles and classic cars.** There will be lots of family-oriented activities and concession stands for purchase of food and beverages. Musical entertainment for young and old alike will be offered in the evening by the SHAPE band and a DJ. The finale will be a fabulous and dazzling fireworks display at 11:00 p.m. Not to be missed!

If you would like to attend, please provide the Club office with the following information for each person attending:

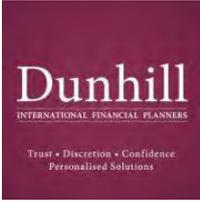
- Last name, first name
- Date of birth (dd-mm-yy)
- Nationality
- U.S. Passport Number or Belgian National ID Number or Passport Number/Country for third country nationals

Please note that **each person** will need to show the same piece of identification in order to obtain access on the day of the event. In addition, you must be registered through the ACB and on our access list in order to be admitted.

Please register with the Club office ([info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)) by noon on Monday, June 22.

Lastly, we will be asking for volunteers (two hours for each volunteer) to work at the bar, so if you are interested in helping out during the day/evening, please let us know and give us your preferred time slot, i.e, 3-5, 5-7, 7-9 or 9-11.

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](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 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.

