



The American Club of Brussels

News & Events

An International Club with an American Heart

December 2012

- Christmas Cocktail Party
 - Final Friday Cocktails
 - Dates to Remember
 - A Night Out at Strofilia
 - *Introducing:* Boston University Brussels
 - *Update:* The Red Star Line Museum
 - Editor's Farewell
 - *Out & About in Belgium with Nancy Kapstein*
-

NEW: Bargain Price for the Christmas Cocktail Party

Event fully booked - waiting list only



Thanks to a generous donation from Gosselin Moving and a windfall from ticket sales at the U.S. Election Night Party, the American Club of Brussels is delighted to announce that the price of admission to the Club's annual Christmas Cocktail Party is now drastically reduced. Plus, you can expect lots more holiday atmosphere at the event, with seasonal decorations, a variety of yummy hot and cold canapés, free-flowing sparkling cava and wine, and background music to get you in the mood for Christmas.

This is one ACB event you don't want to miss. We'll usher in the Christmas season with an elegant cocktail party on Thursday, December 13 in the Salon Louis XIV – a private room at La Maison du Cygne – and one of the best locations in Brussels.

For those of you who don't know the venue, La Maison du Cygne is a former 17th century guild house that overlooks the historic Grand'Place. From our private balcony, we will have a marvelous view of the square with all its festive holiday decorations and this year's highly controversial monumental electronic Christmas tree.

Prepare to be impressed!



Event Details

Date: Thursday, December 13

Time: Cocktails from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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

Price: €10 for ACB members; €20 for non-members

Dress code: Coat and tie requested

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Monday, December 10 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 "Christmas Cocktail" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Monday, December 10.

Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Final Friday Cocktails

Friday, November 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)

Cash bar open to all.
Newcomers to Belgium and prospective ACB members are especially welcome.
No reservation is required. Bring a guest or two.

Dates to Remember

- Friday, November 30: Final Friday Cocktails
- Wednesday, December 5: Chocolate-making workshop at Zaabär Chocolates
- Thursday, December 13: Christmas Cocktail Party
- Friday, January 4: **First** Friday Cocktails
- January: Guided visit to the Hergé Museum in Louvain-la-Neuve
- Wednesday, January 16: Dine-Out at Strofilia
- Friday, January 25: Final Friday Cocktails
- February: Guided visit to the Dossin Barracks Memorial, Museum and Documentation Center on the Holocaust and Human Rights in Mechelen

A Night Out at Strofilia



Here's a great way to start the New Year – an evening of popular hot and cold *mezes* and side dishes shared among friends at one of Brussels' most talked-about authentic Greek restaurants located near Place Ste.-Catherine in the heart of the city.

Mezes (or *mezedakia*) are best known as the tapas of Greece, so come prepared to enjoy your fill of these Mediterranean delicacies.

MENU

An assortment of hot and cold *mezes* to share

Salade "Strofilia" avec épinards frais, scampis, poulpe
Fava (purée de pois cassés jaunes) aux oignons caramélisés, sauce à la menthe
Taramosalata – tarama blanc naturel
Purée d'aubergine aux amandes
Calamars frits
Boulettes de pois chiches à l'origan

An assortment of hot *mezes* to share

Petites brochettes d'agneau, marinées au masticha de Chios
Porc mijoté à l'huile d'olive, purée de céleri rave
Spentzofai (saucisses grillées et poivrons)
Haloumi grillé, tomate grillé et courgettes
Boulettes grillées à la menthe
Pommes de terre au four, citron et thym

Dessert

Ravani (cake à la semoule) et coing confit au yaourt

Event Details

Date: Wednesday, January 16

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Strofilia, Rue du Marché aux Porc 11-13, 1000 Brussels

Price: €35 for ACB and AWCB members; €40 for non-members. Note that drinks are extra

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, January 9 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 "dine-out" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, January 9. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Introducing – Boston University Brussels



In our third profile highlighting the ACB's corporate members, we are pleased to introduce to you Boston University Brussels. BU has been a corporate member for the past 10 years and has been offering postgraduate programs in international relations and business related fields in Brussels for the past 40 years. A truly international program from a prestigious U.S. university.

Boston University: Springboard to Executive Life

The Brussels campus of Boston University (BUB) brings American-style education to the task of grooming young people for the challenges and opportunities of the global business and institutional world. With its focus on confidence, professionalism, and leadership skills, the university provides an education that students can apply directly to the workplace.

Established in 1972, BUB draws on the traditions of its parent institution, Boston University. Since its foundation nearly two centuries ago, the *alma mater* has become an internationally recognized research university with more than 30,000 students participating in undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs.

BUB programs follow the pragmatic, interactive educational style practiced on the parent campus in the United States. Part-time evening programs are designed to harmonize with the working schedules of professionals already in employment.

In addition to its unique Master of Science in Leadership program and its Master of Arts in International Relations, BUB offers graduate programs in International Relations, Finance, Applied Sustainability, Project Management, Human Resources, Marketing, and Management. A team of internationally recognized experts and instructors brings extensive industry experience and global expertise to the classroom. BUB also provides an internship program that allows students to gain first-hand experience of Brussels-based business and institutional life while still studying.

In the words of Frank Billingsley, Director of International Graduate Programs, at the 2012 graduation ceremony: "Forty years ago Boston University started to think globally and established itself as the first U.S. university to offer an American-style degree in Europe. With 32 nationalities seated here today, this year's graduating class clearly demonstrates the international character of Boston University in Brussels today."

Contact Information

Boston University in Brussels
Metropolitan College
Boulevard du Triomphe 174
1160 Brussels

Telephone: +32(2) 640 74 74

Facsimile: +32(2) 640 65 15

Email: brussels@bu.edu

Update

The Red Star Line Museum



The Countdown Begins to September 2013

For millions of Europeans, the journey to a new life in America started in the three red-brick warehouses of the renowned Red Star Line shipping company in Antwerp. This is where the new Red Star Line Museum will open its doors in just 10 months, on September 27, 2013.

Located on the Rijnkaai on het Eilandje (The Islet) in the old Antwerp harbor district, the now-landmarked former maritime warehouses were owned or used by the Red Star Line between 1873 and 1935 in transporting almost three million passengers from all over Europe to the New World.

The oldest part of the complex dates back to 1894, and it was here that strict medical examinations of emigrants traveling in third-class accommodations were carried out before embarkation, while officials scrutinized their documents. A second shed, built just prior to World War I, contained a steam installation for the fumigation of luggage and clothes.

In 1921 and 1922, the Red Star Line built a new two-story wing in a simple Art Deco style for European passengers bound for America. The steam installation now consisted of six high-pressure chambers where passengers' luggage and clothes were disinfected. There were also separate showers for men and women, medical inspection areas, two waiting rooms, and a hairdressing salon. Everyone was deloused with benzene and vinegar.

The newest part of today's museum complex is the recently completed 30-meter-high observation tower which will provide visitors with a 360-degree panoramic open-air view of the city. A true eye-catcher on Antwerp's skyline, the tower refers to the prow and funnel of an ocean steamer. It is located where the original Red Star Line chimney stood, the last landmark for many migrants as they embarked on their voyage across the Atlantic to pursue their American dream.

According to the New York-based firm of Beyer-Blinder-Belle Architects & Planners, their commission was to "authentically convey the emigrant experience through the design of a unique piece of memory by restoring, interpreting, and reconfiguring the buildings to retain their original rawness, creating an evocative visitor experience.

“While maintaining their historic character and feel, the buildings will be fully restored to house interpretative exhibits, areas for quiet contemplation, and a resource center, as well as support functions such as ticketing, a gift shop, reception, and a café.”

Red Star Line Museum
Montevideostraat 3
2000 Antwerpen
www.redstarline.org

The American Club of Brussels together with member-clubs from the American Clubs and Associations in Belgium (ACAB) look forward to attending a special event for Americans hosted by the Red Star Line Museum when it opens next September. Look for more information in future ACB newsletters.

Editor's Farewell

Dear Readers:

This is the last News & Events I will edit for the American Club of Brussels. I have enjoyed bringing you the latest information on the activities of the ACB, but my term of three years now has come to an end. I wish the best of luck to whoever succeeds me as editor. It's a great job working with terrific people.

***Best regards,
Nancy Kapstein***

Out & About in Belgium with Nancy Kapstein

A link to the December issue will be sent to you soon.

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