



The American Club of Brussels

News & Events

An International Club with an American Heart

June 2012

- Dine-Out at Bla Bla & Gallery
 - Final Friday Cocktails
 - Dates to Remember
 - ACB Annual General Meeting
 - Independence Day Picnic
 - Ommegang Dinner
 - Community News
 - Canadian Pub Night
 - The Brussels American Community Chorus
 - Relay for Life
 - *Up, up and away!*
 - *Out & About in Belgium with Nancy Kapstein*
-

Dine-Out at Bla Bla & Gallery



Tucked away on a side street near the Grand Sablon and the Marolles flea market, this restaurant-cum-art gallery shows Brussels at her best. Located in a mercantile building from the 18th century, the eatery – with its whitewashed brick walls and beamed ceilings – forms the backdrop for bimonthly art events, live dinnertime jazz (or Cuban) on weekends, and just plain dinner. The food is Med-French, inventive and refined; the service is attentive; the ambiance agreeable; and the prices reasonable. Who can ask for more?

Join the American Club of Brussels on Wednesday, June 20 at 7:00 p.m. for the last ACB Dine-Out before the summer holidays. As usual, you can expect a warm welcome, good cheer, friendly conversation, and a fine meal.

MENU

Apéritif offered by the restaurant

* * *

Starters

Carpaccio de boeuf basilic et copeaux de parmesan

or

Cassolettes de scampi à la feta avec sauce Bla Bla

* * *

Main dishes

Escalopines de poulet, courgettes grillées et feta crémeuse

or

Filet de saumon de Norvège grillé sur peau

Salade d'aubergine fondante et purée de pommes de terre

* * *

Dessert

Crème Brûlée

Bla Bla & Gallery
Rue des Capucins 55
1000 Brussels
02/503.59.18

Event Details

Date: Wednesday, June 20

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Bla Bla & Gallery, Rue des Capucins 55, 1000 Brussels

Price: €30 for ACB and AWCB members, and €40 for non-members, not including beverages.

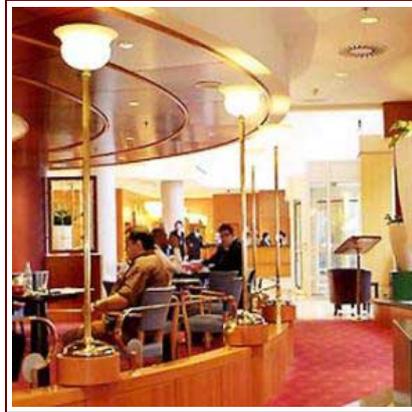
You may choose your dishes at the restaurant.

Sign up: Reservations are due by noon on Monday, June 18 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 Monday, June 18. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Final Friday Cocktails

Friday, June 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)

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

- Monday, June 4: Annual General Meeting
- Wednesday, June 20: Dine-Out at Bla Bla & Gallery
- Friday, June 29: Final Friday Cocktails
- Sunday, July 1: American Independence Day celebrations with the American Women's Club of Brussels at their clubhouse in Rhode St.-Genèse
- Thursday, July 5: Ommegang pageant and dinner at La Maison du Cygne, Brussels
- Friday, July 27: Final Friday Cocktails
- Friday, August 31: Final Friday Cocktails
- Thursday, September 13: Joint Gala Dinner with AmCham Belgium with U.S. Ambassador Howard W. Gutman
- Friday, September 28: Final Friday Cocktails
- Friday, October 26: Final Friday Cocktails
- Tuesday, November 6: U. S. Election Night party

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 4, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

at the

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

The purpose of the AGM is the approval of the financial accounts for the fiscal year 2011 and the budget for the fiscal year 2012.

Independence Day Picnic



This year's Independence Day celebration takes place on Sunday, July 1 at the American Women's Club of Brussels' clubhouse at Avenue des Erables 1, 1640 Rhode St.-Genèse. Jointly sponsored by the ACB and the AWCB, the event includes a co-ed softball tournament (10 a.m. at St.-John's International School in Waterloo), a patriotic ceremony, live entertainment, games for kids, a family-style picnic with hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks for purchase, potluck salads, assorted side dishes, and desserts. All proceeds will be donated to the American Overseas Memorial Day Association (www.aomda.org).

Volunteers are needed to help organize games and sporting events, so please let ACB President Maggie Nicholson know if you can lend a hand. Volunteers are also needed to help with the barbecue.

Reserve by email (info@americanclubbrussels.org), online at www.americanclubbrussels.org, or by telephone to the ACB Office Manager (02/219.58.08), and also to volunteer to bring a side dish or a salad and/or to help out at the softball game or picnic. There is no entry fee, but please reserve with the ACB by noon on Wednesday, June 27.

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

(includes wine and water)

Terrine de Foie Gras de Canard et Filet d'Anvers
(Tureen of Duck Liver and Smoked Ham)

* * *

***Dos de Cabillaud de la Mer du Nord
sur Tombée de Witloofs et Beurre Blanc***
(North Sea Codfish
with Belgian Endives and a White Butter Sauce)

* * *

Gaufre de Bruxelles et Crème au Speculoos
(Brussels Waffle with *Speculoos*-flavored Cream)

* * *

Le Moka et ses Mignardises
(coffee and sweets)

The Ommegang takes place each year on the first Thursday in July and the preceding Tuesday (this year, Tuesday, July 3 and Thursday, July 5). 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.

Event Details

Date: Thursday, July 5

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 Monday, July 2 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 “ommegang” in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on Monday, July 2. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

Community News

Canadian Pub Night / Soirée au Pub



Join members of the Canadian Club of Belgium on Friday, June 1, from 7:00 p.m. at Moeder Lambic, Place Fontainas 8, 1000 Brussels for friendly conversation and a few beers. No reservation is required. This is an open event and everyone is welcome.

The Brussels American Community Chorus

The Brussels American Community Chorus invites adults and children over 12 to sing. All nationalities are welcome. Men are especially needed. There is no audition, and no experience is required. Rehearsals are every Monday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Kraainem. The chorus sings to enjoy music and to support the community. It performs several times a year at American and Belgian events. For details, contact Lamd@attglobal.net.

Relay for Life



The international community of Brussels, with the support of the Belgian Foundation against Cancer and in partnership with St.-John's International School, will host its second annual Relay for Life on Saturday and Sunday, June 2-3, on the St.-John's campus in Waterloo.

Relay for Life is a unique overnight event that celebrates the lives of cancer survivors, remembers loved ones lost, and unites the community in the fight against cancer by raising awareness and funds. Relay for Life takes place in over 20 countries and is entirely organized by volunteers. In Belgium, 97 percent of funds raised go directly to cancer research and to support local cancer patients and their families.

At Relay, teams of all ages take turns walking or running around a track for 24 hours; the 24 hours are symbolic of the constant battle patients and their families endure in their fight with the disease. Ceremonies, side activities, entertainment, and refreshments make this an inspiring and festive event. Last year's Relay for Life in Belgium raised more than €40,000. For more information and to register a team, to volunteer, or to sponsor, visit www.relayforlife.be or contact relayforlifebrussels@j2intl.com.

Up, up and away!

Marlis and Hot Air – two of Brussels' top vocal harmony groups – are proud to present their new show, *Up, up and away!* Marlis (all female) and Hot Air (mixed) specialize in classic jazz and rock songs, rousing gospel numbers, and smash Broadway hits – all delivered with brio, pizzazz, and wit. As usual, the singers are backed by the Marlis Band with Elizabeth Flynn on piano.

Up, up and away! features some of Marlis' and Hot Air's greatest hits plus a whole string of songs they have never performed before. Whether you are a fan of George Gershwin or Glenn Miller, the Eagles or Queen, there will be something special for you at De Bosuil on June 16.

Seating is café-theater style. Get your drinks and snacks from the bar and enjoy them during the show. Space is limited, so book early.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, June 16

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Place: De Bosuil Cultural Center, Witherendreef 1, 3090 Overijse (Jezus-Eik)

Price: €10

Sign up: www.hotair.be

Out & About in Belgium with Nancy Kapstein

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

<p>The American Club of Brussels</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>
---	---

c/o Renaissance Brussels Hotel
Rue du Parnasse 19
B-1050 Brussels
Tel: 02/219.58.08
info@americanclubbrussels.org
www.americanclubbrussels.org