



# News & Events

## January 2018

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The American Club of Brussels is a social organization that will seek to represent the American spirit and culture, foster mutual understanding, respect and friendship between Belgium and the United States.

[www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org) – [info@americanclubbrussels.org](mailto:info@americanclubbrussels.org)



[Photo Gallery](#)

## Editorial



Peter Forrest

### Peter Forrest is the new ACB President

Peter Forrest was elected president of the American Club of Brussels (ACB) for the year 2018 at the Board's annual election on December 12. Peter has been an ACB member since 2007 and active on the Board since 2015. Recently retired from GE Capital, Peter brings to the Club a 30+ year experience in multinational management. His first decision is to hold a facilitated Board strategy session in January 2018 to define how ACB can best serve you, our members and friends, in the years ahead.

Peter was born in Scotland but lived most of his life in the US where he studied, then worked, mostly at GE Capital. During his career, he held various leadership positions in the US, France, UK, and finally in Benelux. Aside from discovering the world through extensive travel, his other hobbies include photography, archeology, good wine and making new friends.

### Your new 2018 ExCo committee

The Executive Committee for 2018 will be as follows:

- President: Peter Forrest
- Vice Presidents: Melissa Rancourt (1st VP), John Metselaar, Andrew Parker and Sheila Rosseau
- Treasurer: Erin Richmond
- Secretary: Dick Sheridan

Each ExCo member is committed to make the American Club of Brussels THE expat place to be. Look out for the next newsletters to learn more about each ExCo member and their respective ACB responsibilities.

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### Thank you, Brian and Mieke!

Brian Dunhill was elected ACB President for 2017 and, during his tenure, brought a wealth of new ideas to the Club. His major achievement was to rejuvenate the Club by developing our social media, among which Facebook and Meetup, and by organizing activities for our younger members (Linguistic Cafes, Board Games) which brought a wave of interested people to the Club. Luckily, Brian will remain on the Board as past president and will enable us to continue to benefit from his enthusiasm, commitment and ideas.

Mieke Vispoel was hired in 2009 as Club Administrator and is taking her well-deserved retirement at the end of 2017. Mieke served the Club expertly and diligently for the last eight years. Reliable and responsive, Mieke was the Club's cornerstone and will be missed by those who worked closely with her as well as the member who asked a one-off question. We all wish her a relaxed and fulfilled retirement and hope she will keep in touch.

### Welcome, Pascale!

**Pascale Zoetaert** will replace Mieke Vispoel as **Club Administrator** as of 2018. In addition to holding various positions in corporate communications, mostly at Sabena and Ackroyd (The Bulletin), Pascale is also an entrepreneur. She founded an organic restaurant in Schaerbeek and is active in her companion's organic wine business. Pascale brings extensive knowledge in communications to the Club as well as her energy, enthusiasm and interest for new challenges.

## Upcoming Events (Details: p. 6 ff)



### Second Tuesday Historic Bar Tour

Tuesday, January 9 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.

[Event details](#)



### Reading Group

Wednesday, January 10 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.

[Event details](#)



### Linguistic Café Session

Sunday, January 14 – 2:00 p.m.

<https://www.meetup.com/American-Club-of-Brussels>



**Pompeii Exhibition**

Sunday, January 14 – 2:45 p.m.

[Event details](#)



**Game Night at CHEZWaWa**

Tuesday, January 16 – 7:00 p.m.

[Event details](#)



**Dine-Out at La Maison Blanche**

Tuesday, January 18 – 7:30 p.m.

[Event details](#)



**Final Friday Drinks**

Friday, January 26 – 6:30-9:00 p.m.

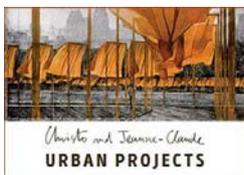
[Event details](#)



**Sunday Brunch**

Sunday, January 28 – 11:30 a.m.

[Event details](#)



**Exhibition "Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Urban Projects"**

Sunday, February 4 – 2:45 p.m.

[Event details](#)



**Super Bowl Party (all night event)**

Sunday, February 4 – 7:00 p.m.

[Event details](#)

## Corporate Profile



### CHEZ WaWa Restaurant



CHEZ WaWa Restaurant was born nearly two years ago in the heart of the Châtelain district of Ixelles as the first in Brussels to introduce a new style of "Roll-Your-Own-Way" California-style Mexican dining.

The San Francisco-born owner, Palmer Colamarino, had spent many years in Brussels working in the international hotel industry, and like many fellow expats had long bemoaned the undeserved absence of quality Mexican food in our otherwise lovely city.... Well, no longer! Now you have the opportunity to try some authentic "Cali-Mex" cuisine at CHEZ WaWa which specializes in fresh burritos, tacos, salads and more, all prepared daily from farm-fresh Belgian produce and Mexican spices. While CHEZ WaWa is a "fast-casual" restaurant, they prove that 'food served fast' doesn't have to a 'fast-food experience'. At the steam-table counter, the CHEZ WaWa Crew quickly assembles high-quality and flavorful ingredients - rolled-to-order right in front of you, and just as you want it.

Open both for lunch and dinner, also for take-out, delivery and event-catering, CHEZ WaWa offers a Student Discount and is also privileged to have a nice terrace in the back which makes for lovely afternoon or evening dining. You can join them on Thursdays evenings for Homemade Frozen Margarita Nights. Or "Taco Tuesdays for Two" when you get the choice of a complimentary tortilla chips or homemade agua fresca with an order of two or more Roll-Your-Own-Way Tacos, Burritos, Naked Burritos or Salads. And since last year, CHEZ WaWa also started its fantastic "Cali-Mex Brunch" on some Sundays with breakfast burritos and an unlimited sweet & savory buffet with Mexican and American specialties. Their next Brunch will be on Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup> as an ACB Event!

We invite you to come experience some Cali-Mex Magic which has *finally* arrived in Brussels!

**CHEZ WaWa Restaurant**  
**Rue Américaine 91**  
**1050 Ixelles**  
**Tel. 02 5346330**  
**[www.chezwawa.com](http://www.chezwawa.com)**  
**@ # chezwawabxl**

## Corporate Members

The American Club of Brussels is supported by the following companies.  
Special ACB member benefits listed below company logo.

				
	Sponsor of major ACB events		Sponsor of major ACB events	One free initial consultation (1 hour)
				
	Sponsor of major ACB events			
				
		One free initial consultation (½ hour)		10% discount for ACB members



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## Second Tuesday Historic Bar Tour

January 9, 2018



**Poechenellekelder**  
Rue du Chêne 5  
1050 Brussels (Ixelles)

Come start the new year by joining us at another historic Brussels bar as we embark on the *Second Tuesday Historic Bar Tour* social hour in central Brussels. This charming and historic bar is worth a visit and you can't miss it since it is facing the Manneken Pis! The Poechenellekelder has an immense and excellent selection of over 150 beers including local craft breweries. View the various puppets of years ago. From their website, we imagine:

*"Enter Poechenellekelder to embrace the millennial history of Brussels ... By pushing the door of a real tavern after meeting Manneken Pis, then sit at the table with the heirs of guilds, centenaries and hear the murmur the Brussels plotters against Philippe II, King of Spain ..."*

The Historic Bar Tour events are held the second Tuesday of each month and take place at different and great locations throughout the city of Brussels. Everyone is welcome and feel free to bring friends!

### Event Details:

**Date:** Tuesday, January 9..

**Time:** 7:00-9:00 p.m.

**Place:** Poechenellekelder, Rue du Chêne 5, 1050 Brussels (Ixelles).

**Website:** <http://www.poechenellekelder.be>

**Price:** Dependent on your own consumption.

**Please register** by Monday, January 8, at

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2705200>

so that we know how many to expect. Thank you.

**SIGN UP HERE**

**Further information or to find the ACB group:**

Text or call Carl Mir at 0494/27.97.63.

The Canadian Club of Belgium, The American Club of Brussels  
& The American Women's Club of Brussels  
welcome you to our **Reading Group**  
on the **second Wednesday** of the month [7:00–9:00 p.m.]

(CCB, ACB and AWCB members only)

We ask you to present a book of your choice (American or Canadian authors preferred) that you have read and really enjoyed. This will give all members, passionate about reading, a chance to read and discuss different literary genres.

Even if you have not read the selected book and if you do not have a book you wish to present, please feel free to join us anyway – even at the last minute.

**Reading Group Contact**

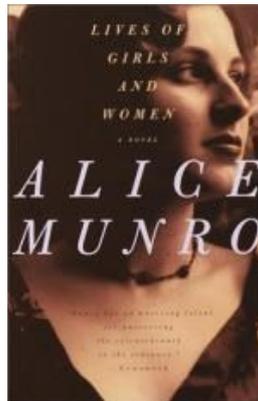
(also for venue details)

**Geneviève Bergiers** • Tel. 02/660.57.65 • [genevieve@chiropractorbergiers.be](mailto:genevieve@chiropractorbergiers.be)

**2018 dates open for your suggestions:** February 14 • March 14 • April 11 • May 9 • June 13

On **January 10** , Laura Richard will present

***Lives of Girls and Women***  
by **Alice Munro** (Canada, Nobel Prize 2013)



This book, rather more a collection of would-be stand-alone stories with a common principal character, invites the reader to witness the life and world of Del, a young girl whose experiences and encounters in growing up form the basis of each "story" or section as she grows from a young girl into womanhood. The reader is compelled to experience the struggle and wonder of growing up that is common amongst all of us, in a story that is peppered with extraordinary circumstances and trials that, thankfully, relatively few of us ever have to experience.

*Lives of Girls and Women* is a coming-of-age story, full of the tumultuous times one goes through on the road to growing up, the universal truths about growing up and the tragedies that are suffered by far too many of us. More than that, it is the story of place and of the complex relationships that form between those with whom people live and experience life. It is about life itself, in all its beauty and ugliness.

Venue: Laura's place.

**More info about the Clubs:**

[www.ccbcanada.be](http://www.ccbcanada.be) • [www.awcb.org](http://www.awcb.org) • [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org)

## Linguistic Café Session

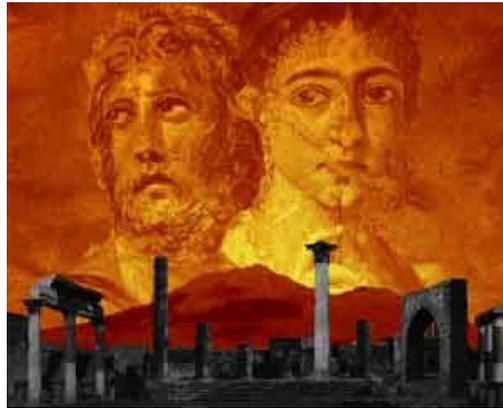
Sunday, January 14 – 2:00 p.m.



Info & RSVP:

<https://www.meetup.com/American-Club-of-Brussels>

## A Guided Tour of "Pompeii: The Immortal City"



Join us on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> for a unique guided visit to "Pompeii: The Immortal City."

This exhibition plunges the visitor into the heart of the drama and the ruins of the ancient city of Pompeii. Models of machines and 3D reconstitutions allow the visitor to experience the destruction of the city and to identify with the inhabitants of that time, immobilized by the ashes of the volcano.

Over one hundred archaeological items originating from Pompeii, including a large number being exhibited for the first time, demonstrate the knowledge that the Romans had about nature as well as their scientific and technical know-how at the moment Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD.

After the visit, those who wish to may join us for a drink or a coffee in the neighborhood.

Please note that this event is limited to 20 participants.

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Sunday, January 14, 2018.

**Time:** 2:45 p.m.

**Place:** Place de la Bourse, 1000 Brussels.

**Public Transportation:** Bourse: trams 3, 4, bus 86; Grand Place: buses 48 and 95; De Brouckère: metro lines 1, 5, buses 25, 47, 66, 71 and 88.

**Price:** €30. ACB/AWCB/CCB members receive a discounted price of €25.

**Reservations** are due by Wednesday, January 10 at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2766866>

**Payment** in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention "Pompeii" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

**Cancellations** are possible until noon on Wednesday, January 10. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

**SIGN UP HERE**

## Game Night at CHEZWaWa

Tuesday, January 16, 2018



The American Club of Brussels and our friends at CHEZWaWa invite you to join us as we revive that greatest of traditional past times, 'The Game Night!' We're going back in time to the days before the internet and bringing the board games back. Chess, Monopoly, Scrabble...Snakes & Ladders! Hell, weather permitting, we could even try some Twister for the more flexible among us.

If you have any board games at home, please bring them along and join in the fun!

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Event details:**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

**Place:** CHEZWaWa, Rue Américaine 91, 1050 Brussels (tel. 02/534.63.30).

**Public Transportation:** Bus 54 (Trinité), bus 60 (Washington), tram 81 (Trinité).

**Price:** depending on your own consumption.

**Reservations** are due by Friday, January 12, at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2765765>

**Cancellations:** If you signed up but cannot attend, please let us know. Thank you.

**SIGN UP HERE**

## Dine-Out at La Maison Blanche



How about starting off 2018 by dining at the White House on Washington Street?

This new trendy restaurant, **La Maison Blanche**, is located in a renovated house and offers a succulent cuisine with quality ingredients. The Chef, Paul Delrez, is renowned for his croquettes, which he also serves at *La Guinguette en ville*, and the menu he has prepared for you will win your heart too.

Situated in the Châtelain area, the house is slightly set back from the street and accessible through a cobbled alley. You will love the atmosphere and the warm welcome of the staff.

We hope to see many of you at this first dine out of the year!

### **MENU**

#### **Apéritif**

Prosecco

#### **Starter**

*Croquette de crevettes maison, persil frit*

or

*Cassolette de moules de bouchot, coriandre, lime, jalapeños façon "Thai"*

or

*Carpaccio fumé et salé de boeuf "Holstein", tomates "caviar", roquette et condiment aux noisettes du Piémont*

#### **Main course**

*Pluma de Lomo Iberico, déclinaison de carottes de Créance, pommes de terre sarladaises et jus au vadouvan*

or

*Sashimi de thon mi-cuit au sésame, avocat, leche de tigre et crumble aux herbes*

or

*Risotto à la betterave Chioggia truffée, chips et émulsion au parmesan*

#### **Dessert**

*Tarte au citron meringué*

or

*Moelleux au chocolat, crème anglaise à la vanille bourbon*

Half a bottle of wine and sparkling or still water per person.

**Please indicate your menu choices when registering. Thank you.**

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**Event Details:**

**Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2018.

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Place:** La Maison Blanche, Rue Washington 74-76, 1050 Brussels.

**Public Transportation:** Trams 93 & 94: Bailly, Bus 38: Vleurgat, Bus 60: Washington.

**Price:** €50 for ACB/AWCB/CCB members. Non-members: €55.

Price includes a three-course menu, apéritif, half bottle of red or white wine per person and water.

**Reservations** are due by Tuesday, January 16, at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2766873>

**Payment** in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention "January Dine-out" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

**Cancellations** are possible until noon on Tuesday, January 16. Participants cancelling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

**SIGN UP HERE**

## Final Friday Drinks

**Friday, January 26**  
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



**Bar Vélo**  
Four Points by Sheraton  
Rue Paul Spaak 15  
1000 Brussels

The American Club of Brussels invites you for an evening of fun, socializing and chatting!

Everyone is welcome! Bring friends! The cash bar is open to all.

Final Friday events are held the last Friday of each month and take place at different, great locations throughout the city. So plan to attend future Final Fridays as well.

**Please pre-register. Thank you.**

Event url:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2766785>

**SIGN UP HERE**

## Sunday Brunch at CHEZWaWa



Hungry for breakfast burritos, sweet or savory quesadillas & enchiladas? If so, come join us for the next Sunday Brunch at CHEZWaWa – a ‘modern taqueria’ in the Châtelain district serving fresh and flavorful California-style Mexican food. The American owner launched a CALI-MEX SUNDAY BRUNCH service earlier this year, and if you joined us for the preview event in January you know you won’t want to miss it!

The price includes one breakfast burrito, an unlimited Cali-Mex buffet of sweet and savory items, and standard filter-coffee or tea. Participants of this ACB event will also receive half off any extra Orange Juices, Mimosas, and Spumante ordered at the event (to be paid at the event directly to the restaurant).

### Event Details:

**Date:** Sunday, January 28, 2018.

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Place:** CHEZWaWa, rue Américaine 91, 1050 Brussels (tel. 02/534.63.30).

**Public Transportation:** Bus 54 (Trinité), bus 60 (Washington), tram 81 (Trinité).

**Price:** €32. ACB/AWCB/CCB members receive a discounted price of €27.

Children up to 10 years receive a 50% discount (€16).

**Reservations** are due by Thursday, January 25, at:

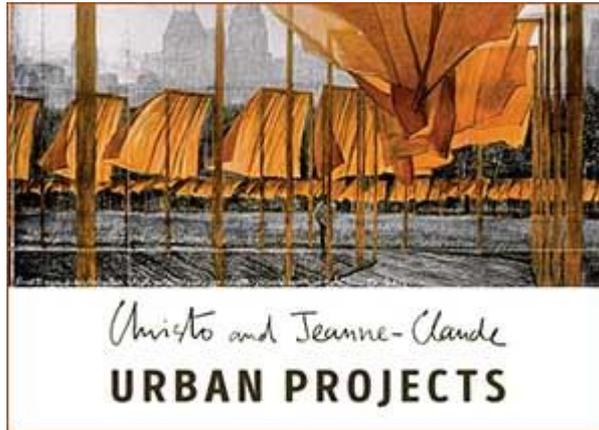
<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2696225>

**Payment** in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention “CHEZWaWa Brunch” in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice.

**Cancellations** are possible until noon on Thursday, January 25. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

**SIGN UP HERE**

## A Guided Visit to the Exhibition "Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Urban Projects"



Join us on Sunday, February 4 for a guided visit of the exhibition "Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Urban Projects." This is the first retrospective museum exhibition since the 1980s of the urban projects created by Christo and Jeanne-Claude. A unique opportunity to gain a comprehensive insight into the creative process of this unclassifiable artist couple.

To evoke a number of urban projects by Christo and Jeanne-Claude, the exhibition seeks through a careful selection of around eighty original works, whether or not these were ever carried out, ranging from Wall of Oil Barrels, Rue Visconti, Paris, 1961-62 up to the important urban project The Gates that Christo and Jeanne-Claude realized for the city of New York in 2005. These urban works of art were created by temporarily appropriating buildings, monuments or public places with a deeply symbolic value.

The works are selected and displayed in such a way as to emphasize the crucial importance of drawing in the genesis, evolution and aesthetic crystallization of each of the projects. Christo sees drawing as "a path towards the real" and indulges this passion daily.

The exhibition presents a series of emblematic works, from the first schematic sketches, usually in small format, to the final drawings, complex and often large-format collages in which color, textural effects and volume bring out their visionary character, offering a real foretaste of the actual in situ projects.

After the visit, those who wish to may join us for a drink or a coffee in the neighborhood.

Please note that this event is limited to 15 participants.

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Sunday, February 4, 2018.

**Time:** 2:45 p.m.

**Place:** ING Art Center, Place Royale/Koningsplein 6, 1000 Brussels.

**Public Transportation:** buses 27, 38, 71, 95 and trams 92 and 93: Royale/Koning.

**Price:** €20. ACB/AWCB/CCB members receive a discounted price of €15.

**Reservations** are due by Wednesday, January 31 at:

<http://www.americanclubbrussels.org/event-2760169>

**Payment** in advance to ACB account BE55427919588144 (KREDBEBB). Please mention "Christo" in the reference section of the bank transfer. Online payment with a credit card is also possible (through PayPal, but no actual PayPal account is required); pay when registering or use the link provided in the invoice. **Cancellations** are possible until noon on Wednesday, January 31. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

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The **Brussels Super Bowl Party** is the biggest Super Bowl event in Brussels. This year's event will take place at the Renaissance Hotel on **February 4th, 2018**.

The event is co-hosted by the American Club of Brussels and The Growth of a Game.

**Doors open at 7:00 p.m.** There will be music, trivia, games, prizes, giveaways, interviews, and more. The Growth of a Game will also be selling American football merchandise including footballs, mouth guards, gloves, NFL jerseys, hats, and much more.

Tickets for the event are €10 in advance and €15 at the door. The game will be broadcasted on a giant Big Screen for easy view.

Food and drinks are available for purchase. The kitchen and bar area will be open all evening to accommodate attendees. The menu will include burgers, hot dogs, fries, chicken wings, onion rings, sandwiches, and more. Leffe and Stell Artois beers will be on tap, while over 15 different bottled beers will be available.

Come meet other American football fans in Belgium as well as players and coaches from the 20+ American football teams in the country.

Advance registration can be made only via the following link:

<http://www.growthofagame.com/event/brussels-super-bowl-party/>

This event is made possible by the contributions of various partners, including [The Bulletin](#), [Battle Sports](#), [Ceres Sports](#), the [Renaissance Brussels Hotel](#), and the [American Football Community Belgium](#).

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