



# The American Club of Brussels

# News & Events

An International Club with an American Heart

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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"

(includes wine and water)

**Kadaïf de Petites Grises, Œuf Poché et Sauce Mousseline**  
(Kadaïf of Shrimps, Poached Egg and Mousseline Sauce)

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**Poitrine de "Coucou de Malines" aux Morilles**  
(Breast of "Coucou de Malines" with Morels)

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**Crème Brûlée au Spéculoos**  
(Crème Brûlée of Belgian Spiced Biscuit)

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**Moka et Mignardises**  
(Coffee and Sweets)

The Ommegang takes place on Thursday, July 3. 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. Descendants 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 and Irish Club). Non-members may only sign up as of Monday, June 23.

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Thursday, July 3, 2014

**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 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, June 30, 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 Monday, June 30. Participants canceling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

## Dates to Remember

- June 10: Bowling Event
- June 12: Dine-Out at Le Bugatti
- June 17: Joint ACB/AmCham Tax seminar
- June 21: "EXPO: 14-18, It's Our History!"
- June 27: Final Friday
- July 3: Ommegang Dinner
- Brussels American Community July 4 Celebration  
(ACB members to receive a separate e-mail invitation)
- September 7: Antwerp Tasting Tour
- September 18: Joint ACB/AmCham Ambassador's Dinner
- December 12: "Nuts!" Night

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Attention! New telephone number:

0476/996.870

Please change your records as the current landline will be cancelled in the coming months.

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## Second Annual Bowling, Billiards & Beer Tournament



Come join us for a night of bowling and billiards in our favorite American themed hall. Even if you won't be joining the activities come enjoy a drink with us. €20/€25 will include shoes, two games of bowling and nibbling food from Roland, €10 if you just want to come enjoy the food and the ambiance. Billiards and beer are at patrons' own expense.

**Event Details:**

**Date:** Tuesday, June 10, 2014

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

**Place:** Brussels Bowling, Av. des Saisons 92c, 1050 Brussels

**Price:** €20 for ACB members, €25 for non-members.

**Sign Up:** No later than June 5 with payment to hold your place. You may register online at [www.americanclubbrussels.org](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org), by e-mail to [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 "Bowling" in the communications section of the *virement*. Cancellations are possible until noon on June 5.

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

If you are late or cannot come at the last minute, please call Brian Dunhill at 0483/392.695 so appropriate arrangements can be made.



## Seminar on US Tax Issues

Join us on June 17 for an informative seminar on evolving tax and related developments for US expats in Belgium. This seminar has been organized with the cooperation of the American Chamber of Commerce in Belgium and will cover the topics listed below. This program is designed to update US expatriates located in Belgium on critical tax and related issues which should be of concern to them.

8:00 a.m.–8:30 a.m.	Registration and Walking Breakfast (croissants and coffee)
8:30 a.m.–8:45 a.m.	Introduction (Howard M. Liebman, Partner, Jones Day)
8:45 a.m.–9:30 a.m.	Overview of Tax Compliance Issues for US Expatriates (Mark Rayner, US Tax Team Leader/Executive Advisory, PwC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Including a discussion of what happens if the IRS disagrees with the taxpayer</li><li>• Including the impact of investing in foreign securities</li></ul>
9:30 a.m.–10:15 a.m.	Developments in US Tax Law Affecting Expatriates in Belgium (Carolina Anon, Senior Manager, Deloitte Belgium) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Including the interplay of Form FinCen 114 and a taxpayer's US tax obligations and liability</li></ul>
10:15 a.m.–10:45 a.m.	The Impact of FATCA on Individual Expats (Genevieve Colot, Director & Mark Rayner, US Tax Team Leader/Executive Advisory, PwC)
10:45 a.m.–11:00 a.m.	Coffee Break
11:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.	US Citizenship: The Choice to Renounce it? (Jonathan Davis, Attorney, Fragomen) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Including exit tax issues (Carolina Anon, Senior Manager, Deloitte)</li></ul>
11:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Estate Planning Issues (Marc Quaghebeur, Partner, De Broeck Van Laere & Partners)
12:00 p.m.–12:30 p.m.	Q&A and Conclusions (Howard Liebman, Partner, Jones Day)

**Event Details:****Date:** Tuesday, June 17, 2014**Time:** 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.**Place:** Sheraton Brussels Hotel, Place Rogier 3, 1210 Brussels**Price:** €45**Sign Up:** You will be invoiced on the day of the event. Invoices will not be issued for registrations cancelled before the close of business on **June 13, 2014**. Cancellations received after this deadline and 'no shows' will be charged in full. You may register on the website [http://www.amcham.be/?tabid=50&event\\_id=1003](http://www.amcham.be/?tabid=50&event_id=1003) or by sending an e-mail to [dsmith@amcham.be](mailto:dsmith@amcham.be).

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## Guided Tour of the 14-18 Exhibition



Join us on Saturday, June 21, at 3:00 p.m. for a guided visit to "EXPO: 14-18, It's Our History!"

For the First World War 100th anniversary commemorations, the Royal Army Museum has organized the major exhibition "14-18, It's Our History!" Based on the rich, unique collections of the Royal Army Museum, this exhibition allows the public to discover all aspects of the conflicts which left Europe battered and weakened. The history of the conflict has been set in a broader context in which there is a place for all the actors in this drama.

The war and daily life during the occupation of Belgium constitutes an important part of the exhibition. But most of all, you will discover through authentic objects, scenery, testimonials, multimedia, cinema, films and immersive spaces how this conflict has profoundly influenced the history of the 20th century.

Particular attention is given to the contradictory wartime destinies of two cousins who came face to face with one another: Belgian King Albert I and the German Emperor Wilhelm II. Through personal uniforms, letters and pictures, both rulers are confronted in a stunning mirror image.

The role of this exhibition is to awaken a wider audience to the story of the history of the European and then global war. To achieve this goal, the organizers have appealed to one's emotions making the visitor feel that this story concerns his past. This exhibition is the meeting place for the history of each history – with a little h – and History with a big H.

Please note that this visit is limited to 20 people and is a **Members Priority** visit. Non-members may only sign up as of June 9. So, do sign up quickly for this spectacular visit!

**Event Details:****Date:** Saturday, June 21, 2014**Time:** 3:00 p.m.**Place:** Royal Museum of the Army and Military History, Parc du Cinquentaenaire 3, 1000 Brussels**Price:** €20 for members, €30 for non-members.**Public Transportation:** Merode: Metros 1 & 5, Tram 81, Buses 22, 27, 61, and 80.**Sign up:** Reservations are due by noon on Wednesday, June 18, 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 "14-18" in the communications section of the virement. Cancellations are possible until noon on Wednesday, June 18. Participants cancelling after this time, as well as no-shows, are charged the full cost of the event.

[Register – Expo: 14-18, It's Our History!](#)

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## Final Friday Cocktails

**Friday, June 27**

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



**Garden of Stanhope Hotel  
Square de Meeûs 4  
1050 Brussels**

The [American Club of Brussels](http://www.americanclubbrussels.org) is happy to welcome our friends from [The Brussels British Network](http://www.thebrusselsbritishnetwork.com) 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.

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# Introducing American Beers in Belgium



*We are pleased to introduce to you this month the thirteenth corporate member to be profiled in News & Events. You can meet Thierry Magerman at many of the Club's events.*



Belgian beers are renowned the world over. But what about imported beers? Is it even worth trying to create a market for less iconic beers in Belgium?

Thierry Magerman, founder of American Beers in Belgium, would reply in the affirmative. He avows that "there is actually a demand for imported beers from the United States." Magerman, who has a career in sales and marketing, was inspired to start an online business for American beer two years ago while travelling across the US. He was surprised by the

quality of the beers on offer throughout the country. "My first draft, Brooklyn Lager, in Manhattan was a shock, and so was, among others, the ice cold Anchor Steam that we tried."

While Magerman recognized the legacy of Belgian beers, he concluded that there was definitely more happening around beer in the States. Upon his return to Belgium, he was sorely disappointed to learn about all the jumps and hoops that he'd have to go through to access quality American beer and not just the Budweiser that can be purchased at the local supermarket.

As a result, Magerman began importing samples of several American beers from France and the UK, polling potential customers in focus groups to assess their interest in buying American beers. "Both consumer tests and sales contacts confirmed the potential of US artisanal beers among the local upper tier market," says Magerman.

American Beers in Belgium functions as a prepaid system, where beers can be ordered online with assured home delivery within 24 hours by the Belgian Post. It's a quick and convenient way to expand your palette and access some great, new beers.

For more information on how to order your American beers through American Beer in Belgium, visit [www.americanbeers.be](http://www.americanbeers.be) or email: [james@americanbeers.be](mailto:james@americanbeers.be).

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## Member News

### Two Club Members Join Forces



The Go Group, part of Gosselin Moving, and Ethan Allen have united to offer a better relocation service.

The Go Group and Ethan Allen both know what it is like to be 'new' in town. In 2012, the Go Group, part of Gosselin Moving, developed their comprehensive on line website to appeal to anybody on the move. Around the same time Ethan Allen, a respected global furniture and décor company, opened their first designs centres in Belgium in Brussels and Antwerp. From a chance meeting evolved an affiliation.

Whilst Go and Ethan Allen remain distinct entities, they discovered that working together enabled them both to offer a better service to anyone planning to relocate to Belgium. The fully integrated service now offers everything from moving services, packing, unpacking, storage and insurance to home design, decoration and furnishings. To learn more about Ethan Allen's two Belgian locations and to take advantage of their complimentary design service please visit [www.go-group.com/belgium/furniture-decor](http://www.go-group.com/belgium/furniture-decor). To see the additional services offered by Go have a look at [www.go-group.com](http://www.go-group.com).



## Recent Events – This Is What You Missed!

**3 May 2014 - Kentucky Derby Party**



**27 April 2014 - American Football**



**The American Club of Brussels**

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[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.

