

January 2022



Dear Members:

The Board of the BCNC would like to take this opportunity to extend its best wishes to you for a happy, healthy, and peaceful 2022.

The world, our world is coming back to normal very slowly, but with Covid-19 variants still active. The Belgian Club of Northern California, your local club, is adjusting to these times and for now, we will remain vigilant and cautious.

To understand the status of this pandemic, and the slow migration to endemicity, we have invited once more our best expert in the matter, BCNC member Anne DeGheest to review the situation for us as she did almost 2 years ago and hopefully understand what we may see happen in the near future. This will be our upcoming Face-to-Face.

Given the pandemic situation, it was regrettably not possible to have our usual New Year's Reception this year. But that does not mean we will do nothing! Stay tuned for more news on BCNC plans. In order to do so, we need your support. Please, register for your annual membership. You can do this from our website BCNC.com or by mail - continue reading for the information on our last page. We also love to hear about your preferred ideas or activities or receive feedback on our events.

We will see you soon via Zoom or in person.

Thank you,
The Board

Face-to-Face With Anne DeGheest

Sunday, February 6, 2022 5 - 7 PM

Covid19 Variants Insights Zoom Presentation with Q&A

Are you tired of sorting through all the conflicting Coronavirus news? Want to know what's going on, besides just in the US or Belgium? Wondering who all is working on vaccines/boosters and where they stand? Curious about which treatments are not hyped by politicians, but are actually proving effective in real life? You prefer to follow clear scientific information/news, so you can make up your own mind?

Then come to our Zoom meeting on **Sunday February 6th, from 5 to 7 PM**, for a detailed SARS2 - COVID 19 pandemic presentation and Q&A narrated by Anne DeGheest of Medstar.

Anne is leveraging her healthcare network and access to clinicians/experts with the latest scientific data publications, to paint a reliable picture of the virus evolution and how it will impact us as we re-open to a New Normal!



Background:

Anne DeGheest was born in Belgium and educated at the Université Libre de Brussels & Harvard University.

Anne pioneered the HealthTech or Digital Health space as a healthcare executive, an entrepreneur, angel investor, a corporate advisor and a mentor capitalist. She is the founder of HealthTech Capital and MedStars.

Since founding MedStars in 1986, she has been a corporate development advisor to large healthcare companies and a mentor capitalist specializing in investing and mentoring early stage companies in healthcare. Her life science portfolio companies have grown into major disruptive companies that have generated over \$15 billion in market value. In 2010, Anne founded HealthTech Capital, a group of private investors dedicated to funding and mentoring new "HealthTech" startups to decrease healthcare cost and empower patients.

Through her work, Anne is in touch with many companies working on coronavirus solutions and uniquely placed to give us an overview.

This is a free event, but you'll need to sign up to receive the Zoom meeting info. Please see at <https://medstars.com/>

When: Sunday, February 6, 2022 at 5 to 7 pm

Where: Using Zoom Video Conferencing from your home computer

Note: This is going to be a live event. More information, including log-in details, will be available when we get closer to the date of this event.

Cost: There is no cost for this event. However, we are suggesting a min. donation of \$5 per BCNC member and \$10 per non-member.

Registration and Donation: please go to our website www.bcnc.com and select **Face-to-Face** under “Events”. You can pay by credit card or Paypal or mail check to: Fabienne Sowa, 2820 Willow Creek Trail, Cool, CA 95614. For membership sign up, visit bcnc.com and select “Become a BCNC Member”.

Deadline to register: Thursday, February 3

Announcements

- Join our BCNC Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/5421040815/?ref=bookmarks>

Message to all foreign mission emergency Management officers:

In response to numerous inquiries from foreign missions, OFM is sharing the California COVID-19 Immigrant Resource Guide, which provides information concerning state of California initiatives to support and assist foreign nationals impacted by COVID-19.

English and Spanish versions of the guide are attached and are also available at <https://covid19.ca.gov/guide-immigrant-californians/> and <https://covid19.ca.gov/guia-californianos-inmigrantes/>.

For 2022, we'll kick-off our yearly membership drive:

Membership Renewal Drive for 2022

As the pandemic is very slowly changing its course, the BCNC will again bring many interesting programs in 2022. In order to do so, we need your support. Please, register your annual membership, let us know your preferred ideas of activities, and give us some feedback on our events. Our web page www.bcnc.com gives you all the information on how to contact us. We encourage you to sign up online at www.bcnc.com/about where you can pay by credit card or PayPal.

The alternative is to return the enclosed membership form with your check, payable to BCNC. Mail the form with your check to Fabienne Sowa, 2820 Willow Creek Trail, Cool, CA 95614. It is your membership that makes all events possible, and your participation that makes it enjoyable. For many years now, the BCNC has organized many social, cultural, and sporting events. You can see a list of our activities on our website, www.bcnc.com.

Our newsletters are emailed to everyone on our mailing list (opting-out is easy), member or not. However, all events are members-only. So join BCNC or renew your membership now.

Stay safe and healthy,
The Board

BCNC is a social club to enjoy being with other Belgians & friends. If you are in Northern California for a day, a month, a year or a century, you can participate! If you know of something happening in or with our Belgian community, or if you know of a “special” Belgian visiting the Bay Area, let us know with a simple email to Board@bcnc.com, or on our Facebook page. Thanks to members sharing information, members have had the chance to enjoy an evening, a beer or a meal with consuls, ambassadors, entrepreneurs, scientists, athletes, singers (Stromae and Johnny Hallyday) and even prime ministers such as Jean-Luc Dehaene and Guy Verhofstadt. To become a member, simply sign up now at BCNC.com.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/NEW MEMBER 2022

Name:

Address:

City:

Tel.: E-mail:

Favorite BCNC activities:.....

Least favorite BCNC activities:.....

Suggestions/comments:.....

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Dues:

Couple/Family: \$40, Single: \$25, Student: \$10