

February 2011



Dear Members,

We would like to invite you to our next event:

South Georgia / Antarctica Slideshow

**Friday, March 11 and
Sunday, March 13
San Francisco**

One of our board members, Caroline Diericx, very recently returned from a trip to South Georgia and Antarctica. Lots of photos were taken and she would love to share a selection of the best with the members of the BCNC.

Caroline invites you to her home for either of 2 sessions; the number of attendees will be limited to about 18 per session. Adults only.

- Where:** The home of Caroline Diericx and Stephen Coney - 139 Welsh Street, Apt 12, San Francisco, CA 94107.
- Cost:** \$7 per person payable at the door (for snacks and drinks). Members only.
- When:** Friday, March 11 - doors 7:30pm, show at 8:15pm.
Sunday, March 13 - doors at 4:30pm, show at 5:15pm.
- Sign-up:** email caroline@bcnc.com or call Caroline at 415-425-9604 by March 8th.
- Parking:** Street - this is San Francisco, you may have to 'drive around the block'.

Directions:

This is the short section of Welsh St off 4th Street (NOT 5th where a gps usually sends you!), just past Bryant St on the right.

From the South: take the 4th St exit on the 101, just before getting onto the Bay Bridge. This takes you right to the intersection of Bryant and 4th: cross Bryant, onto 4th, first alley on right, building at the end left.

From the Bay Bridge: take the 5th St exit, turn left on 5th, first left on Bryant, and then right onto 4th. We are the first alley on the right, building at the end left.

Caltrain: From the South it is also very easy to get there by train. It is only 2 blocks from the last stop 'San Francisco', which is on 4th St.

Upcoming Events:

- The Belgian American Chamber of Commerce requests the pleasure of your company to the 1st BelCham event in Silicon Valley:

“Latest Alzheimer Research” by Stef L.E. Heylen, Head of R&D and Chief Medical Officer at Janssen AI.

Janssen Alzheimer Immunotherapy (Janssen AI) is dedicated to developing treatments for Alzheimer's disease, a degenerative brain disease that has no cure. According to the 2009 World Alzheimer's Report, an estimated 35.6 million people worldwide will be living with dementia in 2010 and this number is expected to nearly double every 20 years. Despite this growth and the far reaching human and financial impact of Alzheimer's disease, there are no currently available treatments that fundamentally change the course of this fatal disease.

Stef has a medical degree from the University of Leuven, Belgium, and has 23+ years experience in drug development in the pharmaceutical industry, obtained at the Janssen Research Foundation, the research division of Janssen Pharmaceutica in Beerse, Belgium.

Date: Wednesday, March 9, at 6:30pm

Location: 700 Gateway Blvd, South San Francisco, CA 94080

Sign-up: Please email Claudine Descheemaeker at claudine@checkster.com, please make sure you receive a confirmation email.

- March: Lecture by Prof Christophe Crombez on ‘The State of Belgium’ - date and details will be posted on www.bcnc.com as soon as they are known.

- Lectures by Flemish Historian Walter Prevenier (Ghent University).

- April 6: 6-7pm, 201 Moses Hall UC Berkeley : ‘The crisis of the Belgian State: Is there a future for Belgium? There is, at least, a past!’

- April 8: 10-11am, 187 Dwinelle UC Berkeley : ‘The earliest wandering theater group and the first female actress in the Low Countries (April 1471)’

For more info: www.bcnc.com

- Scala, a Belgian youth choir, will be performing in San Francisco on April 11 and 12.

For more information go to: <http://www.ticketfly.com/event/30335/>

Congratulations:

- Soyeba, Steven and Nico Verhaverbeke are happy to inform you that Nico has a brother now. Theo Verhaverbeke was born on November 3, 2010. Theo is a spiffy boy and is happy to join the family.

Easter Egg Hunt: looking for Volunteers:

- We are looking for volunteers to take on/over the organisational part for our popular Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 23 in Portola Valley. The organisation of the Egg Hunt includes: the handling of the registration, buying the chocolate eggs, other goodies, set-up (hiding the eggs), clean-up, etc. The BCNC 'owns' about 600 colored plastic eggs, so no need to buy these, they can be picked up at Inge's place in Sunnyvale.

We will also take care of the snacks. Contact Inge at inge@bcnc.com or at (650) 704-6532 if you can help out!

New BCNC website

- The board is very happy to announce its renewed website, which is still reachable at www.bcnc.com. Apart from a new look and feel, there is a new forum section, where anybody can post news, announcements, questions, discussions, or any piece of information that might be interesting to our Belgian community here in the Bay Area.

But there's more to come. Hopefully soon, you will be able to renew your membership, sign up for events and pay fees right on the website. So long for writing checks and digging up stamps (don't worry, for those of you who still prefer to send a check in the mail, we'll still accept them). For the technically inclined, the new website is powered by Drupal, the hugely popular open source software written by our countryman Dries Buytaert.

If you have any suggestions or ideas regarding the website, don't hesitate to contact our web master Nicolas at nicolas@bcnc.com.

The board.