

December, 2010



Dear Members and Friends,

The Board of the BCNC would like to take this opportunity to extend its best wishes to you for a happy, healthy, and a more peaceful 2011. To start off the new year, we have planned our annual New Year's reception.

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**New Year's Reception**  
**on Sunday, January 23, from 5:00 till 7:00 pm**  
**at the International House in Berkeley**

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This event is made possible thanks to the generous sponsorship of Mr. Pascal Faidherbe, Consul at the Consulate General in Los Angeles, Mr. Frédéric Delbart, Trade and Investment Commissioner at the Wallonia Investment and Trade Office in San Francisco and Mrs. Annik Bouquet, Technology Attaché at the Flanders Investment and Trade Office in San Francisco. We will be honored by their presence.

**Place:**

International House in Berkeley on 2299 Piedmont Avenue, on the University of California campus at the corner of Piedmont Avenue and Bancroft Way.

This year, our reception will take place in the "Chevron Auditorium".

**RSVP:**

Please return the enclosed reservation slip before January 17. You must register ahead by mail. Phone reservations and walk-ins will not be accepted. Adults only at this event. If questions, contact Ann Van Thielen at (650) 625-0210 or [ann@bcnc.com](mailto:ann@bcnc.com) after January 9.

**Directions and parking:**

Parking is hard to find and limited. We encourage you to carpool or to take BART. Visit <http://pt.berkeley.edu/park/public> for parking information.

We would also like to invite you to one of our annual events:

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## **Ski Weekend in South Lake Tahoe** **Friday, February 4 through Sunday, February 6**

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Due to limited accommodations, there will be only 16 lucky people to enjoy this weekend. This popular “do it your-self” formula is low cost but requires some hands-on participation such as cooking. Duties will be assigned when all reservations are made. People who have participated in the past are well aware that this weekend turns out to be very gastronomical too!

- Where: chalet in South Lake Tahoe, a couple of miles from the casinos and Heavenly. The chalet has 6 bedrooms, a large kitchen, 3 baths, an outdoor hot tub, pool table and is located right at the lake. Linens are supplied, no cleaning is needed. We just bring the food and some firewood. For pictures: visit [www.tahoeaccommodations.com/tkh1226](http://www.tahoeaccommodations.com/tkh1226) (we’ve been there before).
- When: Friday evening, February 4 till Sunday evening, February 6.
- Cost for the cabin: approximately \$100 per person for two nights lodging on a 16 person occupancy basis. If less participants, the cost will be equally divided. Food and cooking duties will be arranged later.
- Transportation: your own. Car pools will be arranged once we get closer.
- Skiing: Heavenly Valley. For people without a season pass: discount tickets are available at REI.

Please call Dirk De Mol at (408) 720 8837 to make reservations or email him at [dirk@bcnc.com](mailto:dirk@bcnc.com) .  
First come, first serve. Priority to members.

### **Membership**

The BCNC will try again to bring many interesting programs in 2011. In order to do so, we need your support. Please, pay your membership, let us know your ideas of activities, and give us some feedback on our events. Our web page [www.bcnc.com](http://www.bcnc.com) gives you all the information on how to contact us.

This letter has been mailed to everybody on our mailing list. The following newsletters will only be sent to paying members. Please return the enclosed membership form with your check, payable to BCNC. It is your membership fee that makes these and other events possible. For many years now, the BCNC has organized a Belgian National Day event, and many other social, cultural, and sports events. You can see a list of our activities on our web page, [www.bcnc.com](http://www.bcnc.com).

## **Thank You**

- Saint Nicholas, a.k.a. Mark Jacobs, and his helper, a.k.a. Harold Deblander, for making 43 kids very happy at the annual Saint Nicholas visit on December 5. Another big thank you is due to Ines Mertens, Kira Sasaki, Leslie Desaeyere and Sofie Vandeputte for their help.
- Leslie Desaeyere and Erwan Allanic for offering their club house to host the Saint Nicholas event.
- All BCNC volunteers who made it possible to offer the various activities in 2011. Without your help, the variety of events would not be possible.

## **Announcements**

- After being on the BCNC Board for many years, Lena De Kesel and Claudine Descheemaeker decided to step down. We would like to thank Lena for her 25 years of dedication and hard work and Claudine for organizing so many great events. We will definitely miss both of you!
- We are looking for two new Board Members. If you are interested in joining our great team, please contact Inge Keuppens at (650) 704 6532 or at [inge@bcnc.com](mailto:inge@bcnc.com).

## **Special Announcement**

- The BCNC is looking to obtain 'non-profit' status. We are looking for some(one) amongst our members with knowledge of the subject willing to actively help us, not only to get this process started but to bring it to a good and solid end. If you feel you are the one please contact Philippe Jansen at [philippe@bcnc.com](mailto:philippe@bcnc.com).

## **Upcoming Events**

- An exhibit of historical fashion recreated in paper by Isabelle DeBorchgrave, a Belgian designer and artist best known for her designs of pottery, fabric and household for Villeroy and Boch and Target, opens at the Legion of Honor in San Francisco on February 5, 2011.

Happy Holidays,

The Board

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/NEW MEMBER 2011

Name: .....

Address/City:.....

Tel.:..... E-mail:.....

Favorite BCNC activities:.....

Least favorite BCNC activities:.....

Suggestions/comments:.....

Yes No

I would prefer to receive the BCNC newsletter by e-mail. We encourage our members to choose for this option in order to save on mailings. When choosing the letter by email, make sure that Spam filters don't block our emails. Last minute events by other organizations will only be announced by email.

Dues:	Couple/Family	\$30.00
	Single:	\$20.00
	Student:	\$10.00

Please make check payable to BCNC.

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## NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION ON 1/23/11

(Adults only, maximum 2, for additional guests, please check with Ann for availability)

Name(s) .....

Phone: .....

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Email: .....

Please return to BCNC, before 1/17/11.

Mail to BCNC, 1300 Cowper Street, Palo Alto, Ca 94301.