

# BRITISH-AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

December 2011

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On page 4: Our Wine Tasting event — Vintage BABA networking!



On page 5: They were jumping for joy at our annual golf tournament.

## BABA Bids Farewell to Sir Nigel Sheinwald at Christmas Luncheon

By Ben Cromer

BABA's Gala Christmas Luncheon is unlike any other event on the BABA calendar. With more than 300 members and guests in attendance, the festive atmosphere adds to the enjoyment of the holiday season. This year's event, however, was bittersweet, given that BABA said goodbye to **Sir Nigel Sheinwald**, whose term as Ambassador ends at the end of the month. In addition, BABA President **Cathy Riley** is stepping down at the end of the year. Cathy, though, will remain with BABA but in a different capacity.

Among the parting gifts to Sir Nigel was a football shirt from his favorite team, Charlton Athletic, as well as a book of lawyer's jokes — Sir Nigel told one at the event.

Special thanks to all of our event sponsors: *Premier Sponsor* — **British Airways**; *Platinum Sponsors* — **BAE Systems, Raytheon**; *Gold Sponsors* — **Airbus Americas, Inc., Arnold & Porter LLP, BT, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Rolls-Royce North America Inc., Virgin Atlantic Airways**; *Silver Sponsors* — **Cobham, Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, URS**.



Harvey & Harvey Photographers

From left to right: BABA Chairman David Marsh, Sir Nigel Sheinwald, and BABA President Cathy Riley at the 15th Annual Gala Christmas Luncheon. For more photos from this event, turn to pages 6-7.

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**Check Out BABA's Enhanced Website! Launching Soon!**

Log onto [www.babawashington.org](http://www.babawashington.org)

## From the President . . .

As the year comes to a close, and we look ahead to an exciting 2012, I want to take a moment to thank you for the support you have given me these past two years as BABA President. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve BABA in this capacity, and I look forward to remaining active in the organization in the years to come. As President, I have gained even more appreciation for the value of BABA and I fully understand how hard the Board of Directors, committee chairs, and staff work to deliver value to the members. Their contribution is enormous and they truly make BABA a superior organization.



The value BABA delivers to its members was apparent at our Gala Christmas Luncheon on December 19. More than 300 members and guests were on hand to say farewell and thank you to **Sir Nigel Sheinwald** who is ending his term as Ambassador in the next month. Sir Nigel and Lady Sheinwald were gracious in hosting a number of BABA events over the years, including our well attended Summer Drinks receptions every July, a benefit for the BABA Scholarship Program. We wish them the best as they return to the UK.

A key Embassy official also has moved on to a new posting: **Nick Bridge**, who was recently named the British Ambassador to the OECD in Paris. And while we bid farewell to the Sheinwalds and Nick Bridge, we also want to welcome two new members to the BABA Board of Directors: **John Christian** with EnergySolutions and **Allison Parent** of Barclays Capital. These two executives will bring drive and enthusiasm to a strong Board that has helped BABA become the premier UK-US business organization in the mid-Atlantic region.

In 2012, BABA will celebrate its 25th Anniversary. In March (date to be finalized), we will acknowledge this milestone with a Gala Black-Tie dinner. I know that BABA will continue to prosper, despite the challenging business environments on both sides of the Atlantic. As I bid you goodbye for now, I wish you all the best in the coming year and look forward to seeing you at a BABA event in 2012.



Catherine W. Riley

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## Bechtel Corporation To Move Operations to Fairfax County

**Bechtel Corporation**, one of the world's largest engineering, construction, and project management firms, will relocate its global operations headquarters and other functions from Maryland to Fairfax County, VA. The move was announced by Virginia Gov. **Bob McDonnell**.

The company also will locate its Government Services business unit, its US-based civil business, Bechtel Enterprises, and corporate functions and services in Fairfax County, creating a total of 625 new jobs. Bechtel will lease space near Reston Town Center about eight miles from Washington Dulles International Airport.

Bechtel already is active in Fairfax County. The company is the lead partner of Dulles Transit Partners, the contractor responsible for building Phase One of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail extension.

"We look forward to opening our offices in Fairfax County next year," said **Bill Dudley**, Bechtel president and chief operating officer. "Reston Town Center is an ideal location for Bechtel. We will have better proximity to our domestic and international customers, many nearby amenities, and more transportation options for our employees to and from work."

Bechtel's 53,000 employees work with customers, partners, and suppliers on projects in nearly 50 countries through five global business units: civil infrastructure; power generation; communications and transmission; mining and metals; oil, gas, and chemicals; and government services. Bechtel Corporation, based in San Francisco, reported 2010 annual sales of \$27 billion.

For more information on Fairfax County, visit [www.FairfaxCountyEDA.org](http://www.FairfaxCountyEDA.org).

## UK Outlines European Strategy

With 2011 drawing to a close, it has been another eventful year that has demanded tough decisions and decisive action on behalf of our business, families, and the global economy more broadly. December's European Council was no exception to that rule.

Prime Minister **David Cameron** went into the Council with a clear remit. The aim of the UK government was to protect the national interest and to secure safeguards for the single market, but also address the issue of European debt in a comprehensive and credible way.

We want to reassure all those doing business with, and investing in, the UK that we remain fully committed to the European Union — at the heart of the single

market, influential over its development, and committed to work for a more flexible and dynamic Europe. We continue to wish the Eurozone well in its efforts to achieve the stability and growth that Europe – Britain included – and the world needs. Our membership of the



### EMBASSY NEWS

EU is vital to our national interest.

There will not be any quick fixes to the global economic downturn. But by dealing with our debts, and supporting business and jobs, the UK government is committed to laying the foundations for a stronger and more balanced economy.

We have many reasons for good cheer as we usher in 2012, which promises to be an exciting year for the UK as we host the London Olympics this summer and celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Here's to the New Year!

### PUBLICATIONS STAFF

*Benjamin D. Cromer*, Editor & Designer

*Keith Harvey*, Photographer

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## **Second Annual English & Virginia Wine Tasting**

### **Sponsored by New Horizon Wines**

*September 27, 2011*

Residence of the Deputy Head of Mission, Washington, DC



*From left to right: Robin Twyman, David Rusiecki, and Bob Cubbison enjoy the wine, and the networking.*



*Richard Leaver and Tamara Roberts (l.) of Ridgeview Estates with DHM Philip Barton (c.) and Chris Parker, President, New Horizon Wines.*

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## **NBC4 Studio Tour & Media Discussion**

### ***“The Future of the Media in the US & UK”***

*November 29, 2011*

NBC4 Studios, Washington, DC



*Neil and Kathy Agate pose for a photo on the ‘Meet the Press’ stage set. In addition to the studio tour, the event featured a stimulating panel discussion with news reporters from UK and US print and electronic media.*



*From left to right: Toby Harnden, US Editor, Daily Telegraph of London; Rhian Chilcott, Moderator; Jonny Dymond, Foreign Correspondent, BBC; Tom Costello, NBC Network News Correspondent; and Paul Bruton, Director of Strategic Partnership, NBC4.*

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers

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## 21st Annual Golf Tournament

*With Premier Sponsor*

**British Airways**

**River Creek Club, Leesburg, VA**

*October 11, 2011*



*The first-place BT Federal Team, pictured with Derrick Surratt (c.) of British Airways, won two round-trip tickets to the UK, courtesy of British Airways.*



*The first-place French-American Chamber of Commerce Team, Veolia/Execucar, pictured with Jackson Guest (c.) of Open Skies, won a round-trip ticket to Paris, courtesy of Open Skies.*



*Bob Len gets ready to putt as Chris Carney looks on.*



*Greg McDonough with his EEI Communications teammates wills the ball into the cup.*

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers

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## 15th Annual Gala Christmas Luncheon

*With Premier Sponsor*

**British Airways**

*December 19, 2011*

The Ritz-Carlton, Washington, DC



*From left to right: James Enright with Guoman & Thistle Hotels; Amb. Sheinwald; Samantha Smith, winner of the Grand Prize — two tickets to London on British Airways; and Derrick Surratt with British Airways.*



*David Marsh draws a laugh from Sir Nigel after presenting him with a parting gift — 'World's Funniest Lawyer Jokes.'*



*From left to right: BABA Vice President Tom Harrell, Kiran Koluri, and Bill Dalecky, both with Pratt & Whitney.*



*Craig Banikowski with Mirian Rodriguez-Marquez of British Airways.*

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers





*Amanda Downes (l.) the Social Secretary at the British Embassy, with Pauline Jones of EnergySolutions.*



*The Children's Choir from the British School of Washington added charm to the festive atmosphere.*



*Cathy Riley poses with her parting gift, a photo album from her tenure as BABA president, which was presented to her by David Marsh.*



*Ken Quinn was the happy winner of a holiday gift basket, donated by BAE Systems, which was presented by Ms. Claus (Sally-Anne Andrew of inVNT).*

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers

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*BABA welcomes the following new Sponsoring Members:*

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# New Members

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## Darts Group Targets USA in 2012

The UK's Professional Darts Corporation (PDC) has joined up with the Elite Dart Players Association of America to bring a professional darts tournament to the USA. In 2012, their "Darts Madness" All-American Professional Tournament will be held February 17-19, at Gaylord National Harbor Resort in Maryland, just outside Washington, DC. Darts is a fast-growing sport, which has shed its image of beer and cigarettes and is now focused on a younger, more professional crowd. For details, reply to [RegattaMedia@gmail.com](mailto:RegattaMedia@gmail.com) or call the event organizers at 917-385-1244.

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# New Members

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