



British-American Business Association Washington, D.C.

Fostering valuable UK-US trans-Atlantic business relationships in the Washington, D.C. region

Newsletter

February 2017

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On page 4: Our 'Think Green' networking event.

Gala Christmas Luncheon Closes Out 2016 With Holiday Cheer

By Ben Cromer

The polar vortex made its way to Washington in mid-December but the heightened cold did not detract from the warm holiday spirit on display at the 20th Annual Gala Christmas Luncheon, held December 16 at the newly-renovated Old Post Office on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington.

Our Guest-of-Honor, **Patrick Davies, OBE**, Deputy Head-of-Mission at the British Embassy, welcomed everyone to BABA's traditional end-of-year holiday extravaganza, which included a wonderful performance from the Chorus of the **British International School of Washington**.

A special thanks to all of our sponsors: Premier Sponsor **British Airways**; our Platinum Sponsors **Airbus Americas Inc.**, **Lockheed Martin Corporation**, and **OBX-tek, Inc.**; Gold Sponsors **Arnold & Porter LLP**, **BT**, **HSBC**, **Prospect 33, LLC**, **Rolls-Royce North America**, and **Strelmark, LLC**; and Silver Sponsors **AECOM** and **British International School of Washington**. [For more event photos, see pages 6-7]



Harvey & Harvey Photographers

At the Gala Christmas Luncheon, from left to right: BABA President Eamonn Cooney; Deputy Ambassador Patrick Davies; and BABA Chairman Barry Eccleston.

Our Events Calendar is Heating Up!

Visit www.babawashington.org for a listing of events...

Register Online Today!

From the President . . .

Dear Members:

Founded in 1987, this is BABA's 30th Anniversary and our mission remains to support and develop strong UK-US trade and investment, through the activities, networking, and benefits we bring you, our members, along with providing a close liaison with the UK and US governments.



We can certainly expect to see significant developments in UK-US business, commerce, policy, and politics with both a new US administration and progress on the Brexit negotiations. We will follow both closely and plan actions and events accordingly.

We will continue our successful business networking events like our CEO speaker series; policy breakfasts with the British Ambassador; ongoing Brexit programs; and events on US trade policy, UK-US defense, finance, health, and other sectors.

We ended last year with another very successful Christmas luncheon. It was wonderful to see so many members and guests enjoy it all. We appreciate all the positive and informative feedback to our survey, which will be followed up on in planning the 2017 event. Speaking of events, don't forget the BABC's Annual Transatlantic Business Conference, May 10-11 in Chicago. I plan to attend and I hope many of you can join me. For details, visit www.babc.org/conference.

I would also like to welcome our newest members to BABA, those I have met and those I look forward to meeting at a next BABA event (see our Website for details). We encourage members to let us know about their UK-US business success, so we can acknowledge and support you across BABA's social media.

An interesting and eventful year lies ahead for BABA so I wish you success as we take the journey through it! Happy New Year and all the very best for a prosperous 2017!



Eamonn Cooney

President@babawashington.org

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New Campaign Highlights Trade & Investment Opportunities In UK

The UK's **Department for International Trade** has kicked off its largest ever international trade and investment campaign as part of the UK Government's continued drive to be the business destination of choice.

Aimed at international businesses and governments, the campaign will showcase the UK's trade and investment opportunities to a global marketplace, including the US. Prime Minister **Theresa May** and President **Donald Trump** discussed trade relations between the two countries at their meeting in January.

The campaign launch is the latest initiative in the successful longstanding "GREAT Britain" campaign to promote the best of what the UK has to offer the world. This campaign positions the UK as the home of impressive and surprising creativity, expertise, innovation, quality, and world-leading capabilities.

Declaring to global investors that the UK is open for business, the campaign showcases the strength of the UK as a leading investment and business destination, particularly in financial services, creative industries, the life sciences sector, and the sustainable energy industry.

The comprehensive, multi-channel campaign will display a series of new images showcasing the UK's world-leading products and services, including advertising in international airport hubs such as New York, Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Dubai, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, and Singapore.

Secretary of State for International Trade, **Dr. Liam Fox, MP**, said: "The UK is open and ready for business, and the launch of our largest international trade campaign is an important step in showcasing the very best of what our country has to offer to the world."

For more information, visit www.gov.uk.

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Arnold & Porter LLP and **Kaye Scholer LLP** have merged to become **Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP**. According to the firm, the combined company has "renowned regulatory expertise, sophisticated litigation and transactional practitioners, and leading multidisciplinary practices in the life sciences and financial services industries."

The combined law firm has approximately 1,000 lawyers across nine domestic and four international offices spanning more than 30 practice areas, including US, European Union, and cross-border regulatory, litigation, and transactional services.

For more information, visit www.apks.com.

Virgin Now Offers TSA Precheck

Virgin Atlantic Airways is the first UK airline to participate in the Transportation Security Administration's TSA Precheck program. Virgin Atlantic's joint venture partner, **Delta Air Lines**, already offers this option for customers flying Delta. TSA Precheck enables customers to skip the slower security queues and enjoy a faster, easier security screening process when departing from US airports. Qualifying customers who enter a valid Known Traveller Number or Customs and Border Protection-issued PASSID in their Virgin Atlantic or Delta reservations, and are pre-approved, will then see the TSA Precheck notation on their boarding pass.

For details, visit www.virginatlantic.com.



The BABA Small Business Group meets with representatives from the UK Department for International Trade (DIT) in 2016. The discussion featured Richard Turner, DIT Regional Director; and Stuart Baird, Consul and Head of Trade & Investment.

International “Think Green” Rooftop Networking Experience

Hosted by **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP**

October 4, 2016

Last October 4, BABA’s **Energy & Environment Committee** and our **Young Professionals Group** hosted a networking and social event on the “green” rooftop of **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP**’s DC offices. Attendees enjoyed city views, networked with BABA members and guests, and learned how “going green” is good business practice. BABA was joined by the **French-American Chamber of Commerce** and the **Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce**. The Energy & Environment Committee focuses on the policy issues and business opportunities presented to UK-US member businesses. BABA’s frequent business and social events all include a networking component. For a listing of events, visit www.babawashington.org.



From left to right: Neil Agate, Mary Larson Abboud, and Mark Herlach enjoy the rooftop event.

Dinner Roundtable for Invited Guests with Harriett Baldwin, MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State & Minister for Defence Procurement

Sponsored by Airbus

September 29, 2016

Following changes to the UK Government’s ministerial team last July, the Minister for Defence Procurement, **Harriet Baldwin, MP**, visited Washington to discuss deliverables from the 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review, as well as the UK’s Innovation initiative launched in 2016. This roundtable event for invited guests, sponsored by **Airbus** in cooperation with **BABA** and the **British Embassy**, was an opportunity to share industry views on current defense priorities, as the Minister looked to set the agenda for engagement with the new US Administration.



Harriet Baldwin, MP (center, in white jacket), with the invited guests at the roundtable event.



From left to right: Eamonn Cooney, Minister Baldwin, and Mark Herlach.

All BABA event photos can be viewed at www.babawashington.org

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers

Mark Your Calendars! Transatlantic Business Conference: May 10-11, 2017

The **Transatlantic Business Conference**, organized annually by the **British-American Business Council (BABC)**, will focus on evolving opportunities in the USA, Canada, and Europe as transatlantic businesses absorb changes in the realities of economies, trade, borders, and governance. The 2017 conference will be hosted by BABC Chicago from May 10-11.

Dedicated to promoting a robust dialogue between the United States and United Kingdom, the BABC draws upon the leadership of its 2,000 member companies across 22 chapter cities.

For more information on this year's conference, including registration details, visit www.babc.org/conference.



Choose Chicago

Flora Fraser Named Mount Vernon's Georgian Papers Fellow

The Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington has named author and historian **Flora Fraser** as its second Georgian Papers Fellow. The fellowship provides a scholar the opportunity to work in the Royal Library and Archives at Windsor Castle, focusing on the papers of King George III.

The Georgian Papers project is a partnership of the Royal Library and Archives and King's College London, as well as several American institutions, including the Washington Library at **Mount Vernon**. This alliance allows the Washington Library to establish a scholarly exchange with King's College London, in order to digitize, disseminate, study, and interpret an extraordinarily rich collection of historic materials, including correspondence, maps, and royal household ledgers.

Fraser was selected based upon her significant scholarship on the life, leadership, and legacy of George Washington, as well as the broader mission of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association.

For more information on the project, visit www.mountvernon.org.



Alexander.com



Former UK Official Tackles Brexit Issues at BABA Roundtable

Last December 8, BABA held a breakfast roundtable discussion at the offices of **Arnold & Porter LLP** with **Sir Simon Fraser**, former head of the UK's Foreign Commonwealth Office and currently head of **Flint Global**. His topic was "The UK Government Post-Brexit — Navigating the Issues." BABA will continue to organize events throughout 2017 that address the immense changes that businesses — on both sides of the Atlantic — face as the UK addresses the challenges of Brexit.



20th Annual Gala Christmas Luncheon

With Premier Sponsor



December 16, 2016

Washington, DC



Jennifer Taylor Hodges (c.) with Kara Sutton and guest take in the festive atmosphere.



Grand Prize raffle prize winner Mona Terrell (holding envelope) with Derrick Surratt (l.) British Airways; Craig Irving, American Airlines; and Sally-Anne Andrew.



Margarita Nagle Jones (c.), Hilary Fordwich (r.) with a guest at the reception.



Jan Mul (c.) with Neil and Kathy Agate.

All BABA event photos can be viewed at www.babawashington.org

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers



The setting at the hotel ballroom during the luncheon.



David and Fleur Howgill (at right) with their guests.



BABA Members at the OBXtek table get into the holiday spirit.



The group from Rolls-Royce, from left to right: Craig McVay, Jonathan Gallinetti and George Kampstra.

All BABA event photos can be viewed at www.babawashington.org

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers

“Brexit: What’s Next for Business?”

Hosted by

Allen & Overy LLP

October 6, 2016



BABA presented the first in a series of roundtables designed to examine specific implications arising out of the UK’s vote last June to leave the EU. The first roundtable, held last October 6 at the DC offices of **Allen & Overy LLP**, was on the economic and political implications of Brexit. The Panel Moderator was Thomas Whitehead, Director of US Government Affairs at BT. Panelists were **Rain Newton-Smith**, the Chief Economist of the Confederation of British Industry; and **Charles Borden**, a Partner in the Washington office of Allen & Overy who leads the firm’s Political Law Practice. BABA organizes frequent events on key topics of interest to the British-American business community in the Washington region, all with a business networking component. Visit www.babawashington.org for details.



Eamonn Cooney (far right) with panelists Charles Borden, Allen & Overy; and Rain Newton Smith, The CBI. Moderator was Thomas Whitehead (third from left), BT.

“Anti-money Laundering, Counterterrorism, Economic Sanctions, the FCPA, and the PATRIOT Act”

Hosted by

Blank Rome LLP

November 22, 2016

The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Department of Justice are ramping up enforcement efforts with respect to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). In addition, as more emphasis is placed on US PATRIOT Act compliance by US financial institutions, non-US financial institutions, and corporates can expect increased scrutiny from their US banking partners to satisfy the due diligence requirements of the USA PATRIOT Act and US anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CTF) requirements generally. Last November 22, BABA member **Blank Rome LLC** hosted a panel discussion at its DC offices on the topic with Panel Moderator **Joseph Poluka**, Partner, Blank Rome LLP. Panelists were **Shawn Wright**, Partner, Blank Rome LLP; and **Terence Gilroy**, Director, Barclays.



Panelists Shawn Wright and Joe Poluka (c.), both from Blank Rome LLP; and Moderator Terence Gilroy from Barclays.

All BABA event photos can be viewed at www.babawashington.org

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Google is a US multinational technology company specializing in Internet-related services and products that include online advertising technologies, search, cloud computing, software, and hardware. Google was founded in 1996 by Larry Page and Sergey Brin while they were PhD students at Stanford University in California. In August 2015, Google announced plans to reorganize its various interests as a conglomerate called Alphabet with Google as the umbrella company for Alphabet's Internet interests.

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