

BRITISH-AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

July 2015

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On page 4: BABA addresses the changing energy landscape.

BABA's Summer Drinks Reception Showcases Scholarship Program

By Ben Cromer

What is the perfect antidote to the hot, humid days of summer in Washington? The BABA Summer Drinks Reception, of course! Hosted at the Ambassador's Residence by **Sir Peter Westmacott** and **Lady Westmacott**, this event always draws a spirited (no pun intended!) crowd, enabling BABA members and guests to mingle inside the Residence, or outside in the Garden — all with their favorite drink in hand.

Not to be forgotten is the worthy cause this event helps support: BABA's Scholarship Program. BABA has supported the scholarships since 1998; the scholarship recipients take part in an intensive two-week summer study tour of Britain — including visits to Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon — organized by **ACS International Schools**. Transatlantic airfare for the BABA scholarship recipients was provided by **Virgin Atlantic Airways**.

Congratulations to this year's DC scholarship recipients: **Nakfana Gidey** and **Shayla Summers**. For more photos from this event, turn to pages 6-7.



Harvey & Harvey Photographers

From left to right: BABA President Andrew Baker, Amb. Westmacott, and BABA Chairman Barry Eccleston.

Fore! It's the Cross-Channel British-French Golf Challenge!

BABA's 25th Annual Golf Tournament

September 17, 2015

Register online at www.babawashington.org

From the President . . .

Dear Members:

I hope that you are enjoying the summer months and that you have been able to take a well-earned vacation with your loved ones.



We have certainly had a busy few months and I was really pleased to see many of you at the recent Annual General Meeting — many thanks to those that attended — where we announced that after seven years serving as our Chairman, **David Marsh** would be stepping down. It has been my pleasure to work with David over the years

and I will miss his counsel and leadership.

Our Association is in a strong position today and much of that is due to David's outstanding commitment and leadership. And as many of you will know David was recently awarded an MBE (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by **Queen Elizabeth II** for services to British-American business. On behalf of the entire Association I want to extend my/our sincere thanks and congratulations to David.

However, I am absolutely delighted to inform you that David's successor is **Barry Eccleston**. Barry is President and CEO at Airbus Americas Inc. and is an outstanding individual with an extremely impressive track-record and all the necessary attributes to be a highly effective Chairman. I am thrilled that Barry is our new Chairman and I am looking forward to working with Barry over the coming months as we continue to further enhance our Association. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Barry for taking on the role of BABA Chairman.

With that let me pass along my best wishes to you and your family for an enjoyable summer and I will be back in touch soon. In the meantime, if I or any member of the BABA team can be assistance please don't hesitate to contact us; it will be great to hear from you!



Andrew C. Baker
President@babawashington.org

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Britain is Open for Business

UK GDP grew 3 percent in 2014, the strongest annual growth since 2007, and the fastest in the G7. The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecasts GDP growth of 2.4 percent this year. As the Chancellor said, this is “faster than US, faster than Germany and twice as fast as France. For the second year in a row, Britain is expected to have the strongest economic growth of any major advanced economy in the world.”

Chancellor **George Osborne** also announced cuts to corporation tax rate. “We’re giving businesses the lower taxes they can count on, to grow with confidence, invest with confidence, and create jobs with confidence. A new 18 percent rate of corporation tax – sending out loud and clear the message around the world: Britain is open for business.”

British-American Parliamentary Group Annual Congressional Conference – 21-22 July

The British American Parliamentary Group (BAPG) convened its annual Parliamentary/Congressional Conference 21-22 July. The US Senate hosted the UK Parliamentarians for discussions on US-UK politics; US-UK defence and security cooperation; and US-UK economic and energy policies. In addition, the Parliamentarians also held discussions with US agencies and business/labour groups on security and trade issues.

Participants from the UK included:

- The Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling, MP
- The Rt. Hon. John Spellar, MP
- The Rt. Hon. the Lord Howard of Lympne, CH QC
- The Lord Davies of Stamford
- Jack Lopresti, MP
- Seema Malhotra, MP
- Craig Tracey, MP
- and Kevan Jones, MP

BicycleSPACE Reception – 25 July

BicycleSPACE store partnered with Brompton Bikes and **UK Trade & Investment** in DC to host a cycling reception on 25 July at the British Embassy. The reception showcased several British cycling brands including Brompton, Pashley, and Brooks England. There were several activities planned for the day, which culminated at the reception.

Defence Security Equipment International (DSEI) – 15-18 September

The world leading defence & security event, DSEI will bring a major focus on UK, US, and international defence industry engagement, involving many BABA members and their parent companies and subsidiaries, on 15-18 September in London. The British Embassy and wider US network are working on US attendance to DSEI from the single services, administration, and state governments, networking opportunities around the US Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps annual industry events, as well as plans to mark the 75 years of science and technology cooperation since the Tizard commission of 1940. Please reach out if you spot an opportunity to work together.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Maude of Horsham

The Minister of State for Trade and Investment, the **Rt. Hon. Lord Maude of Horsham** visited Washington, DC, last month. He joined Reps. **Richard Neal**, **Erik Paulsen**, and **Bill Keating** to give the keynote address during the Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership (TTIP) Caucus Reception on the Hill and met with US Trade Representative **Mike Froman**, Secretary of Commerce **Penny Pritzker**, and others to underscore the importance of the TTIP, which could increase the UK-US trade relationship worth over \$200 billion a year and has helped to create a million jobs on both sides of the Atlantic.



EMBASSY NEWS

Savile Row

On 14 May British Ambassador **Peter Westmacott** hosted 17 Savile Row Bespoke members and guest tailoring houses at his private residence to showcase the UK’s world class and historic bespoke tailoring industry. Sponsored by Huntsman, Bentley, Graff Diamonds, The Macallan, the GREAT campaign, and curated by FT Contributing Editor **Nick Foulkes**, “Savile Row Bespoke: A Sartorial Special Relationship” celebrated the renowned client base the Row has enjoyed for decades. The exhibition showcased over one hundred pieces including garments, patterns, pictures, accessories and fabrics from the wardrobes of Cary Grant, Kevin Spacey, Michael Jackson, John Pierpont Morgan, Benny Goodman, Ralph Lauren, Andy Warhol, and US Presidents George H.W. Bush, Gerald Ford, and Ronald Reagan; there was a special tribute to Winston Churchill and Gregory Peck, sponsored by Huntsman.

For more information, visit www.gov.uk.

BABA Welcomes EU Ambassador at British Embassy Reception

BABA, in conjunction with the **British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium**, the **French-American Chamber of Commerce**, the **Netherlands-America Chamber of Commerce**, and the **Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce**, hosted an evening reception and presentation with Guest of Honor **David O'Sullivan**, European Union Ambassador to the United States. Held May 12 at the British Embassy Rotunda, the event provided a forum for BABA members to hear Ambassador O'Sullivan's thoughts on the future of transatlantic trade. The Ambassador stressed the importance of the passage of TPA for the long range prospects of a successful TTIP.



From left to right: British Ambassador Sir Peter Westmacott, EU Ambassador David O'Sullivan, BABA President Andrew Baker, and Sean Murray from the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium.



At right, Maeve O'Beirne (l.) and Adeline Hinderer, both from the EU Delegation.

“The Energy Landscape Today: Rising Uncertainty, Global Challenges”

Hosted by

BABA's Energy & Environment Committee

May 27, 2015

BABA's **Energy & Environment Committee**, in conjunction with the **French-American Chamber of Commerce**, the **Netherlands America Chamber of Commerce**, and the **Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce**, hosted a luncheon discussion on the changing energy landscape, held May 27 at the offices of **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP** in Washington. The panel featured **David Goldwyn**, President of Goldwyn Global Strategies, LLC, who is an expert on international energy issues and **Bill Loveless**, an energy columnist with *USA Today* who previously served as host of the weekly Sunday television program, *Platts Energy Week*. A lively Q&A followed the discussion.

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers



Bill Loveless, (l.) and David Goldwyn receive their speakers' plaque from BABA's Mark Herlach.

Members' Appreciation Networking Reception & Annual General Meeting

Hosted by

Arnold & Porter LLP

June 24, 2015

The Members' Appreciation Networking Reception/Annual General Meeting, held each June, serves multiple purposes: it enables BABA to thank new and long-time members, elect/re-elect BABA directors, and provide a venue for officers and directors who may be stepping down after their service to the Association. In 2015, we said a formal thank you and farewell to BABA Chairman **David Marsh** (for more, see President's letter on page 2). Farewell thanks were also given to outgoing Director **Steve Trow** and outgoing DATS Chair **Jerry McGinn**. Mr. Marsh thanked both for their service to BABA.



From left to right: incoming Chairman Barry Eccleston, David Marsh, and Andrew Baker with David's parting gifts as BABA Chairman.



From left to right, newly-elected Directors Chris Parker, New Horizon Wines; and Carmie McCook, Carmie McCook & Associates; with Quentin Whiteree, IDEEA, Inc., who was elected to a second term.



Dave Marsh (l.) presents Steve Trow with his plaque as outgoing BABA director.

At left, Jerry McGinn holds his plaque for his service as co-chair of the DATS Committee.

Summer Drinks Reception

Hosted by the British Ambassador, Sir Peter Westmacott & Lady Westmacott

To Benefit the BABA Scholarship Program

With Generous Support From



Ambassador's Residence, British Embassy

July 21, 2015



The Virgin Atlantic team, from left to right: Sue Brett, Lea Phelan, Karen Parsons, and Simon Newton-Smith during the reception.



Sir Peter enjoys a Virgin Atlantic Premium Economy seat, flanked by flight attendants Francesca Kerridge (l.) and Annabelle Leszczar.



From left to right: Hillary Stewart, Clara Montanez, Giovanna Cilia-Wheatley, and Linda Rahal take in the festivities.



Andrew Kittell, ACS International Schools, with DC students Nakfana Gidey and Shayla Summers. Sophie Sipprell from the North Carolina chapter is at right.

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

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers



The Summer Drinks Reception helps support BABA's Scholarship Program, enabling worthy students to take part in a two-week British Summer Study Tour organized by ACS International Schools.



From left to right: Kari Wilner, Etta Mackay, Jennifer Rusiecki, Anastasia Choulina, and Brenda Smoak.



George Whitesides, new BABA member Virgin Galactic, with Virgin Atlantic flight attendants Francesca Kerridge (l.) and Annabelle Leszczar.



BABA Young Professional members, from left to right: Sarah Markowitz, Layne Amerikaner, and Jason Crighton.



From left to right: Jeffrey Feagin, Virgin Atlantic; Anna Pina, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; and Francesca Kerridge.

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

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers

“The UK Elections and Their Impact on US Relations”

Hosted by

BABA & World Affairs Council – Washington, DC

May 18, 2015

On May 7, the United Kingdom held a General Election, which was the topic of a timely panel discussion held May 18 at the offices of **McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP** in Washington. The panel addressed the implications for policy-making in the UK as well as the impact on its “special relationship” with the USA. Moderator was **Michael Maibach**, Senior Fellow at Aspen Institute’s 21st Century Manufacturing Program and Former President & CEO of the European-American Business Council. The panel featured **Lord James Bethel**, Managing Director of Westbourne Communications; **The Honorable Jacqui Smith**, Chair, Public Affairs, Westbourne Communications; **Geoff Dyer**, Foreign Policy editor for the Washington Bureau, Financial Times; and **John Gizzi**, Chief Political Columnist & White House Correspondent, Newsmax. BABA holds regular ‘Business After Hours’ discussions on topics of interest to the transatlantic business community.



Michael Maibach with Jennifer Taylor Hodges (l.) and Jessica Jones, both with BT, during the networking reception.

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers



The panel, left to right: Tony Culley-Foster, CFCO International; Michael Maibach, Aspen Institute; The Honorable Jacqui Smith, Westbourne Communications; John Gizzi, Newsmax; Geoff Dyer, Financial Times; Eamonn Cooney, BABA; and Lord James Bethel, Westbourne Communications.

BABC Takes a Bite Out of the Big Apple at Annual Conference

The British-American Business Council (BABC) held its Annual Transatlantic Business Conference, “The Innovation Imperative: Strategy, Technology and Growth,” in New York City from May 13-14.

The Conference brought members of the BABC’s 20 chapters together to share business insights and develop new business relationships through a high-level program of panel discussions with industry-leading CEOs and innovators and of business networking with other senior executives from throughout the US and UK. In addition to the business program, the social program included cocktails and dinner on a private yacht as it toured the New York Harbor and a Reception at the Residence of the British Consul-General in New York and Director-General of UK Trade & Investment for the USA. The Conference was held on the top floor of the Thomson Reuters building in Times Square and was sponsored by **Delta Air Lines, Virgin Atlantic Airways, The Boston Consulting Group, Deloitte, BAE Systems Applied Intelligence, Berkeley Research Group, LLC, Future Foundation, and Tata Consultancy Services.**

The 2016 Annual Conference, “Future Cities,” will be held in London May 11-12. For details, visit www.babc.org.

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BABA Event Listings, Committee Information, Photos & More!

www.babawashington.org

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E-mail: robert-paul.sagner@AllenOvery.com
Website: www.allenoverly.com

Allen & Overy is an international legal practice with approximately 5,150 people, including some 525 partners, working in 44 offices worldwide in Europe, The America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia Pacific. Our internal network incorporates lawyers who are experts in domestic law as well as have the ability to negotiate in cross-border transactions. The knowledge and availability of our professionals worldwide guarantee an effective coordination and an excellent service anywhere and anytime. We are recognized by the main legal directories as one of the leading international legal practices.

CORPORATE MEMBER

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Spaceflight Company

Richard Dalbello, Vice President Business Development
Sirisha Bandla, Government Affairs Manager
4022 E Conant Street
Long Beach, CA 90808
Tel: 562-384-4400
E-mail: richard.dalbello@virgingalactic.com
Website: www.virgingalactic.com

Virgin Galactic is an American-based spaceflight company within the British Virgin Group. It is developing commercial spacecraft and aims to provide suborbital spaceflights to space tourists, suborbital launches for space science missions, and orbital launches of small satellites.

PUBLICATIONS STAFF

Benjamin D. Cromer, Editor & Designer
Keith Harvey, Photographer

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SMALL BUSINESS MEMBERS

ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS

Rental Car Company

Peter Weedon, Regional Business Rental Sales Executive
Sean Ryan, Business Rental Director
2273 Research Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850
Tel: 804-304-4592
E-mail: peter.j.weedon@ehi.com
Website: www.enterpriseholdings.com

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Sophia Hue Pham, CEO/Founder
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Tel: 703-628-8877
E-mail: sophia@itfgcapital.com
Website: www.itfgcapital.com

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Carmie McCook Selected as a Judge for 2015 Lafayette Debates

Carmie McCook, President of Carmie McCook & Associates and a member of BABA's Energy & Environmental Committee, served as a judge for the 2015 Lafayette Debates in April. Held in Washington, the Lafayette Debates are an academic series initiated by the Higher Education

MEMBER NEWS

Department of the French Embassy in the United States in partnership with The George Washington University. The debate was held between student teams from the US Military Academy and France's Ecole de Guerrer. McCook was selected as a judge for her expertise as a public speaking coach and for her experience in the environmental and energy fields.

For more information, visit <http://carmie.com>.

WETA Celebrates Key Milestones

WETA recently celebrated two major milestones: the third anniversary of the WETA UK channel and the 25th anniversary of **Sharon Percy Rockefeller** as the company's president and CEO. Devoted to offering beloved British classics, new favorites, and contemporary series airing in Britain, WETA UK broadcasts a full schedule of entertainment programming. providing viewers free access to quality programs from across the pond — 24/7.

WETA UK has attracted a solid local audience since its premiere, including **Sir Peter Westmacott**, the British Ambassador. In fact, at the "Silver Salute," which was an event celebrating Sharon Percy Rockefeller and WETA, Sir Peter said: "Thanks to WETA and the leadership of Sharon Percy Rockefeller, the best of Britain has found a home at WETA UK. This commitment to public broadcasting — one of Britain's finest inventions — is why WETA is considered to be one of America's greatest national treasures."

For more information, visit www.wetauk.org.



BRITISH-AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 16482
Washington, DC 20041