



Newsletter

British-American Business Association Washington, D.C.

Fostering valuable UK-US trans-Atlantic business relationships for more than 30 years

August 2024

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US-U.K. Trade Policy Roundtable

Our Platinum Members



Members' Appreciation Reception & Annual General Meeting

Hosted by Arnold & Porter

The 37th Annual General Meeting and Members Reception took place on June 20th hosted by Sponsoring Member, Arnold & Porter.

The event serves several purposes: it enables BABA to thank new and long-time members, elect /re-elect directors, and provide a venue for directors

who may be stepping down after their service to the Association. This year we said a formal thank you with much appreciation to outgoing director, **Scott Thompson** with PwC. Scott served six years on the BABA Board. Newly elected director was **Astrid Ruggeri** with BMW Group and re-elected for a second term were: **Mark Huntley** with the Fairmont and **Courtney Oldham** with Capital Alpha Partners.



BABA Chair, Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel welcomes guests to the AGM.

(For more on the AGM including photos, see page 4)

Don't Miss the BABA Fall Embassy Reception

British Embassy Residence

September 10, 2024

Register online at www.babawashington.org

From the President...



Dear Members & Colleagues,

I hope everyone is enjoying some relaxation during the summer months. It was great to see so many of you at the June AGM/Members Reception. I would like to welcome a new Director to the Board, Astrid Ruggeri who is Senior Manager for Outreach and Diplomatic Engagement at BMW Group and Co-Chair of the BABA Trade Policy Committee. Returning to the board for second terms are: **Mark Huntley**, Regional Vice President and General Manager, Fairmont Washington, D.C., Georgetown and **Courtney Oldham**, Partner and Chief Operating Officer at Capital Alpha Partners and

I am happy to report that BABA held 32 business and social events last year along with organized meetings with a number of high level UK government officials. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committees for their work. They are truly the heart of our issue and policy focused efforts.

I'd like to recognize our newest Platinum Member, **Rolls-Royce North America** who joins **Lockheed Martin** and **Womble Bond Dickinson** in that member category. Our new members who joined in the past year include one Sponsoring; five Corporate; 17 Small Business; eight Individuals and 18 Young Professionals for a total of 49 new members. Welcome to all!

We continue to boost our presence and that of our members on social media platforms and we'll be unveiling a new website soon which will be much more user-friendly.

We will carry on our mission to support UK-US trade and investment, and value our close working relationship and collaboration with our colleagues at the British Embassy. The support of Ambassador Pierce is essential to BABA. I hope many of you will be able to attend the Fall Embassy Reception at the Ambassador's Residence on September 10th.

With our strong membership and high quality events, BABA remains in a stable, healthy financial position.

BABA's value is created by engagement of our members. If you have any membership questions/suggestions I'd love to hear from you.

Wishing each of you an enjoyable end of summer!

Chris Fetzer

President@babawashington.org

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Embassy News

Summer 2024 saw a busy programme of diplomatic, military, economic, political, and social engagements to enhance the UK/US alliance.

On June 7th, British Ambassador to the US Dame Karen Pierce hosted a celebration of the UK/US military alliance using public diplomacy through sport with the 3rd annual UK-US Friendship Day at Nationals Park.

After the UK election in early July, the Embassy quickly moved to reaffirming the strength of the Special Relationship. The British Embassy supported a wide range of engagements during the 75th NATO Summit in DC to formally introduce the UK's new Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, and Defence Secretary to the world stage. Alongside heads of state from 32 NATO Allies, the UK signed the Washington Summit Declaration in support of Ukraine.

In tech news, the UK's Department of Business and Trade in San Francisco attended the RSA Conference to promote the UK's innovation and leadership in cybersecurity. The British Consulate General in Houston team hosted a delegation of UK tech companies in Austin, TX to explore the tech ecosystem in Texas and why UK companies should do business in the region. In July, the British Consulate General in San Francisco hosted a roundtable with the Generative AI Collective, gathering the Bay Area's tech experts to discuss robotics, the likelihood of a robotics "ChatGPT moment," the most likely commercialised use cases, and how global communities can best support innovators in commercialising technologies.

To deepen the UK/US economic and trade relationship a UK delegation travelled to DC for the SelectUSA Investment Summit and the British

Ambassador hosted a reception for key stakeholders at the British Embassy Residence. UK delegates travelled to Miami, Seattle, and Austin for further engagement. To ensure that UK/US economic ties stretch across the nation, the San Francisco's Consulate General and her team attended meeting with high level government officials from Montana and Wyoming including Wyoming Governor Gordon and Montana Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras. In August, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right

Honorable Rachel Reeves MP, visited New York City to engage with large-scale investors from Blackrock, Citibank, Vanguard, BNY, Barclays, Cyrus One, and State Street to promote the new Labour government's economic growth agenda and the UK as a premier destination for US investment.



British Embassy Washington

In June, the British Embassy celebrated the King's Birthday with a reception at the residence. The Embassy used this engagement to strengthen relationships with contacts and promote iconic British brands. The British Ambassador, the Senior Vice President of BP, and the CEO of Barclays gave remarks.

The whole of the UK's US Network celebrated LGBT+ Pride Month, with the British Embassy marching with its own float in the Capital Pride Parade, the British Consulate General in Boston marching in the "Boston Pride for the People Parade," and the British Consulate General in LA marching in the Los Angeles Pride Parade.

The Embassy looks forward to using our collaboration with BABA to continue fostering UK/US economic partnership and growth in the coming months.

Members Appreciation Reception & Annual General Meeting

Sponsored by
Arnold & Porter

Opening the meeting was BABA Chairman, **Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel** who greeted guests and thanked Amy Jeffress and Arnold & Porter for providing a wonderful venue and delicious catering. Nancy also introduced the BABA Officers and Directors and Committee Chairs.

Nominating Chair, **Mark Herlach** was on hand to read the Report of the Nominating Committee and thanked Committee members: **Stephanie Driscoll, Amy Jeffress, Sheri Lauten** and **Bob McCollar** for their time and effort on the nomination selection process.



Re-elected Directors: Courtney Oldham and Mark Huntley



Amy Jeffress, Arnold & Porter with guests, David and Cynthia Kamioner



Members and guests enjoy the networking reception following the AGM

US-U.K Policy Roundtable at the US Capitol



On July 10th BABA's Trade and Policy Committee held a panel discussion and reception in the U.S. Capitol Building. Co-Chair Breon Wells of The Daniel Initiative (top left) worked with Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries' staff to secure the room while Co-Chair Audrae Erickson of Reckitt curated the panel of top trade experts pictured above including Tom Madrecki, Consumer Brands Association, Christing Bliss, Coalition of Service Industries, and David Salmonsens of the American Farm Bureau Federation. (top middle) is UK Caucus Co-Chair, Rep. Joe Wilson of South Carolina and BABA Chairwoman Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel of Lockheed Martin. The Trade and Policy Committee will hold an open house in September at the offices of Co-Chair Astrid Ruggieri and BMW Group.

Rolls-Royce begins R130 engine testing in Indianapolis, successfully completes testing at NASA Stennis Space Center

On August 6, 2024, Rolls-Royce (LSE: RR., ADR: RYCEY) announced testing on the F130 engine has begun in Indianapolis, another step towards delivering for the United States Air Force B-52J Stratofortress. Sea-level testing of the First Engine to Test (FETT) will run the initial software release for the F130 in the newly refurbished Test Cell 114.

In addition, Rolls-Royce is wrapping up successful Rapid Twin Pod Tests this week. Testing at NASA Stennis marked the first time F130 engines were tested in the dual-pod



engine configuration of the B-52 aircraft. The tests produced critical performance data, validating Rolls-Royce's analytical predictions — including performance in crosswind conditions, and further de-risking the integration of the F130 engine onto the B-52J.

Testing at NASA Stennis has played a key role in meeting initial testing goals and delivering at exactly the pace defined by the Air Force. This test data informs the production configuration of the F130 engine Critical Design Review (CDR), on schedule for the fall of 2024.

Soccer Central was at Fairmont, Washington, DC Georgetown this Summer



On July 14, BABA Board Member Mark Huntley of the Fairmont Washington, DC Georgetown hosted BABA members for the UEFA Euro final with England battling Spain. We did not get the result we wanted with Spain besting England 2-1 but it was an exciting match in an upscale setting with wonderful British fare and drinks served by Fairmont staff.



**WOMBLE
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Womble Sponsors Lavender Law Career Fair and Conference; Hosts Client Reception at DC Office

On August 7-9, Womble Bond Dickinson proudly sponsored and attended the Lavender Law Career Fair and Conference, underscoring our unwavering commitment to diversity, inclusion, and support of the LGBTQ+ legal community.

Womble lawyers Tara Cho, Kevin Hall, Mason Freeman, Andrew Harding, Christos Christodoulou, Caitlin Augerson, Jan Foster, James Clark, Kyle Kessler, and Christine Xiao attended along with Firm attorney recruiter Hailey Fein. At the conference, Womble attendees actively engaged with law students, networked with clients, and

gained invaluable insights into the current issues and trends in LGBTQ+ law and advocacy.

The highlight of our participation was Womble's client reception held on the first night of the conference at our DC office rooftop. Against the backdrop of the city skyline, we had the pleasure of connecting with clients, colleagues, and conference attendees in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. The event was a resounding success, enabling us to strengthen relationships and demonstrate our firm's dedication to our clients and the LGBTQ+ community.

USA vs Scotland Rugby with BABA Member AEG Sports

Thanks to BABA Member AEG Sports/AEG Rugby, BABA Members had front row seats for USA vs. SCOTLAND Rugby at Audi Field in Washington, D.C. on July 12th. Scotland was victorious 42-7 but the US played a great match. The US has been awarded the men's Rugby World Cup in 2031 and the women's tournament in 2033. Washington, D.C. is vying for the privilege of hosting some of the games and will be showcasing high level rugby for the next six years. Rumor has it in July 2025 the England team could come to Audi Field!



Cyber Security – A Three-Part Series

On May 21, BABA member The Trust Bridge held is first of a three-part series on Cyber Security. The first installment covered staying calm in a crisis and offered a simulation of what happens during a cyber attack and how to respond. The second installment featured a discussion on data privacy and the different policies of the US versus the UK. The third and final installment will take place on September 25th and is titled Third Party Chain: Managing Risk with a Written Information Security Plan (WISP).

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New Members

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Website: www.rooseveltdc.com

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Nuclear

Website: www.corepower.energy

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FTI Consulting's strategic communications services helps leaders seize opportunities and mitigate risk during both transformational and disruptive moments.

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Heritage's mission is to formulate and promote public policies based on the principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense.

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The Trust Bridge offers expertise, advice, plus accredited training in Data Protection and Cyber Security: GDPR and Global Data regulation.

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Website:www.churchilldc.net

We provide federal government affairs and state and local government legislative solutions to businesses, trade associations, and nonprofits.

CSR ACCREDITATION

Business Development; Consulting Corporate
Website:www.csr-accreditation.us

CSR-A is a leading UK based company delivering a standard for environmental and social responsibility. It is now more important than ever to show that we are doing everything we can to improve the world we live in for future generations, not only by reducing the negative impact we have on the environment, but by building a better and cohesive society. It's amazing what we are already doing that we don't talk about. CSR-A provides the perfect opportunity to tell your positive story.

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Architectural Conferene Designer
Website:www.friaagency.com

Frias Agency is an Award-winning experiential agency established in 2006 and provides full-service events and experiential marketing support.

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