



British-American Business Association Washington, D.C.

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

Newsletter

December 2021

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Page 4: "Back in-person" networking evening held on October 25

Our Platinum Members

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The 25th Gala Christmas Luncheon Brought Members and Colleagues Back Together to Celebrate in Person!

Our thanks to all who joined us to celebrate the Holiday season on December 8th at the beautiful Fairmont. Fun and entertainment abounded for over 200 guests who opened Christmas crackers, donned paper hats and enjoyed the company of friends and colleagues; all with Covid safety guidelines firmly in place. A special thank you to **Mr. Michael Tatham, CMG, Deputy Head of Mission**, for taking time from a busy schedule to attend as our Guest of Honor.



(l to r) Mark Huntley, General Manager, Fairmont Hotel; Michael Tatham, DHM, British Embassy; Mark Herlach, BABA Chairman; and Jennifer Taylor Hodges, BABA President.

Guests were welcomed into the Ballroom by our Bagpiper and were then treated to a rendition of Christmas singing and music by a two retired service musicians from the US Army Band. Raffle tickets were on sale during the reception and guests generously bought multiple tickets in the hope of winning one of a number of exciting raffle prizes; proceeds going to the local DC charity, Horton's Kids. A special thank you to **British Airways** for the premier prize of a round-trip for two to London via their award-winning Club World service and to all our prize donors: **AstraZeneca, BMW Group, Eversheds Sutherland, Fairmont, Green-Island Bakery, Hilary Fordwich, Lockheed Martin, Mark Herlach, Old Glory DC Rugby, Scottish Government, Welsh Government, Whiteford, Taylor & Preston and Womble Bond Dickinson.**

For more on the Christmas luncheon, see pages 6-7

From the President . . .

Dear Members & Colleagues,



Happy Holidays! I hope everyone is able to take a break this holiday season to relax and enjoy celebrations with family and friends.

We were so pleased to be able to celebrate, in person, at this year's annual Christmas Gala! We welcomed **Michael Tatham CMG, Deputy Ambassador to the USA**, as our guest of honor. His insightful (and lively!) remarks were a highlight. We're grateful for the ongoing support of the British Embassy leadership and staff and look forward to more collaboration in 2022. Thanks to our members and event sponsors for their support of the Christmas Gala, and to the Fairmont Hotel for hosting us.

We also welcomed some new faces to the BABA board this autumn – **Julie Garner** from **AstraZeneca** and **Cate Sadler** from **Airbus** joined us as appointed directors. **Elizabeth Lee** from **Womble Bond Dickinson** also took on the role of Financial Services Committee co-chair replacing Mike Fletcher, and **Karly Graf** from the British Embassy has been appointed the new YP co-chair replacing Miriam Smallman. Thanks to all these members for their work!

In other BABA staff news, we're so happy to announce that LeeAnn Peterson will be joining us as Executive Director in January! Pat Karhuse will work closely with LeeAnn as she comes on board and gets to know all of our members. LeeAnn comes to BABA with a strong background in government affairs, event planning, and association leadership. Please give LeeAnn a warm welcome - we're excited for you to meet her!

Looking ahead to 2022, we have some fantastic events planned. First up, on January 13, we'll host a (virtual) town hall with **Badar Khan, President, National Grid U.S.** as part of our CEO-Leadership Speaker Series. Mr. Khan will reflect on COP 26 (UN Climate Change Conference), which recently took place in Glasgow, and much more. We hope you can join us!

2021 continued to be a challenging year for many, but BABA remained strong thanks to the dedication and engagement of our members. The next year will bring some uncertainty as business adapts and recovers, but I'm optimistic that the BABA community will continue to flourish.

Your thoughts on what we do at BABA are always welcome so feel free to contact me at President@babawashington.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes for a healthy and happy holiday season!

Jennifer Taylor Hodges
President@babawashington.org

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Embassy News

During a 5-day visit to the US in July, then-International Trade Secretary Liz Truss met US Trade Representative Katherine Tai in Washington to discuss closer cooperation on tackling threats to free and fair global trade.

Truss' meeting with Tai focused on what the UK & US can do to work together and combat market-distorting trade practices, such as industrial subsidies and dumping. They also discussed working together to defend workers and companies that play by the rules against unfair trading practices in the global trading system.

Truss also traveled to the West Coast to promote the UK as a leading investment destination ahead of the Global Investment Summit in October.

On 15 September, Prime Minister Boris Johnson made several government appointments, including former International Trade Secretary Liz Truss as the new Foreign Secretary, and former Development Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan as the new International Trade Secretary. Shortly thereafter, Prime Minister Johnson travelled to New York for the UN General Assembly, where he also met President Biden in Washington.

On 19 October, Prime Minister Johnson hosted the UK's Global Investment Summit. Investors pledged almost £10 billion in new deals that will support growth in vital sectors such as wind and hydrogen energy, sustainable homes and carbon capture and storage, cementing the UK's climate leadership for COP26 and beyond.

The Department for International Trade also launched a new Investment Atlas, an online platform designed to help international investors identify and ex-

ecute high priority investment opportunities in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In early November, Emma Wade-Smith began her tenure as the UK's Consul-General in New York and Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner for North America. Prior to this appointment, she served as Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner for Africa and has previously held senior diplomatic roles in the US.



Also in November, the UK hosted the international climate summit COP26 in Glasgow, the largest international summit the UK has ever hosted. 197 Parties agreed the Glasgow Climate Pact to urgently keep 1.5°C alive and finalize the outstanding elements of the Paris Agreement.

In December, both International Trade Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan and Minister of State for Trade Policy Penny Mordaunt visited the US. The Trade Secretary met senior investors in New York and US Trade Representative Tai in Washington, where they discussed deepening trade ties, our shared approach to tackling market distorting trade practices and practical solutions to drive WTO reform.

Trevelyan also met US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo discuss how trade and investment can support each country's levelling up agendas, and push for a resolution to suspend steel and aluminium tariffs to support British industry.

Minister Mordaunt visited California, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Oklahoma to bolster state-level cooperation. She met with governors, local representatives, commissioners and businesses in each state to discuss priority areas for further cooperation, such as services, digital and agriculture.

Single Tickets for BABA Member Old Glory DC's Season on Sale Now



It's finally here, OG fans! Single-game tickets are now available for Old Glory DC's 2022 Major League Rugby season at Segra Field.

Old Glory DC will open its season with a two-game homestand, beginning with a home opener against the New England Free Jacks on Friday, February 18, and a match against Toronto Arrows on Saturday, February 26. Join us all season long at Segra Field on the Road to Glory! For more information go to <https://am.ticketmaster.com/segrafield/buy>

Inaugural “Back in Person” Rooftop Networking Evening

BABA members and colleagues gathered on a rooftop in DC in late October for our first in-person event since 2020. Hosted by **Platinum Member, Womble Bond Dickinson**, the beautiful Alexander Court featured an indoor-outdoor rooftop terrace and entertainment space with spectacular views of the National Cathedral and across northwest DC. The building has achieved LEED Gold certification.

BABA President, Jennifer Taylor Hodges, welcomed guests to a most enjoyable evening. The down pour of rain didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm to be able to network and socialize again.



Enjoying the outdoor rooftop before the rain are: (l to r) Peter Barnes; new member, Philip Croessmann; and Elizabeth Lee with Womble Bond Dickinson.



(l to r) Eamonn Cooney, Mark Herlach, Jennifer Taylor Hodges, Emily Duncan and Philip Croessmann.

Energy Industry Executives, Investors Embracing the Clean Energy Transition, According to Womble Bond Dickinson Survey Report

In the face of overwhelming and existential challenges, a strong majority of energy industry leaders are willingly embracing work toward decarbonization while they simultaneously adopt a forward-looking and optimistic perspective on the energy transition, according to Womble Bond Dickinson's 2022 Energy Transition Outlook Survey Report.



than a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. The data show even stronger values related to reduction of methane emissions by 2030 (77% for executives and 71% investors).

The survey, which was completed by 170 executives and investors across the energy industry and featured in Yahoo! Finance, provides insight and inside perspective on the many complex and nuanced issues involved in transitioning the global economy out of its current reliance on fossil fuels. In a sign of the times, most executives (73%) and investors (70%) say that their organizations or those in which they invest are either very prepared or moderately prepared to achieve more

“Five years ago, it would have been difficult to believe that three-quarters of energy executives would feel this well-prepared for carbon and methane reductions – and that investors would feel the same way about their portfolio companies,” said Womble Bond Dickinson partner and Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) sector co-lead Jeff Whittle. “The industry is clearly looking long-term and sees its future as having a very different shape from what it is today.” To read more, please visit <https://www.womblebond Dickinson.com/us/insights/news-and-insights/energy-industry-executives-investors-embracing-clean-energy-transition>.

BABA Hires New Executive Director

Starting in January, BABA is pleased to announce that LeeAnn Petersen will be joining BABA as Executive Director succeeding Pat Karhuse in the position. Pat will remain in a support role for some months while enjoying more leisure time at her home on Lake Anna.

LeeAnn has been involved in government relations, public affairs, fundraising and marketing in D.C. for more than 25 years. She began her career

in California working at the local and state level of government before moving permanently to Washington D.C. to finish a Master's Degree and take a job on Capitol Hill.

LeeAnn will concentrate initially on membership development and services and will be reaching out to many of you to introduce herself. Please feel free to contact her starting January 1 at LPetersen@babawashington.org.



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Chairman Mark Herlach presents Past President, Eamonn Cooney with a photo album memorializing his five years as President.



The Fairmont Sponsor Table poses for a photo op.



This festive group of ladies are all smiles!



Piping our guests into the Ballroom.



Grand Prize winner, Dave Hollander (second from left) poses with (l to r) Derrick Surratt and Marie Hildtich both with British Airways and Ms Claus, Sally-Anne Andrew, Proprietor, LeFay Cottage at Little Washington.



Christmas Elf, Maureen Degnan, presents AstraZeneca Holiday Gift Basket to winner, Martha Clark.



(l to r) Katie & Drew Weir, Executive Apartments, Inc., and Aubrey Powers, British Embassy.



(l to r) Dave Hollander, Citrin Cooperman; Elizabeth Lee, Womble Bond Dickinson; John Scannapieco, Womble Bond Dickinson; Alan Enslin, Womble Bond Dickinson; and Wayne Dementi, Dementi Publishing (THE QUEEN and the USA).

A Panel of Experts Discuss UK and US Insolvency Issues

Organized by the Financial Services Committee

In July, the Financial Services Committee organized a panel to discuss the status of insolvency in the US and UK. With Covid greatly impacting certain industries, insolvency has been a topic of focus since the beginning of the pandemic. However, actual insolvency issues have developed quite differently from expectations in many markets. The panel, consisting of a combined group of US and UK insolvency practitioners, shared experiences and expectations for the near future.



*Jeffrey L. Tarkenton,
Partner, Womble Bond
Dickinson*



*David Bart, Sr. Director
of Forensic Investigation
and Dispute Services For
The Great Lakes Region,
RSM US*



*Phillip Sykes, Consultant
RSM UK*



*Andy Stirk, UK head
of Womble Bond
Dickinson's Banking and
Restructuring Team*

Two Prestigious Defense Speakers Lined up the Fall Calendar

Organized by the Defense, Aerospace, Transportation & Security Committee

On September 28 and October 21, BABA members and colleagues heard from two distinguished speakers from the Defense sector. The September program featured Admiral James E. (Jamie) Foggo, USN, Ret, Former Commander of Allied Joint Force Command who spoke on "Great Power Competition and the UK Contribution." Admiral Foggo is a 1981 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Over the last decade in Naples, Italy, he served in multiple major commands as Commander, Naval Forces Europe/Africa; Commander Allied Joint Force Command, Naples; Commander, U.S. Sixth Fleet; Commander, Submarine Group 8; and Commander, Submarines, Allied Naval Forces South. Following his talk, he welcomed questions from the attendees.



*Admiral James Foggo, USN
(Ret) Former Commander
of Allied Joint Force
Command*



*Sir Simon Bollom KBE CB
FREng*

In October members were treated to a return visit by Sir Simon Bollom at an in-person breakfast roundtable at the British Embassy. Sir Simon spoke on implementing the UK's integrated Review and Defence Command Paper.

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Website: www.peterleonardmorgan.com

Peter is a licensed Realtor with Hunt Country Sotheby's International Realty, and a town council member based in Middleburg, Virginia.

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