



British-American Business Association Washington, D.C.

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

Newsletter

July 2025

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May Spring Fling*

Our Platinum Members



Members' Appreciation Reception/ AGM Ushers in Summer

Over 100 guests registered for our Annual General Meeting & Members' Appreciation Reception on June 12th. The newly elected incoming **Chair, Chris Fetzter** presided over the meeting. Elected at the meeting for a second term were **Bob McCollar, Loudoun County Economic Development** and **Joe Tirone, Jones Walker**. Elected for his first term was **Breon Wells, The Daniel Initiative**. Special thanks and recognition were extended to **outgoing Chair, Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel** for her years of service to BABA as Chairperson of the Board.



From left to right: Derrick Surratt, Vice Chair, Membership; Chris Fetzter, Chairman; Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel, Past Chair; Mark Herlach, Director; and Cate Sadler, Vice Chair, Programs



On left, newly elected Director Breon Wells, The Daniel Initiative and 2nd term elected Director Joe Tirone, Jones Walker

From the Chairman



Dear Members and Colleagues:

I hope that you and your families are enjoying the summer, whether you have plans to travel or have traveled to a far off place, or have opted to stay close to home.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our recent Annual General Membership Meeting. Thank you to our event host and event sponsor, **Arnold & Porter**. At this special event we elected two returning board directors: **Joe Tirone of Jones Walker LLP, Bob McCollar of Loudoun County Economic Development, and one new board member, Breon Wells of The Daniel Initiative**. We also announced that in a recent board meeting, we elected three new Vice Chairs: **Audrae Erickson (Vice Chair Policy), Cate Sadler (Vice Chair Programs), and Derrick Surratt (Vice Chair Membership)**, as well as **Molly Kellogg as Secretary**. I am also very honored to have been elected to serve BABA as Chairman.

The most bittersweet part of the evening was to honor and celebrate Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel for serving as Chair of the Board for the past three years. Her dedication, leadership, and guidance have helped BABA overcome obstacles and celebrate successes. Nancy's legacy will be her exceptional governance. With Nancy as the chief architect of BABA's revitalized new organizational structure — purpose built to help BABA better position itself within and navigate the modern Washington landscape — I have no doubt that this will strengthen our market position and thought leadership for years to come. I was pleased to have contributed to this structural reorganization process as well, and would like to thank all others who committed their time and energy to the initiative, including longtime BABA outside general counsel Randy Nuckolls and Executive Director LeeAnn Peterson.

Next time you see Nancy, please help me thank her for her outstanding service.

And as one chapter closes, another one opens. Several members of BABA leadership and I were honored to participate in welcoming our new British Ambassador to the U.S., His Excellency The Right Hon. Lord Peter Mandelson. Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel (past Chair), LeeAnn Petersen (Executive Director), and I, as well as several BABA board members, had the pleasure of attending special events to welcome Lord Mandelson in his new role. As we embark on this new era of leadership, we look forward to working with Lord Mandelson and his talented staff at the Embassy to advance our shared objectives.

With so many changes, one thing remains consistent. BABA continues to produce high quality programming for our members. In the past six months our committees have organized some amazing events. From Health & Life Sciences' Innovations in Healthcare panel, to DATS' coffee series with senior Embassy personnel, to Trade Policy's First 100 Days Trade & Defence Panel, we covered a lot of ground with our content. We also continued to build our network. The Young Professionals and Tech, Media and Telecom committees hosted networking receptions to help spark new relationships.

Lastly, as BABA continues to evolve to meet the needs of our members, our Innovation & Entrepreneurship committee has transitioned into the Small & Medium Enterprises committee, which will serve as a resource for SMEs in the DMV.

Here's to a wonderful summer. I hope to see many of you soon, and as always, my proverbial door is always open to member engagement and inputs.

**Thank you and all my best,
Chris Fetzer**

FOUNDING DIRECTORS

Robert J. Gladwell, OBE, Founding Chairman

Terence Roche Murphy, OBE

Barry J. New, OBE

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Chris Fetzer, Chairman

Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel, Past Chair

Audrae Erickson, Vice Chair, Trade Policy

Cate Sadler, Vice Chair, Programs

Derrick Surratt, Vice Chair, Membership

Molly Kellogg, Secretary

Richard Larkworthy, Treasurer

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Mark Huntley, Fairmont, Georgetown, Washington, DC

Caroline Johnston, Greenisland Bakery

Elizabeth Lee, Womble Bond Dickinson

Robert McCollar, Loudoun County Economic Development

Courtney Oldham, Capital Alpha Partners

Karin Rodgers, Northrop Grumman

Astrid Ruggeri, BMW Group

Cate Sadler, Airbus Americas, Inc.

Derrick Surratt, British Airways

Mary Elizabeth Taylor, Robinhood

Joe Tirone, Jones Walker LLP

Breon Wells, The Daniel Initiative

Steve Wilson, Rolls-Royce North America

Mungo Woodifield, Ex-Officio, British Embassy

Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel, Lockheed Martiin Corporation

COUNSEL

C. Randall Nuckolls, Dentons

ADMINISTRATION

LeeAnn Petersen, Executive Director

P. Rugger Smith, Administrator

Embassy News

In the first half of 2025, the British Embassy in Washington (BEW) was laser focused on building relationships with the new Trump Administration and securing a trade deal that benefits businesses on both sides of the Atlantic. This was achieved through targeted dialogue between Embassy officials, HMG representatives from London, UK and US business stakeholders, and US policy makers. Through the deployment of high-level diplomatic tools like, the state visit of Prime Minister Starmer in late February and continuous talks between Embassy Trade representatives and the office of the US Trade Representative, the Embassy secured the first - and so far only - Trade Deal with the Trump Administration. This landmark achievement, codified through a signing ceremony at the G7 earlier in June, saved thousands of jobs and protected key British sectors.

In addition to securing a Trade Deal, the British Embassy continues to build relationships with Members of the 119th Congress and advance UK business priorities. Earlier this year, the British Embassy took a bipartisan delegation of tax and trade congressional staffers to the UK.



British Embassy Washington

The delegation met with UK government officials to discuss transatlantic tax policy and explore how the US and UK can continue to deepen their economic relationship through trade. The US congressional delegation also toured auto and defense manufacturing plants to see the importance of the UK manufacturing landscape. As the policy and regulatory landscape for British goods and services continues to evolve in the US under the Trump Administration, the Embassy remains agile and in touch with key decision makers in order to best advocate for British businesses.

An American Shield: Lockheed Martin and Missile Defense Agency Demonstrate Critical Radar Capability, Strengthening Homeland Defense



Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) and the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) have successfully executed Flight Test Other-26a (FTX-26a). During FTX-26a, the Lockheed Martin-built Long Range Discrimination Radar (LRDR) successfully detected, tracked, and discriminated a live ballistic missile threat in a complex environment, demonstrating its ability to provide critical data to homeland defense systems.

“Deterrence begins with detection, and the successful FTX-26a demonstration underscored LRDR’s ability to detect and track threats at extended ranges, while accurately distinguishing between targets and non-targets,” said Rick Cordaro, vice president of Lockheed Martin’s Radar and Sensor Systems. “This technical advancement will significantly bolster our nation’s deterrence capabilities, providing a game-changing asset for homeland defense. With its open architecture, LRDR will facilitate the seam-

less integration of emerging technologies and software, enabling warfighters to receive timely, actionable information for decision-making and drives rapid response.”

FTX-26a took place over the north Pacific and demonstrated LRDR’s capabilities against an air-launched threat - representative target with countermeasures. Under the command of Command and Control Battle Management and Communications (C2BMC), LRDR successfully tracked the target and forwarded data to C2BMC which was successfully shared the flight test data to support a simulated Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (GMD) engagement.

The mission achieved the following firsts:

- LRDR demonstrated the detection, tracking, and discrimination of threats in a complex environment.
- C2BMC provided LRDR flight test data to support a simulated GMD engagement.

More information at [lockheedmartin.com](https://www.lockheedmartin.com).

Looking Ahead: Trade & Defense Policy in 2025

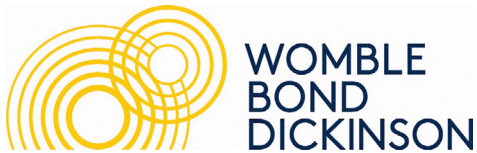
On April 10th BABA's Trade and Policy Committee and Defense, Aerospace, Transportation and Security Committee organized this informative program about challenges and opportunities in trade and defense policy in the coming year. Topics reviewed were the first 100 days of the new Administration, the changes it has made and proposals for the future. The panelists leading the discussion were: **Hon. Kelly Ann Shaw, Partner, Hogan Lovells; Zach Helzer, Senior Director for Europe & Head U.S.- UK Business Council, US Chamber of Commerce;** and **Deborah Cheverton, Senior Investment Adviser, British Embassy.** The one hour panel discussion was followed by a one hour networking reception courtesy of **BMW Group.**



l to r: Audrae Erickson, Reckitt; Deborah Cheverton, British Embassy; Kelly Ann Shaw, Hogan Lovells; Zach Helzer, US Chamber of Commerce; Chris Feltzer, then BABA President; Astrid Ruggeri, BMW Group; Stephanie Driscoll, Lockheed Martin; Breon Wells, The Daniel Initiative; and Austin Zymroz, Northrop Grumman.

Tech Connect Networking

Hosted by



On April 3rd, the BABA Tech, Media and Telecoms Committee organized a networking get together with industry leaders and peers in the tech, media and telecoms sectors.



l to r: Khloe Greenwood, Molly Kellogg, Elizabeth Lee, Jean Foster and LeeAnn Petersen



Hosted by Elizabeth Lee at Womble Bond Dickinson, guests gather for drinks and appetizers

Members' Appreciation Reception and Annual General Meeting

Hosted by

Arnold & Porter

The Members' Reception and AGM is a time for BABA to take stock of where the Association has been – and where it is headed in the next year. At this year's event, BABA's newly elected Chairman, Chris Fetzer announced that BABA welcomed 43 new members this past year including one new Sponsoring + member and one new Sponsoring member.



l to r: Emmaus Ferdinand, Old Glory Rugby DC; Isabella Yeager and Margarita Kotti, Portman Square Group; and Issy Whittier



l to r: Tonia Jacobson, Interim Homes; Lisa Pettigrew, CRO Syndicate; and Shayne De la Force, CMO Syndicate



l to r: Audrey Karman, Womble Bond Dickinson; Thomas Urquhart; and Ricardo Bernal, Westinghouse



l to r: Marc Cowan, Marc Cowan Homes; Elizabeth Lee, Womble Bond Dickinson; and Issy Whittier



Annual General Meeting proceedings



L to r: Shelagh Grimshaw, Shakespeare Theatre; Astrid Ruggeri, BMW Group; Molly Kellogg, BABA; And Bjorn Lansander



BABA Chairman, Chris Fetzer (l) with Derrick Surratt, BABA Vice Chair, Membership



l to r: David Kamioner, Karla and David Jones, Sandra Cushner, WETA; and Terry Murphy, Founder

Spring Fling with BABA

On a beautiful May day, members and guests gathered to celebrate Spring in DC. The casual networking evening of drinks and conversation took place on BABA Member, Dentons' rooftop. Although sponsored by the Young Professionals Committee, all members and non-members were welcome to attend to talk about work or share their mutual interests in all things British. This was also a great event to meet the BABA Committee Co-chairs and their British Embassy counterparts.



SPRING Fling



Chris Fetzer welcomes guests



l to r: Teresa Stepic, FTI Consulting; Zorie Valchev, AstraZeneca; and Hannah Freeman, British Embassy



Meet the BABA Co-chairs



Hadiza Bamgbose, Co-Chair, Energy & Environment and Austin Zymroz, Co-Chair, Defense, Aerospace, Transportation & Security Committee (DATS)



Platinum Member, Rolls-Royce Responds to UK Government's Industrial Strategy

Tufan Erginbilgic, Rolls-Royce CEO, said:

“The UK Government’s Industrial Strategy commitment to support our world-leading aerospace and nuclear industries shows long-term strategic foresight. Rolls-Royce’s highly differentiated technologies in gas turbines and nuclear capabilities – including Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and Advanced Modular Reactors (AMRs) – are uniquely placed to deliver economic growth, skilled jobs and attract investment into the UK.

“With the Government’s backing, Rolls-Royce looks forward to strengthening and growing our widebody engine business and establishing the UK’s place in the fast-growing narrowbody engine market. In its Advanced Manufacturing sector plan, the UK Government recognises that the single biggest opportunity in aerospace over the next 50 years is to secure a UK engine position on next generation single aisle programmes. We also look forward to leading the world in next generation nuclear technologies and continuing to protect the UK and its allies through our combat air capabilities.

“The UK Government’s plans to reduce energy costs for electricity-intensive businesses in manufacturing sectors – including aerospace – will be welcome across the supply chain. Also welcome is the Government’s commitment to the vital research which keeps the UK’s aerospace industry at the forefront of innovation, through the extension of the Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI) programme to 2035.

“Our collective ambitions are clear. There is enormous potential to drive UK growth, exports, skills and jobs together throughout the decades ahead. We should all act to implement the Industrial Strategy effectively and at pace in support of the UK’s economic growth and sovereign aerospace and nuclear capabilities.”

For more information www.rolls-royce.com.

Register Online at www.babawashington.org...

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WETA

New Membership Level Offered by BABA

SPONSORING +

\$5,000 per year or \$13,000 for 3 years

✓ All Current 'Sponsoring Member' level benefits @

\$2,500 including

- Web link from BABA website
- Company scrolling logo on BABA homepage
- Recognition in Association literature and publications
- Opportunity to promote your company's event (two per year)
- One annual company webinar advertised to BABA members through email and social media
- General overall greater visibility

✓ 'Silver Sponsor' at BABA' leading iconic Christmas Gala Luncheon @ **\$2,900** including

- Five (5) reservations – prominent placement
- Recognition on all Christmas event invitations
- One raffle ticket for each guest
- Holiday gift
- Recognition in the Program
- Recognition in the reception area

◦ Recognition and on the wide-screen during the luncheon

✓ Logo recognition in the footer of all BABA marketing/event emails @ **\$1,000**

✓ Priority access for your CEO or senior company executives to exclusive invitation-only BABA events with high level UK or US Government officials **Invaluable**

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Website: www.qinetiq.com/en-us

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Taylor Grossman

Rachel Stutler