



Business die Nachrichten

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This newsletter expresses shared news, knowledge and thoughts of our German-American community.
GABC does not hold responsibility for the ideas, views and/or opinions expressed by contributors.

The German-American Business Council of Boston Newsletter



In This Issue

- 2 Letter from the President
- 3 Upcoming & Recent Events
- 4 Changes in Leadership
- 4 Recent Events/Programs
- 5 Leadership Stepping Down
- 6 Member Profiles
- 7 Sponsor Spotlight: Konditor Meister
- 7 Boston Latin School
- 8 New Members & Sponsors
- 8 Schwarzes Brett

More News & Updates inside

Meeting **Dr. Philipp Ackermann**, Deputy Head of Mission of the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. who arrived to take up his post just six weeks ago.
Pictured front to back (left side): **Marian LeMay**, **Dr. Ackermann**, **Bodo Liesenfeld**.
Pictured back to front (right side): German Consul General **Rolf Schuette**, **Erik Dilger**, **Charlie Cameron**, Deputy Consul General **Mathias Kruse**.

GABC

*Dedicated to encouraging
and cultivating
German-American
Business and Trade*

The **German-American Business Council of Boston, Inc.** (GABC), is a non-profit, membership-based organization of companies and professionals. Through its monthly receptions, networking evenings, and presentations, GABC offers members an opportunity to talk person-to-person, and to share ideas, concerns, and opportunities with other professionals in the German-American community. Our members represent all facets of international business, including research, manufacturing, logistics, finance, government, retail, law, cross-cultural consulting, education and entrepreneurial endeavors. GABC is a member of the **Global Business Alliance of New England**. Interested professionals may join by going to: www.gabc-boston.org



GABC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Marian LeMay
E-mail: info@gabc-Boston.org

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Consul General of Germany



Letter from GABC President:
Erik Dilger

Dear GABC Members and Friends,

Thank you, thank you, thank you...

Whether you've heard me speak at our last Weihnachts Gala, read my past messages in these newsletters, or seen me at any of our recent events, my message about the GABC is the same: the GABC continues to grow and successfully connect **people to people** and **people to knowledge** every day. What that means for each of us may be different; for some it's about connecting and building relationships at events, for others it's about collaborating with colleagues around German-American business relations at the State House, and for others it's about using GABC as a resource to find a local German caterer, accountant, lawyer, interpreter, real estate agent, und, und, und... How all of these activities and connections actually occur, however, is not very different at all; it happens because of YOU! Your dedication, your significant contributions, and your continued professionalism do not go unnoticed, because YOU are the oil that keeps the GABC engine running. Thanks for all you do!

I'd like to take a moment to thank and recognize the GABC Board Members who are stepping down this summer: Deputy Consul General, **Mathias Kruse** whose focus on connecting the GABC and the German-American business community with the Consulate in Boston is much appreciated and most impressive—given all that he accomplished in such a short period of time. In accordance with our bylaws, **James DeLuca** will be stepping down as GABC Treasurer due to the term limits for board members. A growing organization such as ours requires a lot of behind-the-scenes work and we applaud Jim for his efforts since 2009. While continued success at his day job is wonderful for **Christoph Wassong**, it is bittersweet for the GABC, as Chris will be stepping down as Vice President due to increased demands stemming from that success. Luckily, his resignation was contingent on his continued help with our upcoming Weihnachts Gala in December. (If any GABC member is interested in joining this committee, [please let me know](#)).

And, finally...**Marius Carstensen**. Marius has been involved with the GABC since I was 4 (*kidding of course*). Many of you have known Marius over the years and are well aware that he has held every officer position during his tenure. In fact, without his dedication and commitment, this organization simply wouldn't be what it is today.

Even as our activities wind down for Sommerpause, we are already preparing for our next season of events and connections, which begins in September. Meantime, continue to think of us as an ever-available resource—and contact us any time!

Warmest Regards, *Erik*



Upcoming Events:

June 26, 2014

Ovid's Girls: German Art Opening & Reception

Thursday, 6:00 - 8:30 P.M.

This exhibition at **Boston Sculptors Gallery** features artworks by twelve sculptors—six from the U.S.A. and six from Germany, who all share an aesthetic of the evocative and enigmatic. Remarks by German Consulate General **Rolf Schuette** and exhibition curator, **Anette Schwarz**. Refreshments provided by **Karl's Sausage Kitchen**. Show runs June 25 thru August 3, 2014. Images at:

www.indiegogo.com/projects/ovid-s-girls

June 21/22, 2014

2-Day Event, Saturday & Sunday

German Sommerfest

Saturday 12:00 noon – 11:00 P.M.

Sunday 12:00 noon – 6:00 P.M.

Bring the whole family to enjoy German culture, food, drink and music by Die Lustigen Almdudler at the New England German-American Club / Boylston Schul-Verein's park-like setting at 8 County Street (Rt 109), Walpole, MA. Previous fests drew crowds of 5,000 people—but, there's plenty of parking. *Oans, zwoa, drei - g'suffa!* See flyer for details at:

www.GermanClub.org

June 22, 2014

'Finsterworld' German film Sunday at 11:00 A.M.

Coolidge Corner Theatre,

290 Harvard Street, Brookline

German with English subtitles — tickets: \$5

info: +1.617.734.2501

Finsterworld is a journey through a surreal contemporary Germany; a mosaic of bizarre stories and humorous dialogues set in permanent sunshine where everybody is beautiful, polite, successful or happy. That is until they reveal their darker side, and we discover that the step from idyll to inferno is a short one. Rarely has German cinema produced so much black humor in one fell swoop.

www.goethe.de/ins/us/bos/ver/en12748205v.htm

Recapping Our Recent GABC Events



The German "Energiewende" and its Impact on the Global Energy Transformation

On June 12, GABC partnered with the **German Consulate General**, the **Mass Clean Energy Center**, and the **Goethe-Institut Boston** to hold a lecture and luncheon with Professor **Eicke R. Weber**, Director of Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE and Professor for Physics / Solar Energy at Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg, Germany. A rapid transformation of our global energy system away from the current fossil and nuclear-based power supply to the efficient use of renewable energy is our big task. With the "Energiewende", Germany is vigorously embracing this challenge. Prof. Weber presented key elements of the needed transformation process.



Common Tax Pitfalls of International Business

On May 28, GABC Sponsor **Deloitte** hosted an informative presentation in their spacious downtown offices, showcasing two tax professionals knowledgeable about the common tax worries, dilemmas, successes, and strategies for businesses and individuals with dual financial obligations in both Europe and the United States.



Part One
Change in GABC Leadership

Hallo, viel Glück, und jetzt geht's los!

On June 11, 2014, the GABC Board of Directors held its annual elections. Executive Director Marian LeMay is pleased to present the newly elected officers!



President
Erik Dilger
 Senior Manager, Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP has been President of the Board since 2012 and was once again voted in. Keep up the great work, Erik!



Vice President
Charles Cameron
 Senior VP for Business Development, Cooley LLP is also Managing Director of Hub Angels Investment Group and one of three founders of the new Life Sciences Accelerator at the CIC.



Treasurer
Heri Sontgerath
 CFO, Plansee USA, has been an active GABC member since 2010. He is also the Boylston Schul Verein Treasurer, and former President of the Board, German Saturday School.



Secretary
Thomas D. Kennedy
 is Director at J. R. Bechtle & Company, a leading American executive recruiting firm with clients in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Recent Events continued:



European Food Festival & Networking Evening

On May 8, this popular social networking evening for European and American business professionals was sold out, as usual. It was held at the gorgeous French Cultural Center, in Boston's Back Bay, with almost 160 members, food vendors, and guests. **Karl's Sausage Kitchen** of Peabody provided authentic Black Forest Ham, **Bierkäse**, and **Königsberger Klopse**. Also on hand: traditional German Heringsalat, Pilsners, Weissbier and Lagers. This is an annual partner event co-organized by **GABC**, the **French-American Chamber of Commerce**, the **Netherlands-America Foundation**, the **British-American Business Council** and the **Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce**.



LEGO® Serious Play® Methodology Workshop

On March 19, GABC attendees broke into teams focused on solving real-life business problems related to multi-cultural organizations in a hands-on workshop, led by Lego certified instructors of **Team Dynamics Boston**. The LEGO® Serious Play® methodology is a radical, innovative process designed to help business teams.

Why Legos? The Legos work as a catalyst, and when used for building metaphors, trigger a range of surprising group dynamics. Held in the brand new **District Hall** on the Boston waterfront.



Part Two

Change in GABC Leadership

Auf Wiedersehen und Tausend Dank!

GABC bylaws dictate term limits for Board members to ensure both opportunity and continuity in equal measure for the organization. We congratulate these outstanding members who have recently completed their terms with great success.



Marius Carstensen, District Sales Manager, Lufthansa held many roles in the GABC's history over the last 12 years as Sponsor, President, Treasurer, Secretary and active Board Member, guiding GABC with humor and prudence through some difficult years



James DeLuca, MST, CPA with Rogers Suleski & Associates has been Treasurer since 2009, faithfully filing GABC taxes, managing filings with the Commonwealth, and keeping our financial housekeeping in top shape.



Deputy Consul General Mathias Kruse, who arrived in Boston last August has unexpectedly been posted to Berlin. While we will welcome his successor to the Board when he arrives in Boston, we will miss Mathias greatly, and wish him continued success.



Christoph Wassong, International Sales, Royal Sonesta Hotel Boston, has been GABC's Vice President for two years and one of the leading forces behind GABC's last three successful Weihnachts Galas.

Recent Events continued:



Annual Biotech Panorama

On March 13, Venture Caps, Angels, academics, and Consulate representatives met at Genzyme to reflect on the Massachusetts biotech success stories of the year for NDAs, Investments & IPOs. Speakers provided perspectives for the upcoming year, gave updates on biotechnology in their respective countries, provided the viewpoints of life science investors, and gave examples of new trends. The presentations were followed by a networking reception. This was a Partner Event organized FACCNE's French American Biotech Springboard, supported by GABC.



Not a member of GABC yet? Let your membership lapse?

JOIN US!

Did you know that GABC Members enjoy

- **Reduced or free admission** to GABC monthly business and social events, which provide invaluable networking opportunities
 - **Introductions and referrals**
- **Your listing in GABC's Membership Directory**, and access to this private contact list
 - **Special invitations and discounts** to events through our relationships with other German organizations
- Opportunities to **post or search job listings** on the GABC Web site

Curious? See our Web site for the full list of benefits. Joining is easy at www.gabc-boston.org



GABC

Board Member *Profile:*

Frank Conway

Training Strategy Consultant



What's your connection with German-American business?

Frank: For many years I had the fortune to work for U.S. organizations and businesses in Germany. Now that I'm back in the states (since 2010) I find it rewarding to make the connection the other way around, namely with German businesses in the U.S. as well as those U.S. businesses that maintain a strong presence in Germany and elsewhere in Europe.

What do you like about the GABC?

Frank: What I enjoy most about the GABC is the balanced variety and quality of the events, from sophisticated business presentations and economic outlooks to social gatherings and cultural events that promote a convivial exchange and always in a very nice atmosphere. More selfishly, I also enjoy the chance to use my German. While many Germans speak English very well, it's less common for Americans to speak German and I'd like to keep that ability.

What are you looking forward to seeing the GABC do in the future?

Frank: In addition to a continuation of the kind of events the GABC already conducts so well, there are two things I'd love to hear more about:

- The German perspective on the status of the EU relative to trade with the U.S.
- Germany's demographic shift (population growth projections) in comparison with the rest of Europe and the U.S. I find this very significant and worthy of comparative discussion.

What keeps you busy when you're not working?

Frank: I'm always up for a good movie with a lively discussion afterwards. Of course, participating in GABC events is another thing I also enjoy outside of work hours.

Tell us something about yourself that we wouldn't know by looking at your CV.

Frank: Here's a special "it's a small world" experience that has yet to find its way into my CV. When I returned to the U.S., I was living in Silicon Valley but determined to get back to New England to be closer to family. I made some exploratory trips to the Boston area and registered for a networking event hosted by the GABC Boston.

It turns out that executive director Marian LeMay was a student at the study abroad program I worked for after finishing college and I had moved to Munich. We knew each other from "way back when."

What's your connection with German-American business?

Gerhard: My firm and I successfully advise and serve German-speaking (and other European) companies in the U.S. in the areas of auditing, accounting, tax or consulting. We are bilingual and have profound knowledge about rules and regulations to be applied on both sides of the ocean. I am traveling frequently back to Germany and Europe to visit existing or find new clients.

What do you like about the GABC?

Gerhard: It's a great networking group, steadily growing and adding new members. I really like when members open their doors and host on site events.

What are you looking forward to seeing the GABC do in the future?

Gerhard I'd like to see more events like the Christmas Gala, maybe something in the Spring or Summer. I have some ideas. Also appreciate events held outside the City, so

that the members living further away may be able to attend.

What keeps you busy when you're not working?

Gerhard: Doing yard work, maintaining a lovely garden, playing a little golf, or just being outside with the dog relaxes me from sitting at my desk or being with clients—to rejuvenate and recharge the battery for new action.

Tell us something about yourself that we wouldn't know by looking at your CV.

Gerhard: Starting in the fall of 2004, I headed a German Desk for a big accounting firm in New York City.

As we both like the country and the city, when the time came to go back to Europe, my wife Silke and I decided to stay.

I joined **Rödl Langford de Kock LLP**, which had just opened an office in New York in late 2012 and will be soon moving to Boston.

GABC

Board Member *Profile:*

Gerhard Schneiders

Principal, Rödl & Partner
Rödl Langford de Kock LLP





Sponsor Spotlight on...



Konditor Meister is an exquisite bakery that pays homage to the European traditions of pastry arts. The success of Konditor Meister originates with chef/owner **Günther Mösinger**, a creative and passionate pastry chef who knew from an early age that his career would take a culinary path. Born on a farm in the beautiful historic town of Freiburg in the Black Forest, he learned early on how to grow and prepare foods for daily living. When he was only 12, Günther had his first job as a delivery boy bringing rolls to people's houses with the bike. At 14, he started his education to become a Konditor Meister. After seven years of schooling and practice in the finest Hotels and Cafes in Freiburg, he earned his title.

In 1981 Günther moved to Boston Massachusetts and worked at the Ritz Carlton. Despite no English language skills, he impressed the other chefs. Very strict and demanding, he made sure things got done right the first time. Here famous chefs like Julia Child and politicians like the Kennedys enjoyed Günther's fancy desserts and cakes. In 1985, after only four years at the Ritz, he decided to set up his own shop "Konditor Meister" in Quincy Massachusetts. The business was so successful that he had to move to a bigger location after ten years. At the new location in Braintree, business continued to go strong. Konditor Meister was nationally recognized by the Today Show and made Best of Boston and Best of the Knot in New England.

— Order your special occasion, graduation, and wedding cakes now!
Tel: 781.849.1970
32 Wood Rd, Braintree, MA



Günther still gets up every morning to be the first one in the bakery to turn the ovens on and bake the first batch of cakes.



Today Konditor Meister has 75 employees and a huge facility in Braintree, Massachusetts. GABC is proud to acknowledge Konditor Meister as a Sponsor and to have served their spectacular desserts at our past two **Weihnachts Galas**.

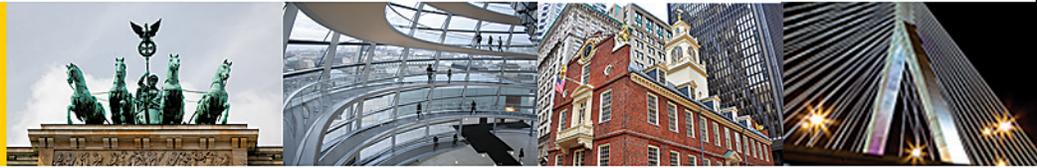
German Program at Boston Latin Saved



German has been a long-standing tradition at the **Boston Latin School (BLS)**, but has had to work hard in recent years to entice students away from other languages. Last year, the program faced being eliminated from their Modern Foreign Language program due to low enrollment, and German 1 was not offered. A group of determined parents with connections in the German American community and a love of German banded together to work with the school this year to help revive the program. German received extra attention at parent nights and fundraisers, students were given fliers extolling the benefits of German, and the various language clubs sponsored an informational fair after school so that students could talk to their peers about making the best language choice.

As a result of their campaign to provide more education and awareness for students making their language choices at the end of 7th grade, BLS was thrilled to have at least 70 students signed up for German 1 next year! BLS will also offer one section each of German 3 and German 4.

Boston Latin School's goal is to make the program sustainable, and continue to provide opportunities for their German students to help increase their global and cultural awareness. In recent years, BLS students have earned gold, silver and bronze medals in the **National German Exam** and 5s on the **Advanced Placement** exam. Two students have been chosen for the AATG/Paedagogischer Austauschdienst Study Trip.



Dedicated to encouraging and cultivating German-American business and trade.

New Members:

Michael Francis Brown
Project Specialist, Leasing Operations
American Tower Corporation

Peter Davin
Controller
Addex, Inc.

Katharina Krause
CEO and President
F.O.S. Industrial Technology, Inc.

Kathy McCloskey
Office Manager
Addex, Inc.

Ingo Mierswa, Ph.D.
CEO
RapidMiner, Inc.

Eric Norman
Owner, Principal Strategist
Hopewell Partners

Katrina Norman
Hopewell Partners

John Papavizas
Dickinson College Graduate 2013
International Studies

Tobias Perschel
MBA Student
Bentley University

James Reuland
Sole Proprietor
S.C. Reuland Consult SRL

Penny Rossano, MBA, M.Phil
Managing Director
MPKR Consultants, LLC

Alexandra V. Roth, Ph.D.
Executive Professor
Northeastern University
D'Amore-McKim School of Business
International Business & Strategy Group

Scott Rudy, MBA
Business Developer, COO

Mathias Woker
Chief Business Officer
AMSilk GmbH

Schwarzes Brett /bulletin board:

German Summer Camp for Kids:

The German International School Boston is accepting kids for their **Sommerferienprogramm**. July 7-18, 2014. Skits, Stories, Arts & Crafts, Cooking & Experiments, Museums, Playgrounds, Song, Theatre & Dance—all in German. \$400/week. Extended day optional. 20% sibling discount. Contact Lauren Sallis or Gina Philipp for more info:

lauren.sallis@gisbos.org or gina.philipp@gisbos.org

German Lecturer Opening:

The University of Rhode Island seeks a full-time Lecturer in German specializing in German for Engineering, for academic year 2014-2015. The lecturer will teach four courses per semester in the University's specialized track in German for Engineering at the beginning to advanced levels. The lecturer will also develop course material tailored to a curriculum in German for the Professions. Application deadline July 7, 2014. For full info and application go to:

https://jobs.uri.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp?postingId=150155

These are GABC's 2014 SPONSORS:

