

## A Word from the GABC President



Michael Claus

Dear Members and Friends of the GABC,

The summer heat is hitting us hard and quite a number of members are in good old Germany or wherever it may be a little bit colder, to chill down and enjoy a vacation.

The economy though is still giving us goose bumps. There are indications we have finally hit rock bottom but an end of problem is nevertheless not in sight. There are even indications that the economical woes may last well into 2010, before finally things will become gradually better. As far as I can tell, the good news is,

that none of our members had to go out of business and we sure hope it will stay that way.

As informed before, Mrs. Kirsten "Kiki" Kuhnert has received our Award of Excellence and those of you who had not the chance to participate missed a very good event. Drinks and food at the Intercontinental Hotel in Downtown were excellent, and the evening progressed with thoughts, emotions and information and was very well received by those in attendance.

We have a pretty interesting summer and autumn event schedule in preparation, and our Executive Director Mrs. Miriam Metzger is working hard to get everything coordinated. Please look at the information given in this Newsletter and at our website. One date should be marked in your calendar right away: September 17. This is the date for our upcoming General Membership Meeting luncheon, during which our Board of Directors will be elected. Please look out for the announcement, but I hope you will all be able to join this important event.

The GAA (German American Alliance) recently appointed a new President; it is our GABC board member Mr. Det Joks. Congratulations Det! The GAA, as it should be known, is the head organization in South-Florida for the GABC (the business branch), GASC German American Social Club (the cultural and social branch) and the GIPA German International Parents Association (the educational branch). All 3 branches/ organizations are represented equally on the GAA board, with active involvement of the Consulate General as well. I am sure that under Det's leadership you will hear more from the GAA in the future.

Enjoy this Newsletter, the summer days and hopefully no Hurricanes

Sincerely,

Michael Claus  
President

## Consul General's Corner



Klaus Ranner

Dear Members and Friends of the GABC,

Although many have chosen to spend the summer at a distance from the temperature, humidity and mosquitoes of South Florida, the GABC – and the Consulate General – have been quite busy. E.g. the co-operation with the new Florida

Max Planck Institute in Jupiter is taking shape. We can all be proud that Florida has been chosen as the site of this most prestigious German research facility.

By the way, wouldn't it be great, if German business people in Florida joined forces instead of having individually acting clubs, chambers and the like all over the state and thus giving the competitors from other countries unnecessary headway. I think it is not too far-fetched, when Germans in the year of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall should unite elsewhere as well.

Have a nice summer!

Sincerely yours,

Klaus Ranner

## GACC Corner

The United States is clearly one of the most hard-hit economies by the current crisis. With far-reaching stimulus plans to restore consumer and investor confidence, the government has been working to counteract the economic downturn. Given the uncertain and diffi-

cult economic conditions, many companies in the United States and abroad have been urged to recalibrate and refine their business models.

*Continued on page 6*

Do you have a story or an idea for the next newsletter? If so we want to hear it! To submit a story for next month's edition please send an email to: [info@gabc.us](mailto:info@gabc.us)

## New Trustee Member: The Max Planck Florida Institute

For the first time in its 60-year history, Germany's internationally acclaimed Max Planck Society is underway with the establishment of a research institute in the United States, the Max Planck Florida Institute. Its primary focus is to further global knowledge of bioimaging, by using the most advanced techniques to visualize molecular processes in living tissue. Bioimaging provides a critical opportunity to translate discoveries of basic research into clinical and patient-oriented applications, ultimately improving medical diagnostics and the quality of care. Dr. Peter Gruss, president of the Max Planck Society, recently announced that Nobel Laureate Dr. Bert Sakmann will serve as the inaugural scientific director for the Max Planck Florida Institute, and in August will begin assembling his research team to begin work in a temporary facility studying the precise structural arrangement of nerves in the cerebral cortex – the structure within the brain that plays a key role in memory, attention, perceptual awareness, thought, language, and consciousness. This work will lay the foundation for future studies on brain degenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's

city's MacArthur Campus in Jupiter.

Please visit [www.MaxPlanckFlorida.org](http://www.MaxPlanckFlorida.org) for the latest news and information.

Max Planck Florida Institute  
5353 Parkside Drive, MC19-RE  
Jupiter, FL 33458-2906  
Phone: (561)799-8376  
Email: [info@maxplanckflorida.org](mailto:info@maxplanckflorida.org)  
Web: [www.maxplanckflorida.org](http://www.maxplanckflorida.org)

**MAX PLANCK**  
FLORIDA INSTITUTE



*Dr. Claudia Hillinger*

The Max Planck Florida Institute is due to open its permanent building in 2011. The planned 100,000-square-foot research facility with laboratories will be a neighbor to Scripps Florida on six acres at Florida Atlantic Univer-

## New Small Business Member: Dynamic Realty Group

Dynamic Realty Group  
Dynamic Realty Group is one of the leading South Florida full service real estate companies. Founded by Marion Ott, Dynamic Realty Group specializes only in luxury properties in Miami and Fort Lauderdale's most exclusive neighborhoods including Indian Creek, Gables Estates, Tahiti Beach, Star Island, Golden Beach, Bal Harbour, Key Biscayne, South Beach, Brickell and Coconut Grove, among others, in Miami, and Harbor Beach, Rio Vista, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Hillsboro, Las Olas and Lighthouse Point, in Fort Lauderdale. Dynamic Realty Group consists of a select group of high performing real estate professionals that achieve exceptional results and

who are dedicated to servicing the pinnacle of the luxury home market.

Contact:  
Marion Ott  
Broker - CIPS  
1111 Kane Concourse # 201  
Bay Harbor Islands, Florida 33154, USA  
office:001-305-868-0505  
toll free:001-888-354-9682  
mobile:001-305-915-4854  
fax:001-305-868-5040  
e-mail:[marion@dynamic-realty.com](mailto:marion@dynamic-realty.com)

## New Corporate Member: The Ritz-Carlton, South Beach

Resting majestically on one of the most sought-after stretches of oceanfront real estate, The Ritz-Carlton, South Beach is a complete restoration of the original 1953 Morris Lapidus-designed landmark DiLido hotel in the city's historic Art Deco district. Its centerpieces include The Ritz-Carlton Spa featuring Carita and the exclusive Astro Balance Massage, a multi-million dollar art collection, the world's only Tanning Butler™, the only VIP level of any South Beach hotel, The DiLido Beach Club (the only oceanfront restaurant on South Beach) presided over by the only Miami Chef to participate in Season 5 of Top Chef, and the only resident DJ of any Ritz-Carlton in the world. The hotel is ideally situated in the heart of internationally acclaimed South Beach and is steps away from myriad dining, shopping, entertainment and nightlife options, including those on fashionable Lincoln Road, a thriving ten-block pedestrian mall.

Contact:  
The Ritz-Carlton, South Beach



*Timur Senturk*

Mr. Timur Senturk  
General Manager  
One Lincoln Road  
Miami Beach, Florida 33139  
Phone: (786) 276-4000  
Fax: (786) 276-4001  
[www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com)



*Grand Lobby - Ritz Carlton South Beach*

## New Small Business Member: Kai Jacobs P.A.

Kai Jacobs is a business litigator, who recently left a lifetime of big firm practice to try and bring more cost effective solutions to clients and expand the range of his work and the base of people he could assist. Based in Miami for the last sixteen years, Kai is very familiar with the South Florida legal and business community. Licensed to practice before all of the state and federal trial and appellate courts in Florida, Kai is able to bring his experience to any part of the state. After graduating from Tulane University and The Georgetown University Law Center, Kai returned to Miami to help raise the South Florida legal profile and work with the community that he grew up in. For the duration of his career, Kai has handled a broad spectrum of business disputes

including actions involving contracts, business torts, shareholder and directors' disputes, insurance coverage, securities and real estate sales.

A few years ago, when clients sensed that the economic boom of the earlier part of the decade was going to end, Kai expanded his practice to include business counseling. In so doing, he works with clients to update their policies and practices used in the ordinary course of their business so as to avoid litigation-prone situations altogether or minimize the risk of exposure wherever possible.

Kai Jacobs, P.A. is Miami-based law firm that combines traditional legal techniques with modern

technology to help clients find the most efficient solution for their situation. The firm is equipped to render service anywhere in the state at any time.

Contact:  
 Kai Jacobs  
 Kai Jacobs P.A.  
 2475 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2502  
 Miami, FL 33129  
 Ph: (305) 283-4406  
 Fax: (305) 854-5622  
 kai.jacobs1@gmail.com



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**1-888-213-1431**  
 or call your Travel Agent

\*Includes the cruise and U.S. port taxes. Does not include hotel taxes (except for all-inclusive rates), drinks onboard, port parking fees, shipboard gratuities, or the \$29.00 per person Bahamian departure & harbour fees and security and CEP user fees. A non-refundable ticket transaction fee of up to \$5 per ticket may be applied. One free conventional suitcase per adult passenger. Facilities & services are subject to change without notice. Advance reservations & payment required. Prices may be higher on weekends & holidays. Not responsible for errors or omissions in the content of this ad. Certain restrictions apply. Book and Travel between July 1 and August 31, 2009 unless otherwise stated. Ship's registry Bahamas. FL Seller of Travel reference No. ST36121.



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**Lufthansa**

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

## New Small Business Member: TBS Inc.



We have developed the one and only touch-less finger print scanner with no failure to enroll under 2 seconds into a serial product.

With a grant from the US Department of Justice we also have successfully presented our 10 finger touch-less prototype: Touch-less capture of rolled-equivalents (nail-to-nail) of all ten fingers within less than 60 seconds.

Our products and software kits are tailored to access control combined with user friendly time attendance, easy to integrate in any existing systems."

Contact:  
TBS North America Inc.  
Thomas Degen  
Partner  
520 SW 26Rd  
Miami, FL 33129  
Ph: 305 607 5000  
Thomas.degen@tbsinc.com  
www.tbsinc.com



## Upcoming GABC Events in March 2009:

Please find always updated information at [www.gabc.us](http://www.gabc.us) under upcoming events as well as pictures of past events.

### August 2009

European Cocktail Reception at the Ritz Carlton South Beach

Date and Time: TBA

It is time for another European get-together with the GABC's newest member the Ritz Carlton in South Beach. Enjoy a relaxing summer party and mingle with members of all the other European chambers of commerce in Miami, and enjoy delicious appetizers as well as a Ritz Carlton signature drink provided by the Ritz Carlton free of charge.

The Ritz Carlton  
One Lincoln Road  
Miami Beach, FL 33139

### 6th August 2009

Stammtisch Fritz & Franz Bierhaus, 60 Merrick Way, Coral Gables  
Time: 6pm

Every first Thursday of the month the GABC hosts the Stammtisch. Bring your friends and business cards.

### 17th September 2009

Annual Membership Meeting with Election of the Board of Directors

Thursday 17th September, 2009  
11:30am - 2:30pm  
at the Bankers Club Miami  
One Biscayne Tower, Downtown Miami

Luncheon cost: \$35

The agenda of the meeting will include the following:

Verification of Quorum  
President's Report  
Treasure's Report

Election of Officers and Directors

At the meeting, new officers and directors will be elected.

If you wish to present your candidature as a director of

the GABC, or if you wish to nominate another person as candidate, please contact the GABC no later than September 1st, 2009.

In the event that you will not be able to attend the membership meeting and wish to give your proxy to a member who will be attending, please contact the GABC no later than September 1st, 2009 or deliver it to the person whom you are appointing as proxy for presentation at the annual meeting

Please R.S.V.P.

E-mail [Miami@gabc.us](mailto:Miami@gabc.us)

Phone: 305 371 4282

### October 2009

Networking Luncheon and tour onboard the Sea Princess cruise ship in Port Everglades  
Details TBA soon!

### October 2009

Annual Joint Reception GABC Miami and GACC Atlanta in Miami  
Details TBA

### November 2009

Speaker event with our new Trustee member: The Max Planck Florida Institute, Director of the institute Dr. Claudia Hillinger about the first Max Planck Institute in the USA and biotechnology research performed at their new facilities  
Details TBA

Luncheon with the Beacon Council Miami to sign the official affiliation agreement between the GABC Miami and the Beacon Council

### 17th November, 2009

Speaker Event with Steffen Dantz, OSD International and Roger Eiers, Florida Insider.  
Details TBA

### 11th December 2009

Annual Holiday Gala at the Hotel Intercontinental Miami Downtown

More events to be announced soon!

## Job Corner

### Job offer:

Hotel Marketing Company offers part-time opportunity as independent representative. No signup fee, no purchase, no investment necessary. Easy to do and easy to control accurate compensation. Work as you please, day or night. No set hours. Internet access is a must. For further information, please call 954.658.8398 or email [info@smallelegant-hotels.com](mailto:info@smallelegant-hotels.com) including your phone number.

## In Review: Award of Excellence 2009

This year, the Award of Excellence, was presented to Mrs. Kirsten Kuhnert, founder of the organization Dolphin Aid. The evening at the Hotel Intercontinental in Downtown Miami was filled with emotions, laughter, and happiness. Guests of honor included the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Klaus Ranner and his wife Barbara Zesewitz, as well as the Consul of Netherlands Antillean Affairs, Mr. Xavier Prens who came from Curacao to honor Mrs. Kuhnert, and John Yearwood, Chief Editor of the Miami Herald. Our President Michael Claus welcomed everybody and Mr. Klaus Ranner held a speech in honor of Kirsten Kuhnert highlighting her achievements. Mr. Mike Schoon, head of the Dolphin Therapy Center in Curacao where

the therapies have evolved held a speech about the achievements in the therapy center and the always enthusiastic, positive and energetic Kirsten Kuhnert who helped educating people about the therapy center and its successful therapies. Finally, the Award of Excellence was handed over by Michael Claus, and Kirsten Kuhnert had thanked everyone who made the success possible, and gave an emotional speech which touched everyone.

Lufthansa, our Platinum sponsor, sponsored two business class roundtrip tickets from the US to anywhere in Europe which were auctioned off that night. All in all, the event was a great success.



## GACC Corner Events and News

*Continued from page 1*

With the benchmarking study Navigator we address the harsh economic climate of today but do not want to paint another black picture. It is our goal to provide U.S.-based corporations and subsidiaries with a better view of the current economic situation and of what companies are doing to cope with it and to prepare for the upswing. The U.S. survey was conducted by Horváth & Partners Management Consultants in cooperation with the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern United States.

The findings of the Navigator study

are derived from the shared views and experiences of more than 100 companies in the United States and over 260 across Europe and the rest of world. It is our hope that this study will facilitate discussion of ways to navigate through the downturn and prepare for the upswing while the economy is still in crisis. We sincerely thank all participants for sharing their views and hope that you will find valuable insights to, ultimately, finish among the winners.

Please click here for the complete article. Enjoy the read!

All the best,



Kristian Wolf



Thomas Wunder

### GACC Events and News:

- Bierfest (<http://www.xorbia.com/tickets/germanbierfest/>)
- Gala (<http://www.gaccsouth.com/en/veranstaltungen/annual-gala-2009/>)
- International Environmental Trade Mission Atlanta ([http://www.gaccsouth.com/veranstaltungen/event/?no\\_cache=1&tx\\_mjseventpro\\_pi1\[showUid\]=468&cHash=89a7f68b21&recentView=listView](http://www.gaccsouth.com/veranstaltungen/event/?no_cache=1&tx_mjseventpro_pi1[showUid]=468&cHash=89a7f68b21&recentView=listView))
- Germancompanies ([www.germancompanies.us](http://www.germancompanies.us))

## Benefits from Members to Members:

- With Small Elegant Hotels: GABC members are able to receive extreme discounts offered usually only to VIP members. Please contact Small Elegant Hotels and mention the code GABC at 954.658.8398 or via email to [info@smallelegant-hotels.com](mailto:info@smallelegant-hotels.com)

With Hertz Rental Car: GABC members can use the Small Elegant Hotels CDP# 1356274 for preferred rates.

- Receive a 10% discount at Hofbraeu Bierhall on dinner (not to be combined with any specials), enjoy all favorite German dishes at this great location in the heart of South Beach. Hofbraeu Bierhall is located at:  
943 Lincoln Road, Miami, FL 33139, Ph: 305.538.8066

- Receive 2 months free when you purchase a 12 months subscription of German TV channels from NexTV – our new member, Watch Das Erste, ZDF, WDR, MDR, NDR, KI.KA - no need to set up satellite dishes or rely on your local cable TV provider!

All you need is High-Speed Internet (at least 1,5 Mbps/sec downloading speed), contact NexTV at: Maria Vorobieva

German, Hungarian, Croatian Service  
Ethnic Channels Group/NexTV  
416-736-7577 x 310  
Web: [www.getnextv.com](http://www.getnextv.com)

- Receive one hour free design consultation service with Pfuner Design – contact: Heinz S. Pfuner, Pfuner Design, Inc., 171 NW 36th St., Miami, FL 33127 ph: (305) 571-8440, Pfuner Design creates desirable and functional interiors for residential and boutique commercial spaces. Interior designs are distinguished by clean, modern, and sophisticated lines with a feeling of freedom and an understated sense of luxury. Email [Heinz@pfunerdesign.com](mailto:Heinz@pfunerdesign.com) web: [www.pfunerdesign.com](http://www.pfunerdesign.com)

If you are also interested to offer any benefit or discount to our members, please contact us at: [Miami@gabc.us](mailto:Miami@gabc.us)

## Advertising with the GABC

We are always working to improve membership benefits. In this context, we would like to extend the opportunity to our members to increase the visibility of their respective business by offering specific benefits or discounts to other GABC members through different GABC outlets such as website and newsletter.

Examples include offering GABC members discounts on restaurant visits, hotel stays, or other services depending on the nature of your business. Any suggestions are welcome. Please contact us for details on advertising these offers at our website and through our newsletters as well as other publications.

On a separate note, we are also offering advertising opportunities at our website for our members at a discounted rate and at a different rate for non-members.

The GABC website receives regularly between 2000 and 3000 clicks per month from unique visitors from all different kinds of regions and countries, and if you like to hear more about the facts and figures as well as rates, please email us. We have prepared several different sponsoring and advertising packages that are very well priced.

We look forward to working closely with all of you in making your business more visible through all the options that the GABC can offer to you. Contact us for more info at [Miami@gabc.us](mailto:Miami@gabc.us)

### Other Upcoming Events

#### Wednesday 19th August 2009

Tastes of Germany at the German American Social Club Miami

The German American Alliance of Florida and its associated organizations (German American Business Chamber, German International Parents Association, and German American Social Club) cordially invite you to the August Edition of the monthly series

Join every third Wednesday of the month for a continuation of the Culinary Tour of all the German regions

In August, the featured cuisine will be from:

"Saxon Mountains and Thuringia Forest"

When:

Wednesday, August 19, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

& the third Wednesday of each month thereafter.

Where:

German American Social Club of Greater Miami, 11919 SW 56th Street,  
Miami, Florida

Chef: Tano

German American Social Club

August Menu

Cream of Cucumber Sour Soup -- Gurkencremesuppe

Blood Sausage with Sweet and Sour Lentils -- Blutwurst mit Sues-sauren Linsen

Thuringian Red Cabbage Roll – Thueringer Rotkrautwickel  
With Mashed Potatoes – mit Kartoffelpueree

Dessert: Quark Cakes -- Quarkkeulchen

Cost per meal: \$18.00