

A Word from the GABC President

Dear Friends,

When you receive this edition of our GABC Newsletter, many of you are certainly on vacation and quite a number will be in good old Germany in order to escape the Miami summer heat. All the others who stay here will, I do hope, enjoy the opportunities South Florida is offering, and I will certainly do so myself.

Another business year is gone by and the invoices for yet another year of membership credentials in your GABC will be send out in the coming days. Although we feel we are on the right path in our development, we have to struggle to make ends meet, like many other organizations these days, without jeopardizing the status and quality of our business chamber. As I had informed you, our Executive Director Amela Plagmann has left the organization and during a recent Board Meeting we have decided to not replace the position right away, but only later this year. This gives us the chance to save some money short term, but of course we do not want to abandon the position as it is essential to have a good functioning Executive Team. In the meantime, the Executive Director position will be intermittently taken care of by



Michael Claus

some of our Board Members, namely Miriam Metzger, and Monika Boehm-Fandino and the office will be maintained by 2 Interns, namely Johanna Briese and Daniel Niediek, who are at all times in touch with one of us and who are doing an excellent job. I am excited to announce that we are planning some major events in the period mid September to end October. Please see the separate information provided by Miriam Metzger.

Enjoy the summer and I hope for all of us this Hurricane Season will be a quiet one, and I look forward to see you soon at one of our events!

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

Upcoming GABC events this fall....

Summer time is always a bit of an 'off season' in South Florida, at least when it comes to events. The GABC has been active nevertheless keeping in touch with our members and potential new members with the Stammtisch, always held twice a month, at Fritz & Franz in Coral Gables, and at the Hofbraeuhaus in South Beach. The Stammtisch became a very popular event, sometimes up to 30 people attended!

Fall is fast approaching and we have a great line-up of both business and social events. Just a few highlights: On September 16th our new member PricewaterhouseCoopers will host an event at their Miami location in Brickell where Frank Biedermann will present Trends in Risk Management, Governance, and Compliance by PricewaterhouseCoopers.

On October 20th we will have a Solar conference in Orlando organized by the GACC Atlanta where the GABC will co-host our first major event after becoming an affiliate with the GACC earlier this year. German companies will be able to meet with potential US business partners after the conference. On October 21st the event continues with a business luncheon in West Palm Beach, location to be announced, together with the World Trade Center. Keynote speaker will be Werner B. Koldehoff, board member of the German Federal Association of the Solar Industry (Vorstandsmitglied des Bundesverbandes Solarwirtschaft) accompanied by Kristian Wolf & Jan Wiedemann of the GACC. In the evening there will be a solar networking event hosted by the GABC in Miami with the guest speakers. The GABC is very excited to partner with the GACC and host this event with this very important topic.



Miriam Metzger

There will be at least one event per year where the GACC co-hosts an event with the GABC in Florida which we are looking forward to.

At the end of October the GABC hosts a speaker event with two different presenters, one is Stefan Dantz with the OSD International Financial Services who will travel from Germany to present the challenges and issues related to retirement income claim in Germany when living in the US, and health insurance solutions for Germans living in the US. Kai Jacobs who is an attorney in Miami with the firm Shutts & Bowen will present legal topics.

Also, following the high popularity of our last year's Setai reception, we will host yet another cocktail reception of the same kind and decided to do this annually in order to start the Miami season in fall with style! This time the reception will be filled with lots of surprises and highlights; we will keep you informed as talks are still going on... As always, all of our events will be announced well in advance through mailings so keep your calendars handy as more dates are to follow!

Update: Screen shot view of the ESTA now available!

CBP announced on July 23, 2008 that a screen shot preview of the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) is now available. The ESTA Web site will go live and begin accepting applications on August 1, 2008. The travel authorization will become mandatory for Visa Waiver Program (VWP) travelers on January 12, 2009. Once ESTA is mandatory, all citizens or nationals of Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries who plan to travel to the United States for temporary business or pleasure will require an approved ESTA prior to boarding a carrier to travel by air or sea under the VWP.

ESTA is a web based system. Travelers will log on to <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/> and complete an application online providing the biographical and eligibility information currently required on the paper I-94W form.

To facilitate the authorization process, DHS recommends that ESTA applications be submitted no less than 72 hours prior to travel. However, ESTA applications may be submitted at any time prior to travel to the United States. Upon successful completion of an ESTA application, the application will be queried against appropriate law enforcement databases. In most cases, ESTA will provide an almost immediate determination of eligibility for travel under the VWP. Possible responses include: Authorization Approved, Authorization Pending, or Travel Not Authorized, or Authorization Pending.

An approved ESTA travel authorization is valid for up to two years or until the traveler's passport expires, whichever comes first. The approval is valid for multiple entries into the U.S., however, it is not a guarantee of admissibility to the United States at a port of entry.

ESTA approval only authorizes a traveler to board a carrier for travel to the U.S. under the VWP. In all cases, Customs and Border Patrol officers make admissibility determinations at all US ports of entry.

For further questions on this article or other immigration related issues you can contact Ellen von Geysso at ellen.vongeyso@klgates.com or (305) 539-3382. She is an attorney admitted in Germany and Florida and a member of the GABC. Ms. von Geysso is an Associate with the Law office of K&L Gates LLP in Miami www.klgates.com



Ellen von Geysso

Job Corner

Teaching positions available:

We have four positions available:

- 1) One Full Time German Language teacher at Coral Reef
- 2) One Full Time German Language teacher at Sunset Elementary
- 3) Two Part Time German Language teachers at Sunset Elementary

If you are interested, please contact:

Gustavo Zientek
GIPA President
<http://www.GIPA.org>
Cel.: 786 853 7930

Advertising

For information on placing an Ad in the next issue please send an email to: info@gabc.us

New member: Ms. Salome Calabuig

We want to welcome our new member Ms Salome Calabuig, owner and manager of the North Miami Business Center of Xoffices.

Xoffices offers Smart Executive Suite solutions with all the amenities for one price. With this 4th center we offer prestigious locations in South Florida to host your business. The new center in Biscayne Boulevard in the City of North Miami, located close to Aventura on the north and the Design District on the south, offers an excellent location across Bal Harbor and the Miami Beach area for a glamorous and prestigious address to your business. No long term commitments are required to start operating in 24 hours. The office suites come fully equipped with furniture, phone, high speed internet access, bilingual reception services including call transferring, mail handling, all utilities, cleaning and janitorial. The new center is located in the PH-1 of the 12550 Biscayne Boulevard newly renovated building, the only one in the City of North Miami to be certified for doctor's offices. The 11,650 sqft hosts 40 beautiful and very functional office suites, 10 work stations, 2 Conference Rooms, 1 Seminar Room, 2 Rest Rooms, Cyber Caffee-Kitchen facilities and a unique, cozy relaxation room. Beautiful art will be exposed on a rotational basis in the common areas, functioning as an Art Gallery. The first appointed artist is Silvia Goytia (www.silviagoytia.com)

The Business Center is currently under pre-opening leasing specials.

New member: The Solitem Group:

The Coolest Idea Since The Introduction of Solar Energy!

The SOLITEM group, led by Dr.-Ing. Ahmet Lokurlu, has turned the sun into a cooling agent.

Following the spirit of Albert Einstein "We can't solve the problems with the same kind of thinking we used when we created them" the SOLITEM group has developed solar-powered energy savings solutions for industrial applications that will allow customers to significantly reduce their energy bills, making them less dependent from traditional fossil fuels and also reducing the CO₂ emission levels at large.

The idea was born in 1993, when Dr.-Ing. Ahmet Lokurlu got a bad sunburn during vacation. Why not turning this inexhaustible energy into cooling, was the first reaction? While still working as scientist on fuel cells and energy economics at the Research Centre Juelich, he soon realized the potential of this breakthrough technology and started his own business in 1999.

Today, the SOLITEM group, headquartered in Aachen/Germany with its subsidiary company in Turkey, designs, manufactures, installs and commissions solar-powered energy savings solutions utilizing cooling, steam and heating for industries like hotels, hospitals, warehouses, supermarkets, breweries, textiles, chemicals, offices, just to name a few.

How does it work? The own developed Parabolic Trough Collectors (PTC) will capture the direct normal irradiation of the sun, heating water up to high temperatures of 180° to 250°C and utilizing the energy source for cooling, steam processing and heating as required by customers.

The hotter it gets, the cooler we stay, turning the sun into a cooling agent. The more sun irradiation is captured, the more energy will be supplied to produce for cooling. Best of all, the feedstock is delivered free-of-charge at the customer site without any transportation costs involved.

Since the introduction of the first project in 2002, a hotel resort of TUI group at Sarigerme Park in Turkey, the latest project has been installed at the roof top of a supermarket chain.

We receive inquiries around the world because of the dramatic changes in energy demand and price developments. It's our contribution for a sustainable and clean future, Dr.-Ing. Ahmet Lokurlu stated.

Many international awards have been granted to Dr.-Ing. Ahmet Lokurlu, like "Hero of the Environment" from the Time Magazine, our chancellor Dr. Angelika Merkel has been recently awarded with as well. The GABC welcomes our new member.

New member: Siebler Corporation

Siebler Corporation

Stay fit and healthy with Dr. Schuessler cell salts

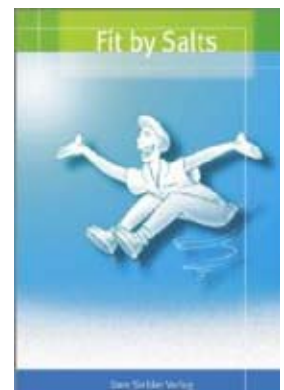
The "Biochemic method" is a healing method developed by the homeopathic Doctor Wilhelm Schuessler in the 19th century in Germany. He found out that most diseases can be prevented and also healed by using cell salts in the area where the body lacks them. His method is based on the balance of 12 different cell salts.

The Dr. Schuessler cell salts therapy has successfully been used ever since. Minor aches such as headaches or migraines, sleeplessness, or colds can be treated as well as major diseases such as skin defects and internal illnesses. In Germany the Schuessler salts are very popular and now they

are available in the US with Siebler Corporation.

Uwe Siebler wrote the book "Fit by Salts" to describe this natural healing method in an easy, understandable way. Uwe Siebler has a practice in Germany for over 20 years where he practises successfully with the Dr. Schuessler salts. In the book you can find out how and when to use each cell salt with a list of many different diseases and issues of the human body in the back of the book.

The book and the 12 Dr. Schuessler cell salts can be purchased now at www.sieblercorporation.com
Email: info@sieblercorporation.com



New member: Hamburg Sued

We are proud to announce this world-renowned shipping line is the latest member to join the GABC. More details will follow in the next edition of the newsletter.

New member: Tobias Feisst



Tobias Feisst is a Financial Representative with the Northwestern Mutual Financial Network specializing in helping individuals and corporations to create financial

security. His areas of expertise are life insurance, disability income insurance, long-term care insurance, Personal Needs Analysis, Wealth Accumulation, Asset & Income Protection, Estate Analysis, Business Needs Analysis, and Executive Compensation.

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Cross-Border German Practice

Our Cross-Border German Practice provides services for corporate and individual clients from Germany, Switzerland and Austria interested in expanding their business or investing in the United States. Alternatively, we represent U.S. clients in outbound transactions in those aforementioned countries.

Our attorneys advise clients in a multitude of legal disciplines ranging from Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Real Estate Transactions and Foreclosures, Commercial Litigation, including the Enforcement of Foreign Judgments and Construction Law, Intellectual Property to U.S. Immigration. The Group has several native speaking attorneys, some with dual bar admission in Germany and the U.S., and of course German speaking staff.

K&L Gates LLP comprises approximately 1,700 lawyers in 28 offices located in North America, Europe and Asia, including specifically an office with over 30 attorneys in Berlin.

Contact Attorney Ellen von Geyso for further information at 305.539.3382 or ellen.vongeyso@klgates.com

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1700 LAWYERS ON THREE CONTINENTS

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