



Spring 2015
Newsletter



Spotlight on New Alumni

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RBFAA Newsletter

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Please send us your news, alumni updates, and story ideas!

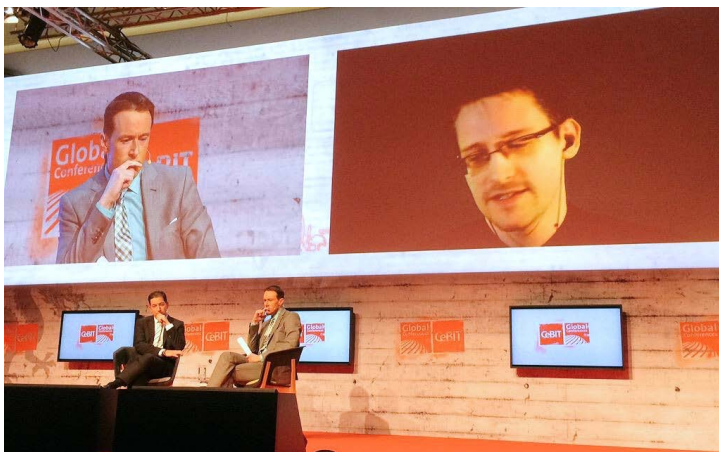
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For this Spring newsletter, we called on members of Bosch XXXI (that's "31" for those of you who have trouble with your roman numerals) especially, to tell us bit about their experiences in Germany this past year, about what they learned, what they will remember most and how they intend to engage with the RBF AA going forward. Many of this year's fellows have not been alive as long as the Fellowship has, but their experiences resonate across all generations of Boschies and we warmly welcome them into the club!

Alumni Updates



Brent Goff (seated, right) in his interview with Edward Snowden (on the screen, right) and Glenn Greenwald (seated, left).

Check in on what the other alumni have been up to in their professional and personal lives!

Be sure to register for the Annual Meeting!

One of the highlights of the summer will be the RBFAA's Annual Meeting! We're looking forward to exploring *Innovation in Action* this year in the fields of transportation, transatlantic relations and trade, and start-ups.

Don't forget to RSVP!

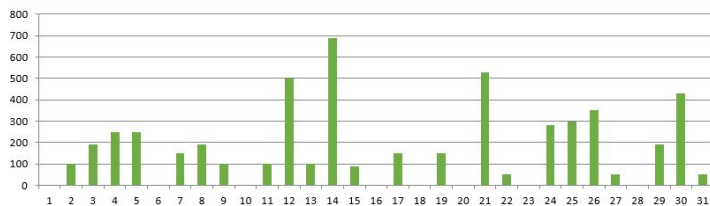
2015 Fundraising Update

Pay your dues please!!!

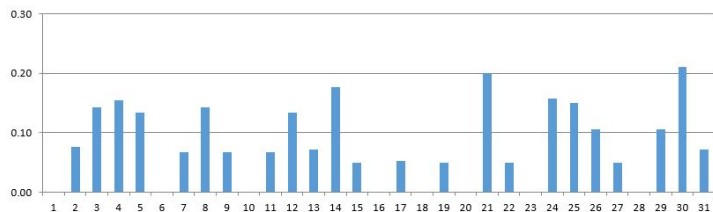
In 2014 alone, RBFAA members contributed to: the success of the 30th Anniversary Event in Washington D.C., several notable regional events that expanded professional networks and broadened horizons!

Contributing members make a tremendous – and increasingly critical – difference to the RBFAA as an organization. We couldn't exist without your support. You can find your class donation page [here!](#) Contact RBFAA Membership Chair [Christina Tsafoulis](#) if you have any questions.

**Total Dues and Contributions
from each Bosch Class**



**2015 Bosch Membership Dues
Involvement by Class Percentage**



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Caroline Fredrickson (Bosch X) wanted to share that she has a book coming out shortly that follows on a theme she explored in Germany, women in the workplace. Her first pre-publication review is here: <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/caroline-fredrickson/under-the-bus/>

Brent Goff (Bosch XVI) interviewed whistleblower Edward Snowden & his gatekeeper, journalist Glenn Greenwald, before a live audience at the CeBIT Global Conferences in March, 2015. Brent is one of a small group of journalists who have interviewed both men at the same time and engaged both about their role in the NSA scandal and its fallout. The interview was also carried live on DW News (Deutsche Welle) and German television station NDR.

Here is a link to the one-hour interview: <https://youtu.be/C3JVWVqtgLQ?t=21s>



Brent Goff (seated, right) in his interview with Edward Snowden (on the screen, right) and Glenn Greenwald (seated, left).

Michelle Jones (Bosch XVII)

In January I started a new job as communications manager for Nashville Public Television, a PBS affiliate. I'm enjoying telling stories from the other side while also continuing to write reviews and cultural travel pieces as a freelancer.

Anastasia Telesetsky (Bosch XX) appeared in September 2014 for oral argument before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg, Germany as part of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) pro-bono legal team to present arguments about the nature of flag state and international organization responsibility under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. When the Tribunal issued its advisory opinion in April 2015, the Tribunal relied in part on some arguments

presented by IUCN. She would love to connect or reconnect with any Bosch alumni who are working on ocean governance or law of the sea issues.

Gale Mattox (Bosch I) and Parke Nicholson (Bosch XXVII) presented at AICGS' third Annual Symposium on Monday, December 15, 2014 in New York City. This Symposium, held the same day as the AICGS Global Leadership Award Dinner, explored Germany and America's roles in shaping the emerging global order and discussed new avenues for transatlantic cooperation.



Carolina Solms-Baruth (left), Parke Nicholson (middle) and Gale Mattox (right) at AICGS' Symposium in NYC in December 2014.

Dr. Robert J. Devine (Bosch III) returned in February from a research and fact-finding mission to Zamboanga Province on the island of Mindanao. Robert's firm, CEISA Research Group, is conducting ongoing low-profile research into the extent of popular support for radical Islamist factions in the Southernmost parts of the Philippines. He is exploring which factions, including the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, Abu Sayyaf, Jemaah Islamiya, Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (the Misuari Renegade Breakaway group), among others, may be forming (or already have formed) alliances with ISIS in Mindanao, Indonesia, Malaysian Borneo and the islands of the Sulu Sea, particularly Jolo, Tawi Tawi, and Basilan.

Robert was in Southern Mindanao when 43 members of the elite Philippine Special Action Force were killed during a surprise raid on Tukanalipao in an attempt to capture Zulkifli Bin Hir (aka Marwan), a senior Malaysian leader of the Jemaah Islamiya terrorist movement. Also, Zamboanga City, in the province of Zamboanga del Sur, was subject to pitched battles in September 2013 with breakaway elements of the Moro National Liberation Front and witnessed another detonation of an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) as recently as April.

An intense focus of his research is concentrated on ongoing attempts to resurrect the former Sultanate of Sulu which spans not only the islands off Mindanao but also the territory of Sabah in Malaysian Borneo. The legitimate claimant to a restoration of the Sulu Monarchy is Raja Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram whose intentions are benign and peaceful and show no sign of collaboration with any of the extremist Islamist groups operating in the area. There is interest in eventually restoring a (constitutional)

monarchy as a transnational autonomous kingdom similar to the structures of sovereignty enjoyed by various indigenous “Indian” Nations in (and between) the United States and Canada as in the case with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe in Washington State, whose traditional territory spans the Canadian-U.S. border in the Pacific Northwest. Interestingly, though not surprisingly, given the previous British involvement in Malaysia, the legitimate pretender to the Sulu Sultanate enjoys a certain element of guarded support in the United Kingdom.

Other (false) pretenders to the throne have been active in pressing their claims, most recently, Jamalul Kiram III (now deceased), who arrived with militants in Lahad Datu, Sabah, Malaysia from Tawi Tawi Island in the Philippines and encountered casualties during skirmishes with Malaysian forces. In another interesting twist to the Sultanate of Sulu story, the Government of the People’s Republic of China is making discrete inroads in establishing ties with yet another false pretender to the Sulu throne in a possible attempt to solidify disputed Chinese claims to the Spratly Islands by means of close relations with what might emerge as a pro-Beijing entity controlling the Balabac Strait and Sulu Sea, a choke point between Malaysia and the Philippines at the Southeast gateway to the Spratly Islands.

In other news, Robert was recently honored with the prestigious title of Academician of Social Sciences in the International Academy of Social Sciences. One of the goals of the IASS is to promote the diffusion of “subjugated knowledges” and “marginalized discourses.” Robert was also granted an Honorary Research Professorship from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and was elected Vice Chancellor for Diplomatic Affairs in the Real Sociedad de Armigeros de Espana. In December Robert was invested as Cavaliere in the Order of Saints Maurice & Lazarus of the House of Savoy during festivities in New York City which took place at the Colony and Metropolitan Clubs. Just recently Robert was notified of his acceptance into the Maestranza de Caballeria de Castilla, The Guarda de Honra and the Order of St. Michael of the Wing of the Royal House of Portugal. In early May Robert will be meeting with HRH, Dom Duarte Pio, Duke of Braganza, in a charity event for Bishop Manuel Antonio Mendes dos Santos from the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome & Principe benefitting the impoverished African nation and former Portuguese colony at the prestigious Links Club in New York City. Significant hydrocarbon resources lie within the territorial waters of both the Republic of Sao Tome & Principe and Nigeria which are currently being jointly developed by ExxonMobil and ChevronTexaco with a 60/40 split of future revenues going to Nigeria and the island republic.

Later in May, Robert will be received by His Excellency, the Honourable George Ferguson, the Governor of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda at Government House, the official residence of the Governor in Pembroke Parish, Hamilton, Bermuda.

Dominick Kennerson Bosch XXVII - recent interview he did with Bayer.

Dominick – What do you do in your job?

Every day is quite different, but essentially my job is to strengthen the company’s reputation, visibility and impact through communications on companion animal topics. I have the opportunity to work with the colleagues from our Global Marketing team as well as with colleagues in our regions and countries. From time to time I provide strategic social media insights to our corporate office and in Monheim as well. I believe this role is important because knowledge is power – we live in an information age and I help ensure that the information available about our business creates value.

What does a typical day look like for you?

A typical day starts early in the morning, where we connect with colleagues at Bayer HealthCare Communications & Public Affairs in Leverkusen. Each day we align on the important news for the day. After this call, I generally work to address any specific issues that may have risen from the night before. During the morning, I like to spend time working on our priority, customer-focused campaigns, where I develop content and create “share-of-voice” on topics such as vector-borne disease and #Pets4Aging (check out our social media channels for further information). I may have lunch with colleagues from Global Veterinary Service to stay fresh on the technical aspects of our companion animals portfolio and there I’m also able to generate insights on topics that help make our science more meaningful to our customer-audience. Also, in my daily business I support our brand communications through external press, and other publications; and I work closely with our external partners (e.g. the International Veterinary Students’ Association and the International Federation on Ageing). I sometimes feel like an in-house consultant, because each day my role helps ensure our business is focused and the right language (or communication), at the right time, to the right people helps make that possible.

How did you get to Animal Health?

I did a lot before joining BHC Animal Health Global. I worked in hospitals, did corporate development for a dotcom billionaire, and was even a mixologist in a Washington, D.C. cocktail parlor while operating my own consulting firm. Though, immediately prior to joining BHC Animal Health, I was working as a healthcare investment banker in Washington D.C. Around that time, I was in my second year of returning from Germany—I lived in Berlin, Germany (2010 – 2011) as a Robert Bosch Stiftung (Foundation) Fellow and as part of the Bosch Fellowship requirements, I had to find work experiences in both the public and the private arenas. In the private arena, I was fortunate enough to work with Bayer to support Global Advocacy for a major brand launch—one of the most successful in pharmaceutical history. And later, as a healthcare investment banker, I followed the Zoetis divestiture closely (Pfizer was a consulting client in 2012, so I followed their business news closely) and developed some interest in the animal health industry along the way. When I heard about the job in Monheim, I was especially interested because I could combine my background in science, human medicine, and research to develop some meaningful and engaging global programs here. So, I gave it a try and it all worked out!

What do you like about working in Animal Health?

Of course the people. The people at BHC Animal Health are different from the people working in Berlin. I believe the people here have a holistic view of health and healthcare (i.e. “One Health”) and without knowing it, they always challenge my views on how I see the healthcare system. For example, in Monheim, there are many people on our Global Staff that are veterinarians. And when they speak about “patients”, I had to learn that they were actually referring to DOGS and CATS! So, here in Monheim, I’m always challenged to be aware of public health and the concept that what we do at BHC Animal Health also supports human health.

Bayer’s motto is Science For A Better Life – how do you contribute to this?

I think my primary contribution, and challenge, is taking our amazing science and making it relevant for our external audiences. I’ve done my job well if I can describe how Bayer contributes to an individual’s “Better Life” in our campaigns and publications.

Do you have a pet?

I have had pets in the past. Family and friends used to always say that I had a zoo at home! Over the years I've had cats, dogs, fish, turtles, and gerbils. In college, I kept a gecko and even had a scorpion as a pet for several years. Unfortunately, I do not have a pet right now. As you can imagine, it's difficult caring for a pet when you've moved your life across the Atlantic Ocean three times in a three year period!

Erin Condit (Bosch VI)

On March 27, **Erin Condit (Bosch VI)** celebrated her first year of marriage to Scott Juds, who holds graduate degrees in electrical and computer engineering from Stanford and is the named inventor on over 40 US and global patents. Scott and Erin are partners in life and in business at SumGrowth Strategies, which owns an automated investment strategy program called SectorSurfer at SumGrowth.com. SectorSurfer employs hedge-fund style algorithms to FastTrack data, as well as the science of Signal Processing, Match Filter Theory and True Sector Rotation Theory to help subscribers create excellent stock, mutual fund and ETF strategies at low to no cost, including a free 401k program. Subscribers receive automated email and cell text trade alerts telling them what to buy and when to sell within a strategy. All strategies (including free 401k strategies) are automatically updated at the end of each trading day and employ StormGuard, which triggers when there's a market crash and orders subscribers to go to cash. The beauty of each SectorSurfer 401k strategy (indeed - all SectorSurfer strategies) is that it provides employees with charts and the data they need to demand a greater selection of funds from their HR departments and 401k administrators: 10 year Max-Drawdown (with quarterly realized drawdown), Sortino and Sharpe Ratios, Alpha/Beta/Safety scores, annual ROI vs %chance of 15% loss of real money. These strategy statistics are compared to the S&P500. Every strategy comes with automated Forward Walk Progressive Tuning - the Gold Standard on Wall Street for defining/back - testing an investment strategy. SumGrowth Strategies does not accrete assets; SectorSurfer is simply a tool to help people retire sooner and better under the company motto - "Change the Game" by leveling the playing field with Wall Street. "We like to believe that we are solving the retirement crisis one subscriber at a time," Erin said, adding that she'd be "happy to help all Boschies learn the program and get their free 401k strategies." Employees from some of the largest tech and manufacturing companies in the world use SectorSurfer to help them manage their 401ks.

(You can end it here if you like. If you edit it, please allow me to fact check. Thanks!)

A Deeply Respected Tool: Since its inception, SectorSurfer's performance, efficacy and transparency has earned respect within chapters of the American Association of Individual Investors. Around the country, SectorSurfer subscribers have independently created the [SectorSurfer Users Group](#) on Google Groups, the Hawaiian Shirt Society Investment Club in Los Angeles, [SectorSurfer University in Malibu](#) and a variety of AAIL Special Interests Groups (SIGs) dedicated to getting the most out of the service. SectorSurfer's popularity has grown among financial advisors, as well. In an effort to meet their needs and desires, Scott created [AlphaGen Strategies, LLC](#) and a new platform at AlphaGenStrategies.com to help CFPs and CFAs manage multiple high performance portfolios for their clients - something SumGrowth.com, which serves primarily individual investors, wasn't designed to do. And finally, SumGrowth Strategies recently entered into a joint venture with a professor (name confidential) in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) to develop a "[genetic algorithm](#)," one that

incorporates SectorSurfer's True Sector Rotation algorithms to *optimally* and *adaptively* select stocks and funds for a portfolio. SumGrowth Strategies has embraced these significant new opportunities, while working to serve the needs and desires of its subscribers on a continuing basis.

Why the Advent of SectorSurfer is Important: With an average of 10,000 Baby Boomers retiring each day over the next 20 years – most with insufficient assets to see them through – the financial cost to future taxpayers will be enormous. The real problem with 401ks and IRAs is the inability of those workers and retirees to get qualified investing advice and make informed decisions. There are seven reasons why this has occurred:

1. Federal laws (ERISA) are quite punitive if there is any indication that the 401k administrators receive special commission for recommending certain assets.
2. Employers won't offer advice for fear of getting sued.
3. Wall Street has gravitated towards a "wealth management" business strategy, which puts truly qualified investment advice out of the reach of middle class investors (plus, advisors earn little to nothing for managing client 401ks).
4. The lack of really excellent and abundant choices in many 401k offerings has meant limited individual retirement growth. SectorSurfer empowers employees with the statistics they need to ask for more and different funds.
5. "Managed" retirement accounts, many of which average a measly 8% per year, give employees no choice in how to invest their retirement assets. Once these accounts are adjusted for inflation/cost-of-living, fund and trade fees, they're lucky to yield 3% a year in real value. (SectorSurfer makes fund fees a bit of a non-issue because there's no need to diversify MPT-style.)
6. The proliferation of Target-Date Funds are yet another version of a managed retirement account and asset accretion.
7. The lack of/need for the mathematics of economics and finance in K-12 STEM programs cannot be understated. The current status quo (naïveté) helped fuel the 2008 meltdown and retirement crisis. All of this, plus pension reform and the inbred reliance on the outdated Modern Portfolio Theory by a vast number of advisors and fund managers, is why the US has a multi-trillion dollar retirement crisis on its hands.

Joellen Perry (Bosch XXI)

After seven great post-Bosch years in Germany, including three as the WSJ's European Economics Correspondent and two as a senior manager at Bertelsmann/Gruner + Jahr, I'm - finally! - heading home. I had a baby in late 2013 and it really does change everything: As much as I've enjoyed my time here, I just miss home too much to stay. Stateside ETA: Summer 2015.



Kelley Friedgen (Bosch XXI)

My update is pretty quick. My husband and I welcomed our son, Alexander Lucian Edward Johnson, on January 12, 2015. Since his arrival we have been visiting several National Parks with him (including the Grand Canyon) and we look forward to his first visit to Germany, hopefully later this year.

Bosch XXXI

Annie Mark-Westfall Bosch XXXI

After a fantastic Bosch XXXI summer of Deutsch lernen in Berlin, my first Stage was with the Environment sector team at the BMZ Development Ministry in Bonn, responsible for *programming* Germany's €500 million/year commitment to international biodiversity conservation. My second Stage focuses on how Germany *implements* that commitment, and I sit with the KfW Development Bank in Frankfurt, working with the Asia "green team". My transatlantic project is a case study on transatlantic/international cooperation to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trade (IWT) - particularly interesting as Germany co-sponsors the UN General Assembly IWT Resolution and related initiatives as part of their G7 Presidency, and as US President Obama launches the IWT Implementation Plan.

On a personal note, "family" was fundamentally redefined this year - my fellow Boschies and their spouses are now true family, and also my husband and I are soon "getting" our first Kind here in Germany, in early June. Next, I look forward to rejoining the NGO the Wildlife Conservation Society, and relocating from New York to Europe. I will serve as liaison to the German and European governments on the topics of international biodiversity conservation and IWT, with a Bosch-like focus on transatlantic and international cooperation.

Laura Gardner Bosch XXI

Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei...My first stage was spent in Berlin at the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie, where I worked with the external economic policy team focused on North America. Most of our work focused on TTIP, which has been a very hot topic in Germany over the last year and came up so frequently that the Boschies designed our own TTIP drinking game. I am spending my second stage in Hamburg, working on yet another contentious issue - data protection - in Google Germany's legal department. In my last few months in Germany, I'm trying to fit in lots of travel and time with #dearfriends before I return home to DC in July. I'll be returning to my position as a Senior Attorney with the Department of Commerce's Office of Chief Counsel for International Commerce, where I'll continue to be involved in transatlantic trade issues. I look forward to connecting (and re-connecting) with the RBFAA community in the DC area!

Tim Stumhofer, Bosch XXXI

I know a few of you already but I'm looking forward to meeting you all. As part of the Bosch 31 cohort, I'm about 9/11ths through my time in Germany. I've spent this year looking at international climate change finance from the perspective of the German government and its bilateral development finance institution, KfW. After a spell living in Kreuzberg while at the Environment Ministry, I'm now experiencing an entirely different side of German life as a resident of the village of Höchst in greater Frankfurt. I look forward to swapping stories and re-acclimating to consistent sunlight at the RBFAA meeting in June, just a short commute from my San Francisco apartment.

Clare Waldmann, Bosch XXXI

I have had, and am still having, a wonderful time in Germany! With a professional focus on marine and coastal policy, my California colleagues doubted my decision to work in a country not particularly well known for having strong sea legs, but this challenge provided a great framing for my work stages. I began exploring the relationship between Germany and the marine environment (or, the Old Man and the Sea) at Ecologic Institute in Berlin, with a focus on European marine policy and German perspectives on infrastructure decommissioning in the North Sea. I recently expanded my geographic focus to German support for international development, and I am currently working at the Deutsche Gesellschaft

fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Eschborn, as part of their Blue Solutions Initiative to foster global exchange of successful coastal and marine management strategies.

My husband will be taking on a new job in Berlin starting in June, and we are excited to stay in Germany for the foreseeable future and connect with Germany-based alums. I am eager to learn about opportunities in the environmental sector in northern Germany, so please feel free to pass ideas my way.

Aaron Fishbone, Bosch XXXI

I have 2 months left before I become a member of the distinguished RBFAA and I am making sure to 'genieß' every second that I have left as a current Boschie and every cent remaining of my travel budget. After assorted work around the world and four years in the Seattle Mayor's Office I wanted to use my fellowship to have a full German immersion experience and study local government politics, policy, and administration in Germany. My first work stage took place in the office of a Member of the Bundestag and the Sprecher of the SPD Arbeitsgruppe Kommunalpolitik, where I developed quite a rapport with my colleagues and the member and advised him on minimum wage, tax & finance, land use and municipal data and technology issues. I spent half a week back in his Wahlkreis (staying with him and his wife) in Westfalia, joining him at all sorts of meetings and events, to get a feel for his district and retail and party politics in rural Germany. Living in a WG in Neukölln, Berlin during this historic and momentous year, from the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Wall to the reemergence of Germany as a world power, central to so much going on in the world right now, was incredible, as was being able to share it with the other Boschies. At the end of January I loaded my things into the back of a truck and my roommate and I set out on the A2 cross country to Düsseldorf, where I am now. My second Stage has me in the Office of International Affairs, Office of the Mayor where I meet with internationally oriented groups and delegations looking to do business or cultural activities in Dusseldorf or abroad and help prep the mayor for meetings, events and international trips. My transatlantic project is a comparison between the work of 4-6 German and American municipal offices for international affairs, based on my own experiences and original interviews I am conducting. I don't know what I will do next professionally, but am looking around for how to best capitalize on my skills and experiences after this incredible, one of a kind experience.