



German American Business Chamber Miami Newsletter October 2010

A Word from the GABC President



Michael Claus

Dear Members and Friends of the GABC,

First things first: Welcome back Eva Alexandra Countess Kendeffy!

As reported before, Countess Kendeffy has succeeded Klaus Ranner as Consul General of Germany, thus being predecessor and successor at the same time. We are excited to see an old friend of our organization returning to Miami and look forward to the great cooperation we had in the past. Let me add to that in saying, that over all the years the various Consul Generals of Germany have

always supported the GABC in very efficient ways and we would not be at this point of our GABC history, if not for the help, dedication and support of the Consul Generals at the time. Of course this has to be said also for the entire Consulate staff, which is with us and supporting us in all activities as much as this is possible. Thank you very much for that, it is highly appreciated by the Board and the members of the GABC.

Compared to the general population in South Florida, the German community and people and/or businesses interested in relations with Germany is relatively small and we have to stick together and make people listen to us and see the opportunities a sophisticated country like Germany can offer in many aspects, be it with and in Germany or amongst business interests here in our region. Germany again is a booming country, almost like the days of the 'Wirtschaftswunder', and unlike the United States the job market is booming as well and unemployment rates are dropping fast. Contrary to that we here are not yet out of the doldrums and it may take a few months more to see slight improvements, if at all. In the meantime, Germany is open for business!

We now have officially autumn, although this does not mean too much for South Florida, but what it means is, that the peak hurricane season is slowly ending. Here is hoping that we continue to be lucky and do not have to worry about Mother Nature as well.

Please spread the word about your GABC, because a strong member base is the foundation of our further progress and success, and we need you all on board.

Michael Claus
President

The 2010/2011 German American Chambers National Member Directory is here!



The Directory's structure is now based on industry category and closely resembles the Yellow Pages. Navigate through 2,500 member companies based in 6 locations - Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco - using our new index of industries. This revised format will enable quick and efficient searches for the contacts you need.

The hard copy directory is published once a year and contains all member companies of all German American Chambers of

Commerce in the US including all chapters and affiliates.

Get your copy now by contacting us at miami@gabc.us

GABC members pay \$70 - Non-members pay \$85 including shipping in the continental United States
The number of copies is limited!

New Small Business Member: **bestcanvas.com**



Founded in 2010, bestcanvas.com is a high-class eCommerce portal for individual linen canvas prints for the North American market. Every individual motif or photograph can be printed on linen canvas - you can order comfortably online, choose the size of the print as well as the thickness of the frame. Bestcanvas Inc also provides countless well selected motifs that you can choose from for your individual print.

Originating from Cologne, Germany, Bestcanvas Inc is a subsidiary of Picanova GmbH, one of the leading manufacturers for linen canvas prints, hand-made oil-paintings, sculptures as well as photo albums and calendars in Europe. The distribution in Europe takes place through national and international ecommerce portals, galleries and many cooperation partners. Picanova and Bestcanvas stand for high-quality, customization and favourable interior design solutions.

Philipp Mühlbauer, philipp@bestcanvas.com



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A Word from the Consul General



GENERALKONSULIN
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK
DEUTSCHLAND
THE CONSUL GENERAL
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
GERMANY

Eva Alexandra Countess Kendeffy



Eva Alexandra Countess Kendeffy

Dear Members and Friends:

I'm delighted to be back again in Florida as German Consul General. As you all know, I greatly enjoyed my last tenure here, the excellent cooperation with the GABC, and the relationships and friendships built upon our common goal.

Upon my return, I'm happy to see that the relationship with the GABC, which my predecessor Klaus Ranner, has continued to strengthen, is flourishing. Also, in many areas of business, one can witness the evolution of projects begun long ago, many of which garnered their

support through the dynamic members of this Chamber.

It is important to acknowledge that we live in different times now, and that different times provide different opportunities. I'm looking forward to using these opportunities to further integrate the intentions of the GABC and the German Consulate, and I'm thrilled to be among you, my friends, once again.

Sincerely yours,

Eva Alexandra Kendeffy
Consul General

Job offer

The vacation rental agency Miami Habitat is looking for a bilingual agent speaking German and English (both languages should be written and spoken perfectly). Miami Habitat provides furnished vacation apartments and vacation villas and works with clients from all over the world. The company receives daily leads generated from its websites either as email or phone calls.

Job responsibilities will include respond to request, "close the deal" meaning reserving the rental and process all related paper work. The candidate will also be included with some marketing activities with Germany. Candidate should have valid US working papers. Salary \$33 000 per year gross plus commission. Please submit your resume to natalia@miami-info.com

New Individual Members

Steven Morrison

Press Release: German and Florida Leaders unite to discuss Bioscience at the Max Planck Florida Institute



JUPITER, Fla. (September 10, 2010) – Dr. Wolfgang Heubisch, Federal State Minister of the Bavarian State Ministry of Science, Research and Arts visited Jupiter recently to tour the Max Planck Florida Institute. Joining him were the leaders of some of the most prestigious universities in Germany, including the Technical University of Munich; Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen-Nuremberg; and the University of Würzburg. In addition, Dr. Heubisch was accompanied by the Managing Directors of BioM Cluster Management and the Medical Valley of the European Metropol Region Nuremberg.

After the tour, the group participated in a roundtable discussion about politics, scientific innovation and the life sciences in Bavaria and Florida with Dr. Herbert Jäckle, vice president of the Max Planck Society in Germany; Chancellor Frank Brogan of the State University System of Florida; Board of Palm Beach County Commissioner Karen Marcus; Dr. Mary Jane Saunders, president of Florida Atlantic University; David Day, director of the University of Florida's Office of Technology Licensing; and Kelly Smallridge, president and CEO of the Business Development Board. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Claudia Hillinger, vice president of Institute Development for the Max Planck Florida Institute. [More](#)

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Press Release: **WULF TREU: Road To Samarra**

Wolfgang Roth & Partners, Fine Art is pleased to announce its Fall 2010 Exhibition "Road To Samarra" retrospective works by Wulf Treu.

The opening reception will be on Saturday, October 9th From 7 to 10 pm and run through Saturday November 13th. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 11am to 6pm.

This exhibition is a post-modern adult fairy tale where there is not always a happy ending. By mixing bright colors with dark subjects and an ironic sense of humor, the artist manages to surprise and engage us with his unique style and provocative perspective.

"Wulf Treu does not fool around. His work is personal, brash, painterly, expressive and full of extraordinary energy... The act of painting that serves as the catalyst for creating something new from something old is meant to make a statement about the conditions of society that he sees around him." Carol Damian, Curator, The Frost Museum.

Wulf Treu was born in East Germany where he spent his childhood. As a young man he escaped and has lived in Europe and the United States. His work illustrates the influences of the juxtaposed forces of a happy childhood against the backdrop of socio-political turmoil in post-war East Germany.

These conflicting components are omnipresent in Wulf's work which maintains the innocence and naivete of a child coupled with the gritty adult elements of sex, death, love and loss. The result is a complex narrative of the artist's journey.

The use of found objects and the layering of masculine and femi-

nine elements enhance the visceral thrust of these works. Actual signage incorporated into many of the works serves as a metaphor for enlightenment offered but often unheeded.

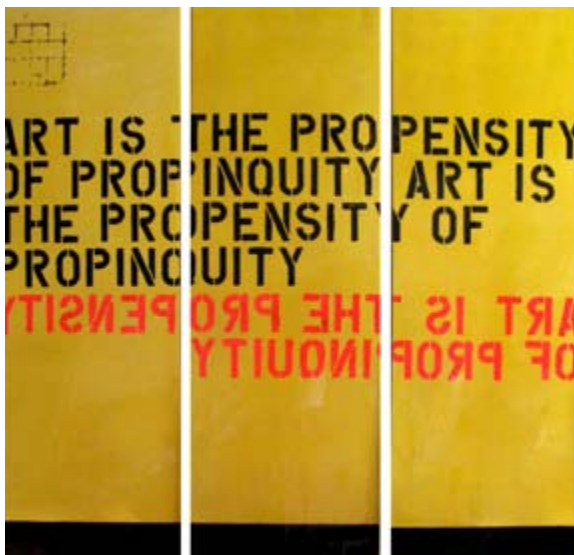
Inspired by John O'Hara's novel "Appointment in Samarra", Wulf Treu has taken its universal theme and applied it in a critical examination of life. We all know where the path will lead us. Unknown is how we will manage ourselves on the journey. How will we love, live and handle the multitude of decisions on the way? The road forks many times, but in the end, the destination remains unchanged. Only the traveler is capable of change and growth.

Wulf's work is at once sublimely childlike and simultaneously profound and illuminating. This paradox mirrors the artist's very nature. There is a sense of joy and discovery and a complex backstory that drives each individual piece. Underlying common themes and recurring iconology pop up throughout years of work, indicating ongoing struggle and self-examination as he continues to forge ahead.

Working from his studio in an industrial Miami neighborhood, the artist continues to find his voice here in America, miles and years from his early roots in Germany. We are privileged to join him on the journey.

A special one hour VIP preview will be hosted for GABC members on October 9th before the general public opening!

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Past GABC Events:

Summer Networking Happy Hour at the Calamari Restaurant, Coral Gables

We thought the summer is quiet. It proved to be quite the opposite. Over 350 people attended the

Summer Networking Happy Hour at the Calamari Restaurant, Coral Gables hosted by the European Chambers in Miami and the Coconut Grove Chamber – great opportunity to meet business friends and make new contacts.



European Cocktail Reception at The Palms Hotel & Spa

On August 26th, 2010 the European Chambers in Miami hosted the third joint European networking reception of the year at The Palms Hotel and Spa. Over 250 people enjoyed the tropical, elegant and

relaxing atmosphere of the Essensia Lounge and Terrace. The Palms Hotel & Spa offered an excellent service with a combination on appetizers, drinks, music and wellness – the perfect environment to network.

The next European networking reception will be held in November.



Upcoming GABC Events:

Please find always updated information at www.gabc.us under upcoming events as well as pictures of past events in the photo gallery

October:

7th October: The GABC Miami presents the monthly Stammtisch at the Fritz & Franz Bierhaus, Coral Gables at 6 pm. This time the Stammtisch will be held during the Fritz & Franz Oktoberfest.

9th October: Wolfgang Roth & Partners, Fineart host a one hour VIP preview of their Fall 2010 Exhibition "Road To Samarra" retrospective works by Wulf Treu for GABC members only. The VIP preview starts at 6 pm, one hour before the official opening reception. RSVP required to miami@gabc.us

27th October: The GABC and the European Chambers present the 6th European Business Seminar. Details TBA. RSVP required to miami@gabc.us

November:

4th November: The GABC Miami presents the monthly Stammtisch at the Hofbraeu Beerhall, South Beach at 6 pm.

23rd November: The European Chambers in Miami say Thank You to their members at their European Thanksgiving Cocktail Networking Reception. Details TBA. Members free, Non-members \$20. RSVP required to miami@gabc.us

30th November: The GABC and the European Chambers present the 7th European Business Seminar. Topic: Bids and Proposals. De-tails TBA. RSVP required to miami@gabc.us

December:

5th December: GABC Annual Christmas Gala at the Hotel Inter-Continental Miami. Save the date! Invitations will be sent out at a later point.

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Octoberfest 2010

Oktoberfest is an important part of the Bavarian-German culture. South Floridians do not have to miss this tradition with German beer, food, folk music and lots of fun.

We put together a list of some places where you can celebrate the Oktoberfest in and around Miami:

- Oct. 1-10: [Fritz & Franz Bierhaus](#)
- Oct. 4-9: [InterContinental Hotel Miami](#)
- Oct. 15, 16, 17 & 22,23, 24: [The German-American Social Club of Miami](#)
- Oct. 9: [German International Parent Association](#)
- Oct. 8, 9, 10 & 15, 16, 17: [The American German Club of the Palm Beaches](#)
- Oct. 9 & 23: [German American Society of Greater Hollywood](#)

GABC Member Discounts

We are always working to improve membership benefits. In this context, we would like to extend the opportunity to companies to increase the visibility of their respective business by offering specific benefits or discounts to GABC members.

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.

We look forward in 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

\$14 Fee for travelers from the Visa Waiver Program

A new fee will slightly increase the cost of one of the conveniences frequent travelers have found helpful. On August 9, 2010, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced an "interim" final rule to require travelers from Visa Waiver Program (VWP) countries to pay new operational and travel promotion fees. Beginning on September 8, 2010, VWP travelers are to pay these fees when applying for an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA).

For each new ESTA application (as well as each renewal application), the total fee will be \$14. Four dollars of each fee will recover CBP's costs associated with providing and administering the ESTA system. The remaining ten dollars of each fee reflect the mandatory travel promotion fee established by the Travel Promotion Act of 2009.

CBA will not accept cash with ESTA applications. Rather, applicants must use credit card or cards to pay all ESTA fees. Currently, the ESTA system only accepts VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover cards, and CBA will not process an application until it receives and verifies all payment information.

The VWP is administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The program is available to eligible nationals of 36 designated countries (including Germany, Switzerland and Austria). VWP has made it possible for eligible VWP nationals to travel to the United States and to stay for 90 days or less without obtaining a visa. However, as of January 12, 2010 any VWP national who wishes to participate in the program must obtain an ESTA travel authorization prior to boarding a carrier to travel by air or sea to the United States.

For further information regarding the VWP, ESTA, or any immigration related matter, you can contact Ellen von Geysso, an attorney at Law in Miami admitted to the practice of law in Germany and Florida. Mrs. von Geysso can be reached at info@vongeyso.com; 305.365.0325. Check out her webpage at www.vongeyso.com.
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ELLEN VON GEYSO, PA

Ellen von Geysso, J.D., LL.M.

Attorney at Law admitted in Florida and Germany
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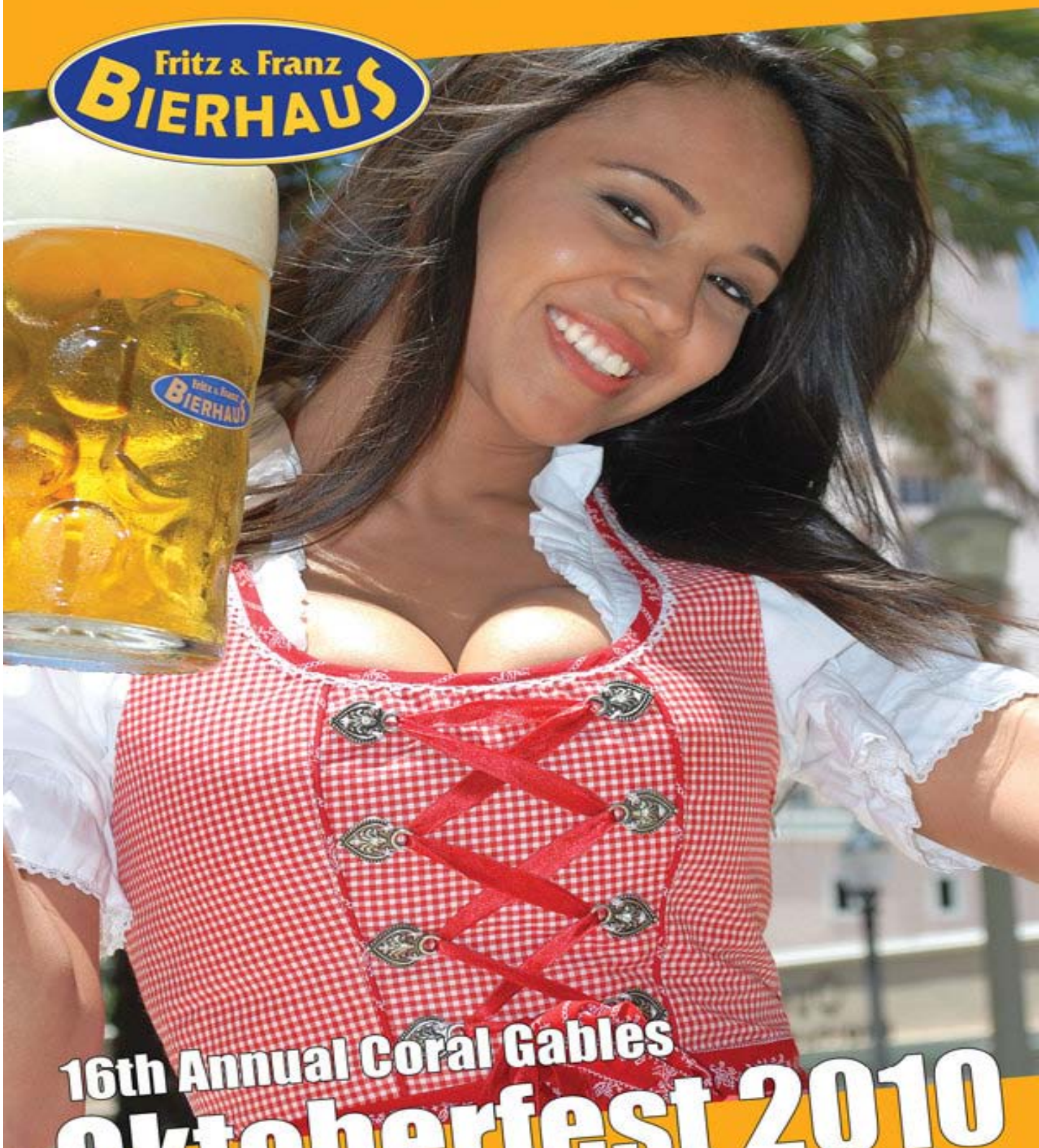
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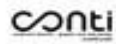
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German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern U.S. – News

EVENTS:

1st Texas Offshore Wind Energy Roundtable (TOWER) and Off-shore Wind Law (OWL) Conference
October 19-22, 2010
Houston, TX

Environmental Trade Mission 2010
November 17-19, 2010
Atlanta, GA

GACC South 15th Annual Gala
November 20, 2010
Atlanta, GA

GACC News

Partnership with the American-Canadian Automobile Congress

Despite the recession, the United States remains the largest economy worldwide, and continues to show signs of an impending economic upturn. [Germany Trade and Invest](#) (GTAI) is predicting the US economy to grow by 3.1 percent in 2010. The American market presents German companies exceptional opportunities to successfully expand and position their businesses abroad. The US's automotive sector is one of its most significant industries, at the center of which are the Midwestern and the Southeastern states. The German American Chambers of Commerce (GACC) assume an important role in the market entry of German companies by facilitating networking opportunities to assist German investors and exporters in finding the right contacts, introducing them to potential American customers to further negotiations and assisting them develop their activities in the US market strategically to ensure their company's success and longevity. Additionally, contact to research institutes and associations has an especially critical function when entering the US market.

The International Suppliers Fair (IZB)

Interested companies can get in touch with the German American Chambers of Commerce at [American-Canadian Automobile Congress](#), as well as at the [International Suppliers Fair](#) (IZB) for an initial meeting. In collaboration with GTAI, the GACC will host a booth at both events. Kristian Wolf, CEO and President of the GACC South, will present "Opportunities in the US Market for German Companies" at the congress. To learn more about GTAI's Connecting Car Competence, please click [here](#).

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Today Euro Table has multiple venues, Sacha's Café, Fountain Bistro, La Ficelle Café, Fountain Deli and planned openings in 2010. More than just a place for great food - each Euro Table location is a dynamic, upscale meeting spot and an affordable indulgence. "Inside the hip-designed eatery", Euro Table makes the best of North American energy and convenience with the eternal elements of European style.



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The GABC Miami is an official affiliate of the GACC South. Find more information on the GACC:
<http://www.gaccsouth.com/en/>

Weblinks to German American Associations and Clubs:

GIPA: German International Parent Association
Find more information on GIPA: <http://www.gipa.org/>

GASC: German American Social Club Miami
Find more information on GASC: <http://www.germanamericanclub-miami.org/>

GABC Naples
Find more information on the GABC Naples: www.gabc-swfl.com