



# BUSINESS — to — BUSINESS



BAHEP extends its sincere appreciation for the continued support of the *Houston Chronicle* through this monthly supplement.

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## Board Chair Elbon states that BAHEP's greatest assets are its members and partner organizations

I am excited for the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and am honored to serve as the chairman of the board in 2016.

BAHEP has a long history of accomplishing seemingly insurmountable goals: starting with its original purpose of diversifying the region's economic base through business recruitment, issue advocacy, and facilitation of business growth.

As we embark on the organization's 40th anniversary, BAHEP is now internationally recognized for its efforts to provide a regional strategy for economic growth.

Much like the business

I lead, Boeing Space Exploration, we can't rest on our laurels. Now is the time to look to the future: the emergence of Ellington's Houston Spaceport, the new potential from the Panama Canal expansion, mitigating the risk and damage of another hurricane, and having a front row seat to the development of NASA's programs that will send humans into deep space.

I plan to keep BAHEP at the forefront of major political issues impacting our community, as well. BAHEP led the charge to support the Export-Import Bank's reauthorization, storm surge protection,

support for NASA, and flood insurance reform.

Whether it is tax reform, healthcare costs, public safety, or some unknown issue - BAHEP will be prepared to lead when it comes time.

BAHEP's greatest asset is its members and partner organizations. When we collaborate to solve issues, there is nothing we can't achieve.

I look forward to keeping BAHEP at the leading edge of our economic prosperity.

*John Elbon  
Vice President and  
General Manager  
Boeing Space Exploration*

## BAHEP's Board of Directors officers highly accomplished in specialized fields

### John Elbon Chairman

John Elbon is vice president and general manager, Space Exploration, a division of The Boeing Company. He is responsible for the strategic direction of Boeing's civil space programs and support of NASA programs such as the Space Launch System,

International Space Station, and Commercial Crew Development Program. He assumed his current position in 2011. Previously, Elbon served as vice president and program manager for Boeing's Commercial Programs and as vice president of Systems Integration for the Army's Future Combat

Systems. He holds a bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology.

### Richard D. (Rich) Jackson Vice Chairman

Richard D. (Rich) Jackson is director of NASA Programs for Lockheed Martin - Information Systems & Global Solutions - Civil. In this capacity, his responsibilities include the integration of 10 programs across four NASA centers and working with a team of approximately 2,000 employees to define growth opportunities in the NASA and adjacent markets.

Jackson began his career at NASA where he supported the Space Shuttle Program as a flight director for 15 space shuttle flights. Jackson graduated from Texas A&M University earning a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering and is also a member of the Manned Space Flight Education Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. He has attained certifications as a private pilot, Advanced SCUBA diver, D licensed skydiver, and jumpmaster.

### Stephen K. Jones, Jr. Secretary

Stephen K. Jones, Jr., is chief executive officer of Clear Lake Regional Medical Center. In that capacity, he works with just under 2,000 employees and 1,200 medical staff members. In the last six years, the hospital has invested over \$250 million to enhance the healthcare provided in the Bay Area Houston region. Jones received the University of Houston Clear Lake Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011 and was BAHEP's chairman in 2013. He and his wife, Yvette, have three boys.

### Jennifer Bowers Treasurer

Jennifer Bowers is a partner with the law firm of Bowers & Sadler, LLP. The firm specializes in a variety of legal services aimed at assisting closely-held businesses and their owners with their tax planning, business organization matters, estate planning, and probate matters. Bowers is board certified in tax law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

## New board to lead BAHEP during 40th anniversary year



John Elbon



Richard (Rich) Jackson



Stephen K. Jones, Jr.



Jennifer Bowers

Throughout 2016, the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership will be celebrating its 40th year of service to the people, businesses, and industries of the region. BAHEP is proud to introduce its Board of Directors for its 40th anniversary year.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

Chair: John Elbon, Vice President/General Manager, Space Exploration, The Boeing Company  
Vice Chair: Richard (Rich) Jackson, Director, NASA Programs, Lockheed Martin IS&GS Civil  
Secretary: Stephen K. Jones, Jr., CEO, Clear Lake Regional Medical Center  
Treasurer: Jennifer Bowers, Partner, Bowers & Sadler, LLP

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John Elbon, Vice President/General Manager, Space Exploration, The Boeing Company  
Dick H. Gregg, Jr., Attorney-at-Law/President, Gregg & Gregg, P.C.  
Fred B. Griffin, Owner & Chairman, Griffin Partners, Inc.  
Richard (Rich) Jackson, Director, NASA Programs, Lockheed Martin IS&GS Civil  
Stephen K. Jones, Jr., CEO, Clear Lake Regional Medical Center  
Tim Kropp, Executive Vice President, MRI Technologies  
Ron W. Masters, President, MaximGroup  
Dennis W. Petersen, President, Lockwood, Andrews, & Newnam, Inc.  
Jayant Ramakrishnan, Ph.D., COO, Bastion Technologies, Inc.  
Greg Smith, Ph.D., Superintendent, Clear Creek Independent School District  
William A. Staples, Ph.D., President, University of Houston-Clear Lake  
John Wilkins, CEO, CLC Properties

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HONORARY CHAIRMAN

Frans Gillebaard (1939 - 2013)

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Jennifer Bowers, Partner, Bowers & Sadler, LLP  
Gale E. Burkett, President/CEO, GB Tech, Inc.  
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Lon F. Miller, Senior Vice President/General Manager, Jacobs  
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Ellen Ochoa, Ph.D., Director, NASA Johnson Space Center  
Victor Pierson, President/CEO, Moody National Bank

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John Wilkins, CEO, CLC Properties

### BOARD EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

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Hajime "Sam" Suzuki, Vice President, Administration, Kuraray America, Inc.

## Texas First Bank appropriately first organization to join BAHEP in 2016

"It's always great to begin a new year with a new member, and Texas First Bank has become BAHEP's first member of our 40th anniversary year.

tions in the Bay Area, East Houston and Galveston areas. The entire organization also includes Rust, Ewing, Watt, Haney & Sullivan Insurance, Inc.



"We welcome this locally owned community bank and look forward to working together to serve the region," stated BAHEP President Bob Mitchell.

Founded in 1973, Texas First Bank has 17 loca-

The Small Business Administration (SBA) lending department in the League City and Pasadena offices will actively participate in BAHEP. Texas First Bank provides financing and business solutions to commercial entities with total revenues coming in at under \$250,000,000, as well as large home builders.

Wendy E. Ghormley, vice president - SBA lender at Texas First Bank in Pearland, will represent Texas First Bank within BAHEP. She commented, "Bay Area, East Houston and Galveston are experiencing such tremendous growth, and BAHEP has certainly been involved in many aspects of that.

"Texas First Bank hopes to participate in the success of the region by engaging in BAHEP's efforts and also by financing commercial projects thereby stimulating economic development in the region."

### "HELPING TEXANS BUILD TEXAS"

For additional information about Texas First Bank, call 281.901.2222 or visit the bank's website at [www.texasfirstbank.com](http://www.texasfirstbank.com).

BUSINESS to BUSINESS is a monthly Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership publication in partnership with the *Houston Chronicle*. BAHEP is a member-driven organization in southeastern Texas that includes more than 265 business partners encompassing 14 cities, Galveston and Harris counties, the Houston Airport System, and the Port of Houston Authority. For membership information, contact Membership Director Harriet Lukee at 832.536.3250.  
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