

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

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Citizens for Space Exploration state their case on Capitol Hill for 23rd consecutive year

Much has changed in Congress over the past 23 years, but each May legislators on Capitol Hill can count on at least one constant — the annual visit by the Citizens for Space Exploration. From May 20-22, 2014, 104 travelers conducted 354 congressional visits to advance support for human space exploration.

The diverse group of travelers broke into 26 teams whose messages included support for NASA's human space exploration portfolio and NASA's role in supporting American leadership, education, innovation, health care, and quality of life, all for less than half of one percent of the federal budget. Talking points also included concern about Russia and the increasing importance of a well-funded NASA in uncertain geopolitical times.

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership is home to the CSE-Texas delegation. BAHEP President Bob Mitchell stressed the importance of the 354 congressional visits that were scheduled in advance of the trip. He stated, "We don't just drop off a folder of information. Each team sits down and

talks with either the senator or representative or members of his or her staff. We educate, discuss our concerns and then answer any questions that they have. This one-on-one approach has proven to be very effective over the past 23 years."

Based on their congressional meetings, the teams provided valuable feedback which included:

- There was strong bipartisan support for NASA with more understanding of NASA's space exploration programs than in previous years.
- The response to CSE's platform concerning support for the International Space Station, the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, the Space Launch System, and Commercial Crew/Cargo was very positive.
- The budget is always a challenge.
- The case for the value of human spaceflight will have to be made continuously.

The Citizens for Space Exploration also hosted a Congressional Reception for members of Congress and their staff. Nine members attended, and approximately 60 staff from both congressional offices and committees attended,

as well.

Congressional attendees were: Ami Bera (D-CA-7), Gene Green (D-TX-29), Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX-18), Doug Lamborn (R-CO-5), Alan Nunnelee (R-MS-1), Pete Olson (R-TX-22), Steven Palazzo (R-MS-4), Bill Posey (R-FL-8), and Steve Stockman (R-TX-36).

Several travelers were instrumental to the success of this year's trip to Washington. They included David Braun, BAHEP aerospace marketing manager, trip coordinator; Brian Freedman, manager, State and Local Government Operations, The Boeing Company in Houston, and trip chairman; and Joe Mayer from Florida, director of Government Relations with Lockheed Martin and chairman of CSE National.

Braun stated, "This trip takes months of preparatory work every year, but it is so worth the effort. If Americans want to maintain their leadership across-the-board, an important piece of that puzzle is NASA and a strong human space exploration program with definitive missions."

"The continued support for NASA's Commercial Crew and Cargo efforts in low earth orbit and with



Joining the grassroots Citizens for Space Exploration delegation were: (standing l to r) Texas State Sen. Sylvia Garcia; Dr. Brenda Hellyer, chancellor, San Jacinto College District and chair, BAHEP Board of Directors; Houston City Councilmember Dave Martin; and seated, Bob Mitchell, BAHEP president; and David Braun, BAHEP aerospace marketing manager and trip coordinator.

the companies associated with this initiative is so important to those missions."

There were also many local elected officials who served on the teams and assisted in making members of Congress aware of the strong support this

national has for human space exploration and the impact it makes on our lives.

The elected officials included: Texas State Sen. Sylvia Garcia, Houston Councilmember Dave Martin, League City Mayor Tim Paulissen, Nassau Bay

Mayor Mark Denman, Nassau Bay Mayor Pro-tem David Braun, Friendswood Councilmember Carl Gustafson, League City Mayor Pro Tem Andy Mann, and Seabrook Councilmen Mike Giangrosso, Robert Lorente, and Thom Kolupski.

BACPA rolls out concept for storm surge protection

In conjunction with the opening of hurricane season, on June 4th volunteer members of the Bay Area Coastal Protection Alliance (BACPA), along with government, community and industry leaders, introduced a storm surge protection concept designed to save the entire Houston-Galveston region from a direct hit by a hurricane.

During the media event, held at the Sylvan Beach Pavilion in La Porte, Texas, speakers strongly endorsed a coastal barrier solution which would protect residents, property, businesses, the diverse ecosystem and the massive trade, transportation and energy infrastructure of Galveston, Galveston Bay, Hous-

ton, the Ports of Houston, Texas City and Galveston and communities in Harris, Galveston, Brazoria and Chambers counties.

"In the region's current unprotected state, a direct hit from a hurricane would cause a human and economic tragedy of epic proportions," said Texas State Senator Larry Taylor, Dis-

trict 11 and co-chair of the Joint Interim Committee to Study Coastal Barriers.

The proposed coastal barrier concept for storm surge protection is estimated to cost between \$4 and \$6 billion, with the federal government investing 85 percent of the construction costs. "While this would entail a significant

investment, we are gaining a lot of support, because more people are seeing it is a mere fraction of what clean-up and recovery costs would be after a direct hit," said Bob Mitchell, president of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership. "Elected officials and business leaders must take

responsibility to protect the families and capital assets of this region. Support of media and our neighbors is also essential if we are to complete the necessary studies and do whatever it takes to ensure that the best storm surge suppression system for the region gets built and gets built soon. It's one of the

most critical actions we must take for the future growth of Bay Area Houston."

BACPA, a recently chartered, volunteer-led, non-profit organization, is championing the effort to build the coastal barrier system for storm surge protection. For more information, visit www.bacpa.org.

BAHEP extends warm welcome to The Lubrizol Corporation and LYC Concours Corporation

The Lubrizol Corporation

The Lubrizol Corporation, a Berkshire Hathaway company, is a technology-driven global company. Founded in 1928, it has more than 7,000 employees worldwide with manufacturing facilities in 27 countries as well as sales and technical offices around the world. Its annual sales exceed \$6 billion. One of Lubrizol's manufacturing facilities is located locally in the Bayport Industrial District where the company has 125 employees. This facility has recently joined the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership.

"The Lubrizol Corporation is a specialty chemical company specializing in additives and advanced materials. Lubrizol's products and technologies are part of the things we use every day. It is a major player in the specialty chemical industry, and Bay Area Houston is fortunate to have one of Lubrizol's manufacturing

facilities in Bayport. We at BAHEP look forward to working with Lubrizol in support of this important industry," stated BAHEP President Bob Mitchell.

Chris Hext is The Lubrizol Corporation's public affairs manager and will represent Lubrizol within BAHEP. He said, "Specialty chemicals serve a vital role in the world economy and are definitely one of the cornerstones of the economy in this region. Additionally, Lubrizol believes strongly in community service, and we hope



to strengthen our community ties through participation in the activities of BAHEP."

The Lubrizol Corporation is an innovative specialty chemical company that produces technologies for the transportation, industrial and consumer

markets. Specialty chemicals include lubricant additives, fuel additives, coating resins, polymers, and additives, personal care, household, and pharmaceutical ingredients, specialty plastics, TPU, TPE, engineered plastics, plastic pipe and fittings, plumbing systems, fire sprinkler systems, vinyl siding, and vinyl fencing. To learn more, visit www.lubrizol.com.

LYC Concours Corporation

LYC Concours Corporation produces the Keels & Wheels Concours d' Elegance, which celebrated its 19th anniversary over the weekend of May 3-4, 2014. Held at Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook, Texas, the event serves as a fundraiser for Boys & Girls Harbor. Boys & Girls Harbor, located in La Porte, Texas, has been caring for children for over 60 years. Its mission is to provide healthy, comprehensive care for children and families in crisis. For children who are experiencing family hardship, neglect, abandonment or abuse, the

Harbor provides a family environment in a home setting.

Bob Mitchell, president of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, welcomed LYC Concours Corporation as a new BAHEP member saying, "Keels & Wheels is not only a highly entertaining event, but, most importantly, it also supports a very worthwhile cause. Additionally, Keels & Wheels is a great economic driver that brings many people to Bay Area Houston from out of the area. I encourage everyone to attend next year's fund raiser in May."

The economic impact on the Clear Lake area of Keels & Wheels for Concours Weekend is estimated at \$3.5 - \$4 million each year.

Keels & Wheels is the largest classic car and boat Concours event in the United States, typically displaying 200 classic cars and 100 vintage wooden boats.

Robert L. Fuller, chair-

man of LYC Concours Corporation noted, "Keels & Wheels fits well into BAHEP's economic development objectives by bringing over 15,000 tourists/visitors



CONCOURS D' ELEGANCE

to the Bay Area from throughout the United States and Europe to see the classic automobiles and vintage wooden boats on display. While here for the Concours, the visitors frequent area restaurants and Space Center Houston, buy gasoline, shop in our stores and fill up our hotels."

For more information, call 713.521.0105 or visit www.keels-wheels.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 southeast Texas that includes more than 265 business partners encompassing 13 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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