About JASH
Leading U.S.-Japan Exchange
in Houston for 51 Years

The Japan-America Society of Houston was established in December 1968 by a group of prominent Houstonians led by General Maurice Hirsch, Ben F. Love, Bernard Sakowitz, and R.W. Smith.

Sharing the vision of John D. Rockefeller III, who revitalized the original Japan Society in New York, the founding members of JASH desired to serve as a medium through which to encourage and deepen understanding of Japan by Americans and of America by Japanese.

During its existence, JASH has promoted meaningful lasting understanding between Japan and America through cultural events, business lectures, Japanese language classes, and more.

JASH is grateful for the generous support of the many dedicated Houstonians from all walks of life who have invested their time and efforts into making JASH Houston’s principal resource for all things Japanese.

Mission Statement

JASH is the leading organization that connects Houston’s diverse community, local businesses, and individuals to advance the mutual interest of American and Japanese peoples. Our programs in language and education, arts and culture, and business initiatives and networking provide opportunities for collaboration and important people-to-people exchange.

culture unites us. language connects us. community builds friendships.

4543 Post Oak Place | Suite 220 | Houston, TX 77027
t: 713.963.0121 | www.jas-hou.org
facebook.com/japanamericahouston
The 4th Annual Japan Update Houston Conference brings together experts from Japan and the Houston community to examine U.S.-Japan energy relations and the impact on Houston and the Lone Star State.

With the Japan-United States Strategic Energy Partnership having recently been formed, the United States and Japan have emphasized their commitment to strengthening energy security and promoting energy access. The partnership has become ever more meaningful as U.S. and Japan companies jointly prepare for openings of LNG hubs in our area and explore new resources. Moreover, Japan stands poised to achieve greater diversification of energy resources and increased flexibility of energy supply owing to activity in our region.

This program is a part of a larger series of Japan Update presentations sponsored by The Sasakawa Peace Foundation and the National Association of Japan-America Societies throughout the United States that seek to stimulate public interest in contemporary issues faced by Japan and the United States. The series provides an important forum for information exchange at a time of increased interest in the United States-Japan bilateral relationship.
Energy: Fueling the Future of the U.S.-Japan Relationship in Texas

Friday, January 25, 2019

PETROLEUM CLUB OF HOUSTON

11:30 AM | GREETINGS & LUNCH

LAIRD DORAN
President, Japan-America Society of Houston
Vice President, Government Relations & Senior Counsel, The Friedkin Group

PETER KELLEY
President, National Association of Japan-America Societies

12:00 PM | INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS

BOB HARVEY
President & CEO, Greater Houston Partnership
12:05 PM | JAPAN’S ENERGY CIRCUMSTANCES AND U.S.-JAPAN ENERGY RELATIONS

NOBUO TANAKA
Chairman, The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
Former Executive Director, International Energy Agency (IEA)

12:45 PM | HOUSTON AT THE INTERSECTION OF U.S.-JAPAN ENERGY PARTNERSHIPS

RYO MANABE, PH.D.
Director, President INPEX Americas, Inc.

FARHAD AHRABI, PH.D.
CEO, Cameron LNG, LLC
Nobuo Tanaka is Chairman of The Sasakawa Peace Foundation. He has extensive national government and international experience in the fields of energy, trade and innovation. Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA) from 2007 to 2011, Mr. Tanaka oversaw a seminal period in the Agency’s work and direction. Under his leadership, the IEA initiated a collective release of oil stocks in June 2011, the third such collective action in the Agency’s history, opening new scope and a new era for IEA emergency action. While IEA Executive Director, Mr. Tanaka was responsible for pioneering the concept of ‘comprehensive energy security’ while also expanding the Agency’s focus on climate change, renewable energy and the transition to a low-carbon energy economy (with the 450 ppm scenario of the IEA’s World Energy Outlook becoming the benchmark goal for global climate change mitigation). Mr. Tanaka led IEA work on fossil fuel subsidy reform, energy efficiency policy recommendations (adopted by the G8), low-carbon energy technology roadmaps, gas and electricity security, energy poverty and carbon capture and storage, among others. Notably, Mr. Tanaka also played a crucial and personal role in the strengthening of ties with major IEA non-Member energy players, including China, India, Russia, Brazil, Chile, Indonesia, Mexico and South Africa, and in IEA relations with business, including through the creation of the IEA Energy Business Council. Responsible for a great expansion of IEA engagement with other international fora, throughout his time as IEA Executive Director, Mr. Tanaka made numerous keynote speeches on global energy affairs and policy to summits of Heads of State and Ministers.

Mr. Tanaka began his career in 1973 in the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in Tokyo, and has served in a number of high-ranking positions in METI, including Director-General of the Multilateral Trade System Department. In this capacity, he led many trade negotiations at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and for bilateral Free Trade Agreements. Mr. Tanaka’s career has also included a strong focus on energy. He was responsible for Japan’s involvement with the IEA and the G7 Energy Ministers’ Meeting during the second oil crisis of the late 1970s and early 1980s. He participated in establishing the comprehensive energy policy of Japan in the late 1980s, and oversaw the implementation of Japan’s international
nuclear energy policy and led negotiations of bilateral nuclear agreements. During the Kyoto COP3 negotiations, Mr. Tanaka worked for the Japanese government on formulating international strategy as well as co-ordinating domestic environment and energy policy. He was deeply engaged in a range of bilateral trade and economic issues with the US as Minister for Industry, Trade and Energy at the Embassy of Japan, Washington DC from 1998 to 2000, as well serving as the first secretary of the Embassy from 1982 to 1985.

With a strong background in international affairs, Mr. Tanaka has served as both Deputy Director and Director for Science, Technology and Industry (DSTI) of the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). During his time as Director from 2004 to 2007, he was responsible for the rollout of work on innovation, including innovation policy reviews of Member countries, collaboration with the OECD Economic Policy Directorate on the Innovation chapter of the landmark publication, “Going for Growth”, and the role of innovation in intellectual property rights and biotechnology related regulations, among many others.

Mr. Tanaka, a Japanese national, has a degree in Economics from the University of Tokyo and an MBA from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. He and his wife, Gloria, have two children.
Ryo Manabe, Ph.D.
Director, President INPEX Americas, Inc.

Ryo Manabe, Ph.D., serves as the General Manager of INPEX Houston and the President of INPEX subsidiaries, including INPEX Americas, Inc. (ex. Teikoku Oil North America, Inc.) and INPEX E&P Mexico, S.A de C.V., etc., since 2017. His responsibility is to manage the Oil/Gas E&P businesses in USA and Mexico.

Prior to his current assignment, he worked for various sections within INPEX including the offshore gas field development project in Indonesia, the non-operated ventures management in the Asia and Oceania, since 2003. Before joining INPEX, he spent his 10 years for Japan National Oil Corporation and mostly worked as Petroleum Engineer in the Technology Research Center.

Dr. Manabe received a Bachelor of Engineering and a Master of Engineering degrees in Mineral Resources Engineering from Hokkaido University, Japan, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Tulsa, USA.
Farhad Ahrabi, Ph.D.
CEO, Cameron LNG, LLC

Farhad Ahrabi is Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for Cameron LNG, LLC – a joint venture owned by affiliates of Sempra Energy, Total, Mitsui & Co., Ltd. and Japan LNG Investment, LLC, a joint venture formed by subsidiaries of Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha and Mitsubishi Corporation. Farhad is responsible for the management of the Cameron LNG joint venture, which includes the Cameron LNG liquefied natural gas (LNG) receipt terminal in Hackberry, La., and the construction and operation of liquefaction facilities adjacent to the existing terminal.

Farhad has more than 29 years of experience with BG Group in the LNG and upstream Exploration and Production (E&P) sectors. His nine years of LNG experience with BG includes three years as Venture Director for BG’s LNG project in Canada, Canada LNG, and three years as Vice President – Technical for BG overseeing the Atlantic LNG Company as a board member. He has also worked with joint ventures in Tunisia, Egypt, Trinidad & Tobago and Brazil related to upstream E&P activities.

Farhad holds a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Exeter, UK. He also holds a First Class Honors Bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Wales, UK. He is a Professional (Chartered) Engineer and a member of the Institution of Chemical Engineers.
Bob Harvey joined the Greater Houston Partnership as President and CEO in September 2012. Harvey is the fourth President and CEO of the Partnership since it was formed in 1989 in a merger of the Greater Houston Chamber of Commerce, the Houston Economic Development Council and the Houston World Trade Center.

Prior to joining the Partnership, Harvey was active in the Houston business community, first as a management consultant in the Houston office of McKinsey & Company, Inc. for 17 years and then as Vice Chair/Executive Vice President with Reliant Energy for six years.

After leaving Reliant in 2005, Harvey served in a variety of community volunteer leadership roles. He chaired the board of the United Way of Greater Houston from 2007-2010. Harvey was Board Chair of The Post Oak School, a pre-K through 9th grade Montessori school in Houston, from 2008-2011, and Board Chair of the Texas A&M Foundation from 2003-2004.

Harvey has also served on the boards of Central Houston, Inc., Houston Technology Center, Houston Zoo, Inc., the Houston Zoological Society and the Association of Former Students of Texas A&M University.

Harvey currently serves on the Community Foundation Council of the Greater Houston Community Foundation and the boards of St. John’s School, the Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Center for Houston’s Future, and the Alliance For Kids, as well as the Board of Regents of Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Harvey also serves on the Board of Directors of TRC Companies, Inc. (NYSE “TRR”), an engineering and environmental services company headquartered in Windsor, Connecticut. He currently serves as Lead Director.

Harvey was raised in Houston, Texas, having graduated from Spring Woods High School in the Spring Branch area. He attended Texas A&M University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1978. While a student at Texas A&M, Harvey served as Commander of the Corps of Cadets and as Student Body President. He obtained his MBA from Harvard Business School in 1982, following a two-year stint at Amoco Production Company.
Japan Update Program Supporters
The Japan Update Program Series is made possible by a grant from The Sasakawa Peace Foundation through the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

About The National Association of Japan-America Societies
The National Association of Japan-America Societies (NAJAS) is a private, non-profit, non-partisan organization that offers through its member Japan and Japan-America Societies education, cultural and business programs about Japan and the U.S.-Japan relations to the general public. NAJAS is the only national non-profit network in the United States dedicated to public education about Japan. NAJAS consists of approximately 40 independent Japan-related organizations located in 32 cities around the country. Its membership cuts across usual group boundaries (business, political, academic, American, Japanese, etc.) and affords a variety of perspectives on U.S.-Japan relations. www.us-japan.org

About The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
The Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) was established in 1986, in Japan, with a mission to contribute to the welfare of humankind and the sound development of the international community, and, thus, to world peace, by conducting activities fostering international understanding, exchange, and cooperation. The Foundation’s efforts in support of its mission include surveys and research, development of human resources, invitation and dispatch of personnel, organizing and supporting international conferences and other forums. www.spf.org

Japan Update Official Airline

[Image of ANA logo]
SAVE THE DATE

JAPAN FESTIVAL
HOUSTON

April 13-14, 2019!
SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 19, 2019 | 11:30AM
The Briar Club
NAJAS/Keizai Koho Center
Business Speaker Series

JASH will be serving as a NAJAS/Keizai Koho Center Business Speaker Series host to highlight the 2015 $7.5 billion merger of Tokio Marine (TM) and Houston-based HCC Insurance Holdings Inc. to form Tokio Marine HCC.
Tokio Marine North America, Inc. President & CEO Yasu Fukuda will be speaking to TM Group’s global strategy and Tokio Marine HCC President William Burke will be speaking to the synergy and merit of joining the TM Group.
Japan-America Society of Houston (JASH)

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