

KASRA



Retiree News

Dear Fellow Retiree:

There are several items to cover in this issue's message.

Most salaried retirees and surviving spouses have elected to continue their Kaiser Aluminum Retiree Medical Plan benefits rather than to (1) voluntarily opt out, (2) be dropped because of lack of timely payment, or (3) elect Bankruptcy COBRA coverage.

Now that those choices have been made, I thought it might be helpful to remind you of the consequences of failure to pay Bankruptcy COBRA premiums or to make Retiree Medical Plan contributions in a timely manner going forward:

Bankruptcy COBRA: If coverage is canceled in 2002, either voluntarily or due to a failure to make the required premium payments on time, Bankruptcy COBRA coverage may not be reinstated. After 2002, if Bankruptcy COBRA coverage is canceled in any future year, Kaiser asserts that neither Bankruptcy COBRA nor Retiree Medical Plan coverage can be reinstated.

Retiree Medical Plan: If coverage is canceled in 2002, either voluntarily or due to a failure to make the required contributions on time, Retiree Medical Plan coverage may be reinstated at the open enrollment period in November 2002. Reinstated Retiree Medical Plan coverage will be effective as of January 1, 2003. After 2002, if Retiree Medical Plan coverage is canceled in any future year, it can be reinstated only at the next open enrollment period (to be effective as of January 1st of the following year).

Once again, if you have questions about your benefits, phone the company at 925/242-4465.

KACC Chapter 11 Bankruptcy/Reorganization: With respect to the company's bankruptcy and reorganization, you may recall that the bankruptcy court accorded our committee official status to research and communicate to members about the Bankruptcy COBRA election. With that aspect of the bankruptcy decided, our Official Committee

status ends on September 30. However, KASRA may seek reconstitution of the Official Committee should that seem appropriate in light of and depending upon the course Kaiser elects to take in connection with its plan of reorganization to be filed with the Bankruptcy Court. In any event, our active involvement and advocacy of retiree interests will continue. For example, we will continue to try to persuade the company of the need for benefits cost relief for retirees who retired with relatively modest pensions.

In the company's monthly update to customers, employees, suppliers, and friends, which appears on its Internet web site, it reported that the Bankruptcy Court on August 27 approved, among other things, the retention of customer and supplier contracts in the Alumina business unit and the request to retain a real estate broker to investigate the sale of the company's interests in Kaiser Center, where it still holds the master lease. Also, by the time you receive this issue of KASRA News, the court will have held a September 3 hearing on the company's Key Employee Retention Program. The next regularly scheduled court hearing is set for September 23. If you have questions about the company's restructuring, either access its web site (www.kaiser.com) or use its toll-free hotline (1-888/829-3340).

We will keep you informed on issues of importance and our efforts on your behalf. Thanks for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jed Daniel".

Jed Daniel

KASRA MEMBERSHIP INCREASES

KASRA now has more than 3342 members, an increase of 13% since January. Thank you for renewing your dues and your continued interest in this organization.

KASRA DIRECTORS ELECTED

KASRA members, voting by mail, elected five new directors to three-year terms on the KASRA Board. The new directors, all of whom were nominated by the Nominating Committee, will begin their service at the September meeting. They are:

- **Dick Kauffman**, who retired in 1998 as Director of Planning and Administration of Kaiser Aluminum International and as Vice President of Kaiser Aluminum China;
- **Alan Longmuir**, who retired in 1997 as Vice President for Research and Development;
- **Ron Radakovich**, who retired in 1996 as Vice President, Corporate Industrial Relations;
- **Steve Ringwood**, who retired in 1997 as Senior Litigation Counsel; and
- **Jim Sparkman**, who retired in 1988 as Vice President, with responsibility for worldwide bauxite, alumina, reduction, and corporate research and development.

Our congratulations and thanks to each of them for their willingness to serve.

Aluminum Foil Cleans Silver No Polishing Needed

You will need:

- some aluminum foil
- baking soda
- boiling water
- some tarnished silver

What causes silver to tarnish? It starts all bright and shiny and soon turns dark and dull.

The tarnish is a chemical change which takes place when sulfur compounds in the air combine with the silver to make silver sulfide. Silver sulfide is black.

Some silver polishes actually grind away the silver sulfide. This makes the silver nice and shiny, but it also removes a bit of the silver. This is especially serious for silver plated items, as years of polishing will wear away the silver, revealing the metal underneath.

With this experiment, we will change the silver sulfide back into silver, leaving it in place instead of removing it. To do that, we need to remove the sulfur. By knowing a bit about electricity and chemicals, we can do this easily.

Line a large pot or your sink with aluminum foil. Sprinkle about a cup of baking soda over the foil. Pour in a couple of quarts of boiling water. Add



the silver, being careful not to burn your fingers. The silver should be in contact with the foil. Within minutes, you should see the tarnish begin to vanish. At the same time, the foil will darken.

What is happening? The sulfur from the silver sulfide (its formula is Ag_2S) is moving to join with the aluminum to form aluminum sulfide (Al_2S_3). The sulfur is being moved by electricity. Two different metals in a conducting solution (water and baking soda) can produce an electric current. As the current flows, it removes the sulfur from the silver and bonds it to the aluminum. If you have an electric volt meter, you can connect one lead to the handle of a silver fork and the other to the edge of the foil. When the fork is brought into contact with the foil, the volt meter should show about half a volt. Not a lot of electricity, but enough to carry the sulfur and clean the silver.

courtesy of **Bill Vinzant** (Baton Rouge, LA)
by way of **Liz Simon** (San Francisco, CA)

Editor's Note: Are there any KASRA retirees, chemists, metallurgical scientists, who wish to contribute to a regular column on helpful hints using aluminum products? If so, please drop me a line or e-mail wmipr@aol.com

What's Going On

They made a fine threesome at the Tony LaRussa Animal Rescue Foundation Golf Tournament held at Chardonnay Golf Club, Napa, says **Gerry Carrell** of Clovis, CA. Oh, his partners were **Bob Irelan** (Rancho Murietta, CA) and **Bob DelRe** (Napa, CA). **Pam Yenter** (Greenacres, WA) and husband Sid went on a great excursion to Republic, WA, recently and are working up the resolve to visit coastal Washington near Hoodspport. Cruising on the Caribbean were Mary Ann and **Bill Snider** (Newark, OH) who took their kids and grand kids to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Among the hobbies that keep **Betty Lynch** of Otis Orchards, WA, busy is old-time fiddling. She also helps people preserve family histories by putting together heritage albums as a Creative Memories Consultant.

Donna Heath of Sun Lakes, AZ, traveled to New Orleans and stayed in the French Quarter. Donna loves e-mail sent to DWJHeath@aol.com.

George Ross (Gonzales, LA) took a trip to Hawaii last month with his wife and grandchild. Back home, George likes fishing, hunting and watching LSU games.



Happy Anniversary to: Grace and **John Davis** of Columbia, SC, on their 60th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. **John H. Gesser, Jr.** of Mandeville, LA, on their 57th anniversary. Ann and **Larry Lowenstein** (New Orleans, LA) celebrated their 51st anniversary this year. And Mr. and Mrs. **Jacques Martinet** of Danville, CA celebrated their 50th by going to Cabo St. Lucas, where Jacques caught a 7 ft, 200 lb. sailfish. Wow!

Wanatah, IN, retiree **Les Earle** of Lacrosse, IN, likes to plant flowers and raise trees. He volunteers for all kinds of work in his community. So does **Gene Wilberg** of Ballwin, MO, who tutors grade school children, does publicity for Guide Dogs for the Blind, and assists the Widowed Persons Service. Gene spends summers in Northern Wisconsin.

Mind your P's & Q's if you are ever in Lutcher, LA. That's because Gramercy retiree **Charles Pittman** is the Chief of Police there and you won't want him to throw you in the slammer! Chances are he won't find any trouble from **Joseph Vicknair** also of Lutcher, LA, since Joseph is a Eucharistic minister of the homebound. Maybe **Richard Blake** (Orinda, CA) could share some tips running a p.d. Dick just completed



17 years as an administrative volunteer for the Orinda Police Dept. **Frank Byrne** of Haines City, FL is spending a month touring Nova Scotia and Canada.

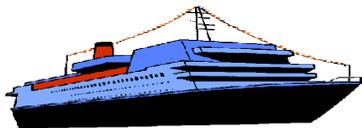
Recalling the good ole days of their youth were **Fred Lawson** (Carmel, CA) and **Bill Slayman**, (Bethesda, MD), when they got together recently in Washington, DC. Wonder if Fred attended the Carmel Bach Festival while he was home. If so, he might have spotted **Henry Whitrock** and his wife of Santa Rosa, CA, who said the production was marvelous.

Being a Kaiser retiree means you have friends all across the country. That's what **Bill Weyer** of Mineral Wells, WV, is discovering after moving from Camano Island, WA, and renewing friendships in his new home town.

Ida McMenemy (San Lorenzo, CA) took a cruise to the Hawaiian Islands, then visited Vancouver, BC, and spent ten days in Colorado.

Do we have a record here? World traveler

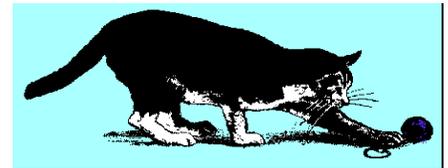
Doris Madica (Kenner, LA), has been on 14 cruises since retirement. Anyone who can top that number, please write or e-mail the editor.



What's for dinner? **Keith Sprouse** (Waynesville, NC) is spending the month in Provence, France, attending cooking school. Then he's off to manage a resort in Florida. **Orval Morris** of Mexico, MO, likes to visit historic sites throughout the U.S. and when he's not

traveling, Orval keeps busy with the Kiwanis Club and Christian Mens Fellowship. **Rebecca Tomal**

(Tacoma, WA) still puts her skills to work part time at the Port of Tacoma medical clinic, when she's not enjoying her cats,



camping or visiting family in North Dakota. A musical sort of guy is **Evan Erlandson** (Spokane, WA) who likes to play the organ, guitar and ukulele.

If you need any remodeling done, look up Coyle Contracting owned by **Bob Coyle** in Spokane, WA. The Mead retiree does concrete slabs, decks, remodels and roofing. Kaiser Salinas retiree **Robert Torrice** (Paradise, CA) and his wife had a change of scenery when their daughter took them to visit Oregon, where they once lived. After a long career spent mostly overseas, **James Stewart** (Marina Del Rey, CA) visits SE Asia every year, sees grandchildren often and keeps up with old friends by e-mail. The community gadfly of Piedmont, CA, is **Ed McKeown**, whose travels include Belgium, London and the Caribbean.

Trentwood and Valco retiree **Howard Justus** and his wife Mavis moved to Post Falls, ID. He lists travel, motorcycling and photography as hobbies. And fellow Trentwood retiree **Arthur Hoener** (Bayview, ID) also likes to travel, having been to Australia, Canada, the Western Caribbean, New Zealand, Tasmania and Texas. Aboard a barge was where **Kirk McVean** (Walnut Creek, CA) could be found during a trip to France. Kirk also visited Paris, Budapest, Vienna, Prague and Berlin. CFT retiree **H.J. Ducote** (Saratoga, CA) is building a cabin at Lake Tahoe.

Neal Person (Pleasanton, CA) enjoys making wood toys and doing woodworking tasks for church. CFT retiree **Lee Whiteley** (Livermore, CA), owns L.J. Networks, an information technology consulting firm. **Subbiah (Sam) Sankaran** of Sparks, NV, had a family reunion at Jackson Hole, WY, with three children and spouses, 24 grandchildren and four dogs. .

Frank "Beef" Lewis of Baton Rouge, LA has an interesting volunteer activity as an electrician aboard two war memorials - the U.S.S. Kidd and DD661, both of WWII. Someone who likes to make things grow is **Joseph Campiere** of Chalmette, LA, who lists farming as a hobby. The fish were biting during a snorkeling adventure at the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, says **Marian Mortensen** of Oakland, CA. They bit her husband - twice! While in Spokane for a wedding, the Mortensens looked up **Larry Meyers** (Mead, WA). Back home, Marian ran into **Millie Lee** (Berkeley, CA), at a water aerobics class.

Weekly bridge games are what keeps **Shirley Sorensen** (Alameda, CA) busy and happy. Tennis any-

one? If you're nearby, call **Norm Schwemberger** of Lafayette, CA, who is always looking for a game. Rub-ber on the road: **Carol Brown** (San Ramon, CA) and her husband added 5500 miles to the odometer driving from CA to Kansas City, MO, stopping off at Yellowstone, Mt. Rushmore, Mesa Verde, Monument Valley, Arches and Zion National Parks. **Don Strain** (Walnut Creek, CA) heads up to the Sierra Nevada Mountains regularly to enjoy his second home in the mountains at Donner Lake.



Wow, that's my kind of guy. **Ray Payne** of Brentwood, CA, likes to spend the winter in Molokai, HI, playing golf. Hiking in Montana is what **Ronald Rigge** (Pleasanton, CA) does for vacation. **Mrs. Robert Perry** (Danville, CA) was honored for 30 years of community service at Kaiser Hospital, Walnut Creek. **Roy Lake** of Oroville, CA, says his "job" is to help with the housework. Come on, Roy, we all know housework is a labor of love.

Happy Birthday, Honey. **Lew Albright** (Roseville, CA) put together a week long birthday celebration for wife Shirley in Kauai with children and grand kids. Conserving electricity but using his energy, **Norm Manger** (Palos Verdes, CA), writes that he spends a lot of time "lighting candles in dark rooms." And a Big Happy Birthday to 91-year old **Russel Drennan** of Alamo, CA.

Civic duties. **Bob Cole** (Spokane, WA) is busy organizing the new city of the Spokane Valley that includes Trentwood. Writes Bob, this will be the 8th largest city in WA. **Ford Willoughby** (New Orleans, LA) mentioned the exhibits he recently viewed were 7,000 Years of Chinese Inventions and Artifacts from the Titanic, the latter in Chicago where his first grandchild, Ruby, lives. **Bruce Wilson** (Moraga, CA) enjoys tennis, hiking and skiing as much as those cardiac rehab workouts he attends thrice weekly. From salmon to sashimi... **Verne Harr** did some halibut and salmon fishing in Alaska and also spent two weeks on the Big Island of Hawaii.



Visiting children can take you halfway around the world, or cross country at least. Kaiser Oakland retiree **June Shane** of Alameda, CA, has traveled to Guatemala, Oregon and will soon be Maine-bound to complete her round of daughter visits. One trip is fine for San Leandro Electrical Products retiree **Ruth Clark** of Walnut Creek, CA. She went on a cruise from San

Francisco to Alaska. And 18 days in England and Scotland were most enjoyable for **Nina Caltrell** of Alameda, CA, who journeyed with her two sisters.

Now, that's a job I like. Several days a month, you can find CFT retiree **Tom Lowe** (Livermore, CA) serving wine at Wente Vineyards Visitors Center. Make that a cab, Tom. On the other hand, a job I hate is vacuuming and that's what **Ed Donnell** (Lincoln, CA) lists as labor. But Ed likes to garden, participate in lodge activities and plays billiards, so he has some fun, too.

What's Going On is continued in insert.

IN MEMORIAM

Josephine Bensetler, Glenview, IL
 Herbert Benson, Hermitage, TN
 Inez S. Booth, Arabi, LA
 Elmer Brautigam, Wharton, TX
 Gerald F. Chovanec, Ravenswood, WV
 William "Dudley" Easterling, Baton Rouge, LA
 Elmer Erie, Le Roy, MN
 Delfeayo Ferdinand, New Orleans, LA
 Mary Flaig, Cincinnati, OH
 Norvall Hunthausen, Kansas City, MO
 Gerald Huggins, Nashville, TN
 Jean Jewett, Concord, CA
 Richard Maddigan, Oak Ridge, TN
 Donald McGregor, Baton Rouge, LA
 Fredrik Olausen, Columbus, OH
 James Peyroux, Slidell, LA
 Jacqueline Ruggenberg, Spokane, WA
 Richard Sittel, Camarillo, CA
 Clyde Walden, Sr., Danville, CA
 Jack Waugh, Ravenswood, WV

The **Board of Directors** extends its deepest sympathy to the families at the loss of their loved ones.

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 What's new with you? . Please fill out the brown slip and send it to the address below.

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What's Going On continued...

On the mend. **David Berg** (Oakland, CA) writes that he is recovering nicely from a stroke. Good for you. Wishes for wellness go to **George Hafner** of Reno, NV, who writes of bad health.

William Lant of Liberty Lake, WA, vacationed on the Oregon -Washington coast and cruised to Alaska. CFT retiree **William Brown** of Pleasanton, CA, likes to pitch horseshoes while wife Jean is a master quilter. She won the blue ribbon first place for her quilt at the Alameda County Fair. Congratulations!

On the Move: Peter and **Benita Schontag** moved to Napa, CA to enjoy the art and wine. **Marge Monte** from Taos, NM to Paulsbo, WA. **Rosalie Shepard** from Pollock Pines, CA to Placerville, CA. **Donald R. Perry** to Springhill, FL.

After building and running a 40-unit personal care facility for five years, **J. Douglas Shacklett** (Hayden, ID) and his wife like to spend as much time as possible traveling in their motor home. **Gene Gibbs** (Pleasanton, CA) has gone on a cruise to Alaska and spent one week in Puerto Vallarta. **Jack Hopper** (Veradale, WA) enjoys golf, maintaining real estate properties and spending time with family. **Paul Richards** (Danville, CA) works at Conex Cable, enjoys skiing and tennis.

Seeing the same city in a different era undoubtedly brought back powerful memories for **William Boyd** of Moraga, CA. During WWII, he was with the 8th Air Force division that bombed Berlin in June, 1944. This time, Boyd traveled through Berlin with a train of USAF officers on the way to see the Stalagluft I POW camp in in Barth, Germany. **Arturo De Guzman** (Union City, CA) took a pilgrimage to Knock, Ireland, tracing the footsteps of St. Patrick. He also visited Cambridge, London and Walsingham, England as well as Edinburgh and Glasgow, Scotland.

That familiar face in the Hayward Little Theater Concert Chorus is **Elizabeth Atkinson** of Castro Valley, CA. The San Leandro can lab retiree also enjoys writing children's stories.

Puckering up for a most unusual first kiss was **Ross Hambly** of Piedmont, CA, who recently kissed a baby whale in Mexico. Smallest class reunion ever: **Max Ott** of Pollock Pines, CA, writes that the Class of 1949 at his school in Washington state was so small that when three people showed up, they represented half of those able to attend, and that was thirty percent of the entire class! Ok, mathies, how many people were in Max's Class of 1949?

The extreme fire danger in Colorado keeps **Ron Schutz** (Colorado Springs, CO) busy clearing his steep, one-acre, hillside property of dead wood. Travel to the Netherlands and Scotland kept **E.J. Bep Van**

Beijmerwerdt (El Cerrito, CA) busy this summer. **Robert Hansen** (Baton Rouge, LA) writes that while wife Beth works in real estate, he is the house husband who loves doing all the heart healthy cooking. Did I mention that Beth is 80 years young? Green thumb **Neil Shumate** (Ravenswood, WV) likes gardening and even stays outdoors mowing the grass for volunteer, community activities.

Vrroom. Being a crew member of a land speed racing team is what makes Moss Landing retiree **Nick Reynal** of Salinas, CA happy. They race at



the Bonneville salt flats. Toledo retiree **Donald Duskey** (Texarkana, TX) likes traveling in his RV from Texas to West Virginia and Ohio. Vacationing in Spokane, WA, is what **T.W. Franklin** of Slidell, LA, enjoys. Except this summer he digressed a bit to Savannah, GA, and Canada. He took the grand kids to Disney World and survived, **Edwin Frank** (Metairie, LA) did. A twelve day Hawaii cruise kept **Richard Vargas** (Redding, CA) on the high seas.

Retirees from Chalmette and Gramercy met in late August to enjoy a Chinese buffet and all the fortune cookies that went with it. Meeting in the New Orleans suburb of Metairie, LA, were Chalmette retirees **Cliff Arnold, Ed Doody, Augie Albano** and **Ted Aucoin**. Joining them were Gramercy retirees **Claire and Dudley Stadler, Joe Fereday, Paul Mayard, Don Holzenthall** and **Earl Bellanger**.

And more anniversaries: No. 45 - Jane & **Bill Warfield** (Alamo, CA); Celebrating their 50th - **Dean & Mary Anne Compton** (Coeur d'Alene, ID), Mr. & Mrs. **Jim Bondurant** of Gainesville, FL, last November; and Mr. & Mrs. **Kerney Craft, Sr.** (Arabi, LA). Mr. & Mrs. **Cleveland E. Owen** (Scottsboro, AL) observed their 55th; No. 61 - Sybil & **Bill Falk** of Chattaray, WA. Noting their 65th anniversary are Mr. & Mrs. **Robert A. Platt** (Spokane, WA), who also turned 89 this year. And renewing their wedding vows first made 70 years ago were Helen & **Clifford C. Brown** of Kenneweck, WA. Congratulations to all of you love-birds!

Thankful for our blessings. **Vernon Wheatcroft** of Spokane, WA, writes that his daughter Sheryl was in the World Trade Center last September 11th. She escaped wearing a t-shirt, jeans, a pair of socks and with her life.

Finally, the spouse of Ravenswood retiree **Hubert J. Sharp** (Marlinton, WV) wrote: I love to read the newsletter and learn about the friends we traveled around the world with, and lost track of after retiring. Now that I know where some of them are, I will spend my evenings writing letters. Thank you, Glenda M. Sharp, RR-1 Box 138, Marlinton, WV 24954. That's what **KASRA News** is all about.