

KASRA

Nov. 2003

Email: news@e-kasra.com



Retiree News

Dear Fellow Retiree:

As you know from my October 3 cover note and the Joint Statement issued by Kaiser Aluminum and the Official Committee of Salaried Retirees (the "1114 Committee") appointed by the Bankruptcy Court, negotiations have begun between the company and the 1114 Committee.

The company has indicated in its public filings that substantial modification or termination of certain retiree benefits, such as medical and life insurance, will be required. Because substantial modification or termination of the salaried retiree benefits at some time in the future is a likely result of the company's Chapter 11 reorganization process, the company and the 1114 Committee are exploring alternative providers of medical benefits.

During October, I spoke at retiree meetings in Walnut Creek, CA, and Mead and Trentwood, WA. Altogether, nearly 400 attended these meetings. I stated the above points and also told them that the 1114 Committee, with help from KASRA, was developing a Medical Plan Review to be sent to all salaried retirees and surviving spouses. (*By the time you get this newsletter, you already may have received the Review; if not, you will soon.*) This Review is designed to help you become familiar with the issues involved in shopping for basic medical, major medical, prescription drug, and long-term care insurance. Upon receiving it in the next several weeks, you should study the information it contains carefully. The subject is extremely complex, but there are many sources of information and help in becoming a wise shopper in this field, and the Medical Plan Review will guide you to a number of them.

Only you can properly assess your health care needs and the nature and extent of the resources you have available to meet those needs. And only you can decide what is appropriate for you to do in the event of a substantial loss or termination of retiree benefits.

Because no changes have yet been negotiated or agreed to or approved by the Bankruptcy Court, we caution against taking any action to replace current coverage. However, as I said to the retiree groups, it is wise to be prepared so that you will be in a position to act quickly should the need arise.

I also told the attendees at these meetings that the 1114 Committee will be sending each retiree and surviving spouse a second publication, "Shopper's Guide to Medicare Supplement Insurance," prepared by Weiss Ratings Inc. (Weiss evaluates the financial strength of more than 15,000 institutions, including life and health insurers, banks, savings and loans, and brokerage firms.) Its Shopper's Guide to Medicare Supplement Insurance covers providers of so-called Medigap insurance. The guide does not include information on HMO options and, because Medigap coverage is not an option until a person reaches 65, it is not immediately applicable to retirees under 65. However, we are arranging to have the guide sent to all salaried retirees for present or future use. Each guide is "personalized." By that, I mean it identifies you by name, age and sex, and provides the names of Medigap providers in your ZIP code, tells what they charge, and attaches a Weiss safety rating to each of them. We have been able to get a group discount on the purchase of these guides and will be sending them to you in the near future, free of charge.

I urge you to read both the Medical Plan Review and the Shopper's Guide to Medicare Supplement Insurance carefully so that, if the need arises to replace the coverage you currently have, you are prepared to do so -- without delay.

We will continue to keep you informed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jed Daniel".

Jed Daniel

Think Big: Henry J. Kaiser's California Oakland Museum of CA Exhibit Jan. 24, 2004 to Aug. 29, 2004



An exhibition on the life of Henry J. Kaiser (1882-1967) and his impact on the modern economic and cultural landscape entitled Think Big: Henry J. Kaiser's California -- will open January 24, 2004 at the Oakland Museum of California, to run through August 29. After that, it will reopen in 2005 as a permanent exhibit. Described by one historian as "America's boldest, most spec-

tacular entrepreneur", Henry J. Kaiser founded more than 100 companies in his lifetime and was one of the most influential individuals in the history of modern California and the West Coast.

The exhibition will present three main aspects of Kaiser's work and influence. "Building a Nation" surveys the global reach of Kaiser's various industrial ventures, including road construction, building the great dams of the West, wartime shipbuilding, production of metals and cement, and Kaiser engineering projects around the world. The "Innovation" section highlights Kaiser's automobile and futuristic transportation projects, consumer products, home construction, the Hawaiian Village resort hotel complex and Hawaii Kai master-planned community, and the Kaiser radio and TV broadcasting network. A third section on his most enduring legacy - Kaiser Permanente - includes its origins as a partnership of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals and the Permanente Medical Groups.

Included in the exhibition are a variety of artifacts, from ship models and equipment used in Kaiser industries to a "Futures" board game put out by Kaiser Aluminum; photographs spanning Henry J. Kaiser's life as well as large photo murals highlighting Kaiser projects; print advertisements for various Kaiser industries; magazine and newspaper articles; and two videos, one about Kaiser's large industrial projects and the second about Kaiser's life. Two automobiles will be on display: a 1954 Kaiser Darrin sports car (one of only 435 manufactured and the first automobile to have a fiberglass body) and a Henry J (a pioneering compact car).

The exhibition depicts Kaiser's involvement in politics and government; the influence of Kaiser's companies on immigration and Bay Area diversity; and the impact

of the Kaiser Family Foundation, an independent research and educational organization focusing on major national health care issues.

Curator of the exhibition is Michael Dobrin, who worked in the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation public relations department in the late '60s and at the Oakland Museum of California, where he served as co-curator of the 1996 exhibition Hot Rods and Customs: The Men and Machines of California's Car Culture.

The idea for the exhibition came from a committee chaired by former CEO of Kaiser Aluminum Cornell Maier and made up of former Kaiser executives.

The Oakland Museum of CA is located at Oak and 10th Streets in downtown Oakland. The museum is open Wed. through Sat. from 10 am - 5 pm, Sun. 12 - 5 pm. Admission is \$8 general, \$5 for seniors (65 and over), youths (6-17) or students w/ID. For information, call (510) 238-2200 or check the web site at www.museumca.org.

What's Going On

Jim Simmons and his wife, Selwyn, of Gainesville, GA, enjoy boating on Lake Lanier and keep fit with the exercise group at Brenau Univ. Selwyn is a certified Yoga instructor. **Don Woodward** (Oakbrook, IL) likes the water, too, but his vacation was at Osage Beach, MO, with the entire family of 15. **Joe Vosi** of



Palm City, FL, heads for a mountain cabin in Georgia for vacation when he's not playing golf, fishing or swimming. Cruising on the Caribbean for the second time were Halethorpe retiree **Russell Nies** and wife Sylvia of Baltimore, MD.

When he's not designing and fabricating hardware for video scanning systems at his company, De Ross Engineering, **Alan De Ross** (Wasco, IL) likes to restore antique Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor cars. Alan plays the dulcimer to keep his joints supple. If you stop by the Sam's Club in Parkersburg, WV, you might see resident and Ravenswood retiree **Russell Loar** there as a product demo rep. Another Ravenswood retiree **Paul Poling** (Ripley, WV) divides his time between Ripley and Lady Lake, FL, where he also has a home. Spokane, WA, resident **Verne Harr** is President of the Sundance Homeowners Assoc, and travels to Alaska to visit a daughter.

Kaiser Ag Chem Savannah retiree **Richard Desso** of Colbery, GA, and his wife took their first trip to Europe and visited 10 countries. Surviving spouse **Violet "Sande" Johnson** of Santa Clara, CA, went to Bemidji, MN, for the Sande family reunion. Hello to **Jeanne Mary (Micki) Cabral** of Oakland, CA. A Civil War buff, **Moe Eskins** (Murraysville, WV) visited battle fields in Fredericksburg, VA. Newark retiree **Rod McMillan** of Mt. Vernon, OH, attended his 22nd Army reunion.

Happy Anniversary, love birds. Claire and **John Gesser, Jr.** of Mandeville, LA, celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary. Shirley and **Al Schroeck** of Baton Rouge, LA together with Bobbie and **Marv Scheunemann** celebrated their joint 55th anniversaries in Hot Springs, AK. Phyllis & **Harry Bixler** of Sun City Center, FL, celebrated their 65th anniversary at their daughter's home in Chicago. Irma Gene and **John Tullier** (Brusly, LA) celebrated their 50th anniversary, and John says "honey do" jobs are what makes a marriage last. Pat and **Dick Hughes** of Enumclaw, WA, celebrated their 52nd anniversary in Victoria, BC.

Happy Birthday. Frequent traveler **Sam Shelby** of Brentwood, TN, turned 86 by celebrating with friends in Houston, TX. **Harol Fussell** of Baton Rouge, LA, enjoys being the patriarch of 4 generations of family. Best of wishes to **Alex Saunders** of Whiteville, NC, and his wife, whom he is caring for after she suffered a stroke last year. Congratulations to **David Martin** of Humboldt, TN, for shooting one stroke under his age at the Humboldt Golf & Country Club.



Newark retiree **Frank McCoy** (Utica, OH) teaches career-based intervention at the Knox County Career Center. Mead retiree **Frank Clemens** (Spokane, WA) and wife Marj are in Beaver Dam, AZ, until May. Call them at (928) 347-4155 to say hello and visit. Surviving spouse **Anne White** of Williamston, NC, says she is blessed to be able to drive and visit family and friends. She enjoys genealogy and is a member of the Martin County Historical Society.

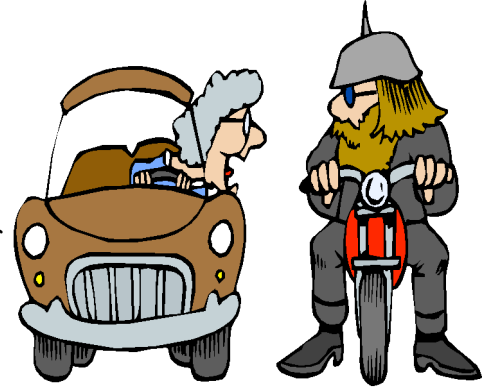
Trentwood retiree **Chuck Foster** and his wife Miriam (Newman Lake, WA) went on a 12-day mission with their church's youth group to Tampa, FL. **Shirley Sorensen** (Alameda, CA) writes that she, **Nieves Abille** and **Josie Mejia** all went on a 15-day Panama Canal cruise and had a great time despite the hot weather. Putting 3 miles on her bike everyday as well

as swimming keeps Oakland retiree **Betty Trumbower** in great shape at a retirement community in Santa Rosa, CA.

Fly fishing, anyone? Call Kaiser Center retiree **John Fowler** (Pleasant Hill, CA) at (925) 933-3159 who welcomes fishing partners in No CA.

Hammie **Joe Darling** of Bristol, RI, (K1LQH) is still sailing on Cloud Nine, and rides a Honda scooter for fun. Hope you're wearing a helmet, Joe. Wow, what a crowd. The

148-person Romeo family reunion practically took over the Bridgeport Holiday Inn last summer, writes **Frank Romeo** of Ravenswood, WV. Frank also raved about a two week vacation to Palm



Springs, Desert Springs and San Diego that he and his wife enjoyed courtesy of their son.

Sharon Freitas (Lafayette, CA) is looking forward to a Thanksgiving cruise to Mexico with her 3 adult children and their families. **Elizabeth Atkinson** of Castro Valley, CA, attended her high school reunion in Las Vegas. She likes to write children's stories that appeal to the 4-12 year old reader. **Walter Johnson** (Tallahassee, FL) is working on a second book about the underground copper mines of Eastern Nevada, where he was born and raised. Despite having Parkinsons disease, Walter manages to care for wife Millie who has multiple sclerosis. Their Pomeranian dog Bella keeps them loving company.

Bill Wood (Avon Park, FL) is a Jolly Gent volunteer at his church who does repairs and work for folks unable to do for themselves. Bill and wife Ruth drove 6100 miles and visited six states. **John Tullier** and Irma Gene (Brusly, LA) drove to Tallahassee, FL, and visited with Millie and **Walt Johnson**, who worked in Jamaica with John for 3 years. John maintains 10 acres of church lawn each spring-fall. That's a lot of time on the tractor mower.

Matrimony in Mallorca. Nancy and **Kirk McVean** of Walnut Creek, CA, traveled to Spain for their son's wedding and some sightseeing. **Thomas Johnson** (Sandpoint, ID) spends the summer fishing in Idaho and the winter doing woodworking in Alabama. Or is it the other way around? Sullivan, IL, Ag Chem retiree **Lawrence Farison** (Louisville, KY) spends half the year at his home in Florida. The former widower is married to second wife Geneva.

What's Going On - continued

Jim Schultz of 572 Silverado Dr. Lafayette, CA, 94549, spent the summer promoting his book "The Romance of Small-Town Chautauquas". He did readings and book signings in four states and he and Dorothy managed to squeeze in visits to their daughters, too. Moss Landing retiree **Joe Flies** of Oklahoma City, OK, has many fond memories of his Kaiser days there.

The suspense is over. I asked readers to guess what Chalmette, LA, retiree **Guy Robicheaux** does to entertain the seniors church group. Well...as President and program chair, he finds speakers, plans special outings, and designs games for group activity. Word got out that the games are so much fun, they are being used by other churches in the area. **Joanne Kaufman** of Santee, CA, works at Children's Hospital, plays golf and has taken recent trips to Sedona, AZ, and Charleston, SC, for pleasure. **J.V. Day** and his wife Joyce (Baton Rouge, LA) are enjoying retirement and the activities of 17 grandchildren and 3 great grand kids. J.V. so loves to collect clocks, he's been called a clock nut. Ag division retiree **Paul Kilty** (Lafontaine, IN) likes to do furniture woodworking. **Walter Winschell** of Vero Beach, FL, visits Pittsburgh, PA, and Michigan every year to see his 3 children and 9 grandchildren.

If you are ever in Blairsville, GA, where Ravenswood retiree **Roy Caldwell** lives, call him at (706) 781-3867 and stop by for a visit. Going through the Wilmington, NC, airport? Drop by the info desk to see if **Joan Thompson**, widow of Erie retiree D.J. Thompson, is on duty. Joan also works the reception desk at Landfall CC and travels to her native England twice a year. Calling retirement an endless vacation, Oakland product development retiree **Kit Sogge Lee** (Ashland, OR) is an avid golfer and football fan. She is also thrilled that daughter Dee is close by, having moved from Houston, TX, to Roseburg, OR.

Vive USA. Among the sights that **Marce Kieou** of Alameda, CA, took in visiting her sister in Cannes, France, was a Fourth of July parade complete with American cars and Harley Davidson motorcycles decked out in U.S. flags. Marce also toured the Alsace region, where she attended her niece's wedding reception. **Thomas Vicknair** of Slidell, LA, works part time as a printer. He likes fishing, and woodworking. So does **A.R. Jackson** (Eldon, MO) who regularly visits children and grandchildren in Iowa. Condolences to **Neal Person** (Pleasanton, CA) whose wife Claudia passed away last year, 4 months shy of their 25th wedding anniversary.

The local game warden called **Chet Ferdun's** (Orinda, CA) catch of a 6 lb. brook trout at Henry Lake, ID, the catch of a lifetime. Wonder if **Charles Burns** (Baton Rouge, LA) had fun on his 2-week fishing trip to Crow

Wing Lakes, MN. Living in Vermont is like being on vacation year round, says **Otto Weil** of Bennington, VT. Otto teaches violin and plays in the community symphony orchestra there. Widow **Carolyn Scott** (Walnut Creek, CA) enjoys the beach at Sunshine Coast, north of Brisbane, Australia, every winter and spends summers in Montana grandmothering.

Kaiser Development honcho **K. Tim Yee** of Honolulu, HI, wrote in the summer of plans for the first ever Kaiser Hawaii Kai reunion. Please email or drop us a line with a recap, Tim! **Ed Garred** (Deerpark, IL) keeps busy farming, fishing and woodworking. Who says climbing the walls isn't a sport? **William Mortenson** (Spokane, WA) saw his granddaughter compete and place 6th in a national wall climbing tournament held in Richmond, VA. Judy and **Dick Mace** of Hope, ID, like to travel to and fro in their motor home, explore the mountains of Idaho and Arizona, and caught too many fish for the freezer in Alaska last year.

Former works manager **Doug Wilkins** of Palo Alto, CA, shared his memories of Kaiser Jamaica Bauxite Co which were published in the company's 50th anniversary publication. Wilkins arrived in Jamaica in 1954 with his wife and three children. They grew to love their adopted home and learned how wonderful Jamaica is, where local workers nicknamed Wilkins "Smiley". Needing a rest from his vacation is **Leonard Sedlin** of Baton Rouge, LA. He spent most of the time at his daughter's home in Charlotte, NC, on Daddy Do projects such as restoring 75-year old rocking chairs, re-caning seats and other handy work requiring the use of electric drills, power screwdrivers, caulking and more.

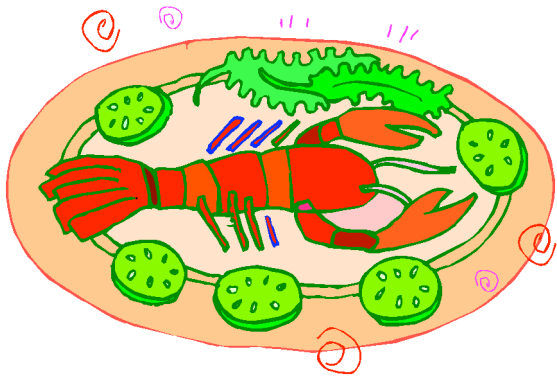
In Memoriam

Wilborn (Bill) H. Armstrong, Federal Way, WA
Ewell Buckhanan, Salinas, CA
Al Gayda, Lacey, WA
Sung Han - Seattle, WA
Noreen Strouse, Dalton Gardens, ID
Mary Walsh - Bristol, RI
James Ward - Savannah, GA
James Wilson - San Bernardino, CA

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

KASRA Retiree News, the newsletter of the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association, is published bimonthly by Wong & Murray Public Relations, 2471 San Miguel Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. E-mail: wmipr@aol.com

Editor would love to have good pictures (jpeg format). Email only to wmipr@aol.com.



The Lunch Bunch

November 3 Los Angeles (So. CA)
Noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd., La Mirada. Call Norm Manger (310) 377-2135.

November 6 Baton Rouge
Lunch at noon at the Louisiana Culinary Institute, Es-sen Lane. Call Bob Lister (225) 272-2886 or Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 beisenbach@prodigy.net

November 8 Louisiana KAOS
Dinner meeting at Sherwood Forest Country Club. Speaker on available alternatives to supplement Medicare coverage. Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 beisenbach@prodigy.net.

November 13 Mead
Mamma Mia's, noon. Call Joe Fife (509) 466-9155 ajjfife@aol.com or Phil Marksbury at pjmarksb@comcast.net

November 13 Trentwood
Luncheon at Spokane Valley Eagles. Speaker Chris Carlson, WA State Rep. on SHIBA Insurance Options & Rights. Call Bob Shogren (509)226-0837 or email robertmshogren@hotmail.com

November 18 Newark
Luncheon, Stacey's Hometown Inn. Call Bob Abel at (740) 323-2268 or email rpabel@alltel.net

November 19 Erie
Luncheon meeting at 1:00 p.m., Lake Shore Country Club. Contact Tim Healy (814) 474-3536 or email thealy@leol.net

December 1 Bay Area KARLA
Luncheon, 11:00 a.m. at Elks Club, Walnut Creek. Spouses and guests are welcome. Call Al Matthews (925) 930-8243.

December 1 Los Angeles (So. CA)
Noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd., La Mirada. Contact Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 or email normanger@cox.net

December 3 Bristol
Luncheon, 11:45 a.m. at The Lobster Pot. Contact John Carre at (401) 247-2199.

December 3 Tacoma
Luncheon meeting, noon to 2 p.m. at the Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 South Union St. Contact Bob Mohr (253) 564 9308 or email bobjanetmohr@comcast.net.

December 4 Baton Rouge
Lunch at noon at the Louisiana Culinary Institute, Es-sen Lane. Call Bob Lister (225) 272-2886 or Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 beisenbach@prodigy.net

December 5 Ravenswood
Holiday dinner and dance, McCoy Conference Center, Ripley. Call Dave Whitman (304) 273-5548 or email dwhitman@wirefire.com

December 6 Texas
Luncheon, 11: 00 a.m. Omni Hotel, Richardson, TX. Call Cathy Peterson Eaton at (972) 562-2352, email Cathypeaton1@comcast.net

December 17 Erie
Luncheon meeting at 1:00 p.m., Lake Shore Country Club. Contact Tim Healy (814) 474-3536 or email thealy@leol.net

December 18 Trentwood
Luncheon at Spokane Valley Eagles. Project Joy Sere-nadaors. Call Bob Shogren (509)226-0837 or email robertmshogren@hotmail.com

