

KASRA

NOV. 2004

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Retiree News

Dear Fellow Retiree:

There are several developments since my last communication.

First, Kaiser Aluminum announced on October 26 that the Bankruptcy Court conditionally approved the seventh amendment to the company's Post-Petition Credit Agreement, subject to the lenders agreeing to modify the latest date upon which Kaiser might file a Plan of Reorganization. The Court's required modification would change the specified date for Kaiser to file its Plan of Reorganization to no later than February 13, 2005 (the date the Post-Petition Credit Agreement is presently scheduled to expire), from the previously set date of December 31, 2004.

Second, the company also announced on October 26 that the Court approved another extension of the period of exclusivity for filing its reorganization plan - this one to February 28, 2005.

Third, the company informed us that it plans to send out, on November 5, open enrollment forms to all those retirees who previously selected COBRA coverage. Therefore, those who currently have COBRA should probably have received the forms by the time you read this newsletter. Forms need to be returned no later than December 1. We expect the new rates will be significantly higher than current rates.

Fourth, with respect to the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees VEBA, the Trust continues to receive cash advances of \$300,000 each month under the terms of the January 29, 2004, settlement and subsequent amendment approved by the Bankruptcy Court. Including an initial advance payment of \$200,000 and monthly payments of \$300,000 for the months of June through October, the cumulative amount received stands at \$1.7 million.

As stated in my message in the September newsletter, it continues to be uncertain when the company may emerge from bankruptcy, how large its initial contribution obligation may be, how much the Salaried Retirees VEBA Trust may receive by way of monthly ad-

vances in the meantime, and the degree to which Kaiser Aluminum may be profitable and in a position to make variable profit-sharing contributions following emergence from bankruptcy. Costs to be incurred in connection with setting up and administering the VEBA Trust and Plan have yet to be ascertained as well. Therefore, it is too early to determine either the amount or the timing of benefits that may be paid under the VEBA Plan. It may not be possible to do so (at least initially) until after Kaiser either successfully emerges from bankruptcy or fails to do so.

The hope is - but there can be no guarantee - that, after providing for current and future operating expenses, there will be sufficient funds in the VEBA to provide limited reimbursement of health insurance premiums (excluding co-payments and deductibles) paid under a health care plan (including Medicare Part B premiums). Also as stated previously, any such reimbursement would be limited to a dollar amount per retiree (including spouse and dependents), so that all eligible retirees under the VEBA Plan would be treated equally. You will be receiving a Summary Plan Description of the VEBA Plan along with the VEBA enrollment materials at such time as the trustees determine there are sufficient funds in the Trust to pay at least an initial benefit.

A concluding observation: All of us were, to put it mildly, disappointed when the company failed to keep its promises with respect to retiree medical coverage. We felt anger . . . betrayal . . . you name it. However, it is important for each of us to remember that it continues to be in our best interests to have the company emerge from bankruptcy as an ongoing, successful entity. To the extent that it does - if it does - the VEBA Trust may be among the beneficiaries in the future.

The next issue of KASRA News won't appear until January. Therefore, on behalf of the board of KASRA, our very best wishes to each of you and your families for Thanksgiving, the Christmas holidays, and the New Year.

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

Jed Daniel, President

What's Going On

Mel Siers of Veradale, WA, enjoyed a Caribbean cruise with all 5 grandchildren and traveled to Europe last month. Gramercy retiree **Joe Anjier** and wife Jennifer now live in Australia where Joe is working on the start up of Comalco's Alumina Refinery in Gladstone. Work for **Marshall Eubanks** of Hebron, OH, is managing a convenience store with his wife. Playing golf and enjoying music are hobbies of Newark retiree **Dick Hoskinson** of Gratiot, OH. **John March** (Spokane, WA) likes to lawn bowl and sing in a barbershop quartet.

Congratulations to **RuthAnn Critchfield** of Saratoga,



CA, a tournament bridge player who achieved the rank of Bronze Life Master this year. Trentwood retiree **Tom Pitzer** of Spokane, WA, spent 3 weeks in Scandinavia for a wedding and travel to the Arctic Circle. Meanwhile, surviving spouse **Sherry Hellyer** (Ravenswood, WV) visited the

3 states of South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana last summer. Sherry owns the Hair Shack in Ravenswood.

Edison, NJ, Can Plant retiree **Ed Phillips** (Russellville, KY) attended the Air Force Academy graduation last summer at which President Bush was the commencement speaker. Ed's job these days is shooing birds out of the cherry tree, chasing rabbits out of the garden and keeping squirrels out of the English walnut tree. CFT retiree **David Stone** of Harrison, ID, says he's returned to his retirement home, on a temporary basis, after spending three years with Alcoa. David says he may not be fully retired just yet.

Mead retiree **Thomas W. Franklin** of Slidell, LA, and his wife Catherine enjoyed a cruise to Alaska. Ag Chem retiree **Stanley King** of Littleton, NC, recently moved from Wake Forest/Raleigh where he sold his Servpro franchises and properties to start a new business with his wife, son, and daughter-in-law near the family farm. Reach the Kings at 252-586-4800. Ravenswood retiree and resident **Donald Skeens** went to Myrtle Beach, SC, on a golfing trip. He helped the Ravenswood Lions Club prepare for its 75th anniversary

celebration held in October.

Tulsa, OK, sales retiree and resident **Cynthia T. Laplante** loves to sing in both her church choir and the Diocesan choir. She and her husband spend the summers at their cottage on Lake Memphremagog, VT, where they enjoy boating, swimming and the cooler weather. Chalmette retiree

O'Neal Rogers of Diamondhead, MS, isn't traveling these days because of health issues, but he does a lot of reading and enjoys watching television. Tacoma, WA, retiree and resident **Eugene R. Whitcombe** has several hobbies - fishing, shooting, gardening and smoking fish. Mmm, editor can taste that smoked salmon. When he is not playing golf, Gramercy retiree **Frank "Beef" Lewis** of Baton Rouge, LA, serves as a volunteer on the USS Kidd, a WWII Navy destroyer.



Permanent Foil retiree **John Dwyer** of San Jose, CA, is raising a new Cocker Spaniel puppy. He enjoys a part time job at the San Jose Flea Market, and recently traveled to New Orleans, Yosemite and Reno where he "paid dues" without any luck. Newark, OH, retiree **Rod McMillan** of Mt. Vernon, OH, has developed a manual pertaining to six-man football played in Knox County, OH. He's lost one game during a "47" "48" "49" period. **George Earle** of LaCrosse, IN, spends every waking moment on planting trees, flowers, mowing and watering to keep everything growing and blooming. It's a wonderful life, writes **Don La Rue** of Tahoe City, CA. Don is working on his third historical novel, painting historical and landscape subjects. Along with his wonderful wife and kids and grandsons, Don is anxious to meet a new generation, a great grandson.

Tick, tick, tick... **Bob Hartwig** of Ashland, OR, collects Indian artifacts, coins and antique pocket watches. Bob now has 51 antique Howard watches. **Don Donaldson** of Medford, OR, recently moved to Oregon, and still consults in the alumina industry. Don enjoys golf and listening to



traditional jazz. **Richard Flores** (Livermore, CA) is a real estate agent who sits on the Inter-faith Housing Board for Seniors. His recent travels to Mexico included a copper-train trip.

God bless **Lola Sheppard** of Dothan, AL, who, at 89 years young, still lives in her own home, does her own house and yard work and fixes food for her neighbors if they are ill. She also attends church regularly.



Go Wildcats! **Bill Jordan** of Atlanta, GA, just returned from attending his 50th class reunion at the University of Arizona, Tucson, where he was VP of the senior class as well as Vice Chair of the Student Senate. Note: editor's daughter is also a Wildcat, now in her sophomore year. Mead retiree **Donald (Gil) Gilliland** travels back and forth between San Diego and Spokane. He is currently rebuilding a home at Scripps Ranch. Chalmette retiree and resident **Edwin J. Willis** enjoys electronics and ham radio, KG5QP EXTRA.

And another Chalmette retiree, **Clifton Arnold**, moved to Slidell, LA, where he plans to use his boat to get to the next retiree luncheon at Salvaggio's restaurant, 1/2 mile away.

He's in the Guinness Book of World Records! That would be **W.R. "Bill" Fautch** of Newman Lake, WA, an accordion player who was one of 533 accordion players in continuous play for 33 minutes. Bill keeps busy volunteering at the Sheriff's office, playing in a band, promoting jamborees, joining the Eagles and Elks and going to church.

Al Parker of New Bern, NC, says that he and wife can enjoy day sailing year 'round on the Neuse River. Al refurbishes old shortwave tube radios. Tema, Ghana retiree **Larry Kennedy** of Seven Bays, WA, enjoys golf, gardening and fishing. Ravenswood retiree **Tom Eynon** relocated to Merritt, NC, to a new home on the water where they can enjoy boating. Tom works part time as a safety consultant. **Russ and Lee Radach** of Auburn, CA, spent 3 fantastic months last summer in Alaska fishing for halibut and salmon. They wintered in Desert Hot Springs and Las Vegas.

Augustine "Tina" Mofield of Slidell, LA, enjoys gardening and going to the Gulf Coast casinos. She cuts 7 acres of grass every week - wow, that's done on the biggest John Deere they make! Mead retiree **Dick Jeltsch** of Spokane, WA, has a consulting business to provide technical service to aluminum smelters and is doing quite well, with clients in Russia, Sweden and Romania and the U.S. Dick writes that everywhere he goes, he runs into ex-KACC folks, including Siberia!

Mead retirees **Carol & Richard Moen** of Spokane, WA, completed a three-year journey on their 38' sailboat, from Washington to Florida via the Panama Canal. After a stop in Spokane, the Moens are continuing their cruise this fall. Best regards and moral support to Tacoma retiree **Ellis K. Slattery** of Lacey, WA, who is a full time care giver. Trentwood retiree **Jim Pantaleo** (Spokane Valley, WA) and his wife enjoy volunteer work and travel to the Hawaiian Islands, Germany, Pennsylvania for their 50th high school reunion and Virginia to visit their son and family.

Plymouth Refractories retiree **Bill Miller** (Harborside, ME) says he and wife Bette are still able to follow their dream of "palms in winter" and "pines in summer". Bill enjoys wood working and is building a studio apartment. Valco retiree **Leon Buckles** of Spokane, WA, enjoys fishing and is involved with the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. He spent one week on a float trip down the Smith River in Montana. Speaking of rivers, Tacoma retiree **Richard Belshay** of Puyallup, WA, and his wife went on a Mississippi River boat cruise.



Fred Lawson (Carmel, CA) serves on the Army Science Board, traveling to Washington D.C. once a month. Fred says the Board's recommendations on re-balancing the Forces is complete, marking the largest restructuring of the Army since before WWII. Polio survivor and Trentwood retiree **G. "Jerry" Sunderland** of Spokane, WA, writes that he is now dealing with Post Polio Syndrome (PPS) and is active with a support group. Drop him a line at 2012 E. Marshall, Spokane, WA 99207 if you'd like more information. Ham radio enthusiasts **Bill Nadwornick** (K7CTS) and

his wife Noreen (K7MRJ) of Greenacres, WA, like to make the rounds at hamfests in Puyallup, WA, Wenatchee, WA, Rathdrum, ID, and the 70th Three Forks Mt. Hamfest. Oooh - lobster! **Bob Kitchen** of Keswick, VA, writes that, during a vacation to Bar Harbor, ME, lobster fishing was one of the highlights. Lots of hard work goes into getting that chicken lobster on your plate, says Bob. Indeed! **Dick Rosenbaum** of Danville, CA, took a cruise along the Rhine and Danube Rivers.

If you ever stop by the Gig Harbor Volunteer Center, do look up its manager. That would be **L.J. Mac McAdams** of Gig Harbor, WA. Enjoying her home in Sun City Lincoln Hills is surviving spouse **Phyllis I. Glubka** of Lincoln, CA. In between weekly rounds of golf, **Eric A. Muller** of Cumming, GA, serves as a marshal at one of the local golf clubs. He's taken some short trips to Mobile, AL, and Williamsburg, VA, this year. Another golfer is **Zane Legg** of Ravenswood, WV, who has visited Orlando, FL, and St. Louis, MO, this year.

All right! This editor has such a soft spot for baseball, that when this next item came across her desk, she shouted with delight. The Bainbridge Island Senior Community Center (BISCC) softball team played their crosstown rival for the second year in a row. Although they lost, 21-16, the team narrowed the loss from the previous year's score of 23-4. The oldest member of the team at 82, "Tricky" **Dick Tenney** (Bainbridge Island, WA) had a tough first inning on the pitcher's mound, giving up five runs. But in the third inning, Tenney proved his defensive mettle with a backhanded grab on a laser-like line drive. "I think it was more self defense," Tenney said of this quick response.

Mary Bozarth of San Ramon, CA, did quite a bit of traveling to Kauai, Maui, Hawaii as well as Alaska, the Carolinas and Georgia this year. She looks forward to the annual family reunion in Colorado. Anglesey retiree **Bill Kister** of Milton Keynes, Bucks, U.K., is the golf captain of the seniors section of the Woburn Golf Club, which has 3 of the top 75 courses in the British Isles. Bill and his wife, Cora, visited France, where their daughter and son-in-law own and operate a luxury hotel barge named "Meanderer". Kaiser International retiree **Clemente Gomes** of Margarita, Venezuela, is embarking a long trip around the

world with his wife, so reports **Tom Singer** of Appleton, NY. Ravenswood retiree **Ralph Fleming** (Parkersburg, WV) and his wife, Suzie, visited Spokane retiree **Bud Leber** and his wife, Diane, while staying with relatives in Yelm, WA. **Pam Yenter** of Greenacres, WA, writes that husband Sid, who is battling Parkinsons disease and dementia, has a wonderful home healthcare giver. Pam tries to play golf every once in awhile.

On the move... Permanente Foil retiree **Violet (Sande) Johnson** has moved to Water Edge Lodge, a senior residence in Alameda, CA. **Elizabeth Lane Conley** has moved from Westport, CT, to Stratford, CT. **Bob Schwab** moved from Colorado to Ovilla, TX, to be near his daughters and 6 grandchildren.

Happy Anniversaries... We have three Golden 50th couples: Jeanie and **Gene Hanquist** of Salinas, CA, celebrated by going on cruises through the Panama Canal and to Alaska. Carol and **Nolan Vicknair** (Madisonville, LA) celebrated by constructing a new patio, and Martha and **Fred Chambers** of Waynesboro, GA, had a reception with family, friends and lots of grandchildren joining the celebration. Happy 53rd to Cathy and **Jack Rasmussen** of Incline Village, NV, who enjoyed several cruises. And best to Rowena and **William Fleming** of Ravenswood, WV, who celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to all you love birds.

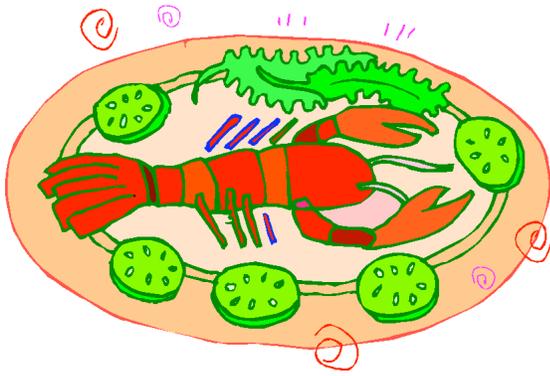
In Memoriam

Dolores M. Allee, Alameda, CA
Marce J. Edwards, Monterey, CA
Roderick E. Ewart, Anaconda, MT
Harold H. Hanks, Wallace, ID
John I. LeBerre, McLean, VA

The Board of Directors expresses its deepest sympathy to families and loved ones.

Send KASRA Your News

Write us your news, travels, stories... humorous tales welcome. Send a note to Editor, KASRA News, 2471 San Miguel Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or email wmipr@aol.com.



The Lunch

November 11 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Cathay Inn on North Division St. Call Joe Fife (509) 466-9155 ajjfife@aol.com or Phil Marksbury at pjmarksb@comcast.net.

November 17 Erie

Lunch at 1 p.m., Lake Shore Country Club. Call Tim Healy at (814) 474-3536 fax (814) 474-2700 thealy@velocity.net

November 18 Trentwood

11:00 a.m. at Valley Eagles, 16810 E. Sprague, Veradale. Memorable home videos. Contact Steve Harvey at s1harv3y@comcast.net.

December 1 Tacoma

Noon, Tacoma Elks Lodge, 1965 South Union. Contact Bob Mohr at (253) 820-6569 or bobjanetmohr@comcast.net.

December 6 Bay Area K.A.R.L.A.

Holiday Luncheon, Elks Club, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek. Call Al Matthews at (925) 930-8243.

December 6 Los Angeles (So. CA)

Noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd., La Mirada. Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 email normmanger@cox.net.

December 7 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's on Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Lister (225) 272-2886 or Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 bobeisenbach@cox.net

December 6 Baton Rouge

Lunch at Mansur's. Spouses welcome. Please call Len Sedlin at (225) 275-8707.

December 7 Chalmette

1 p.m. Luncheon at Salvaggio's, Slidell on Highway 11 (Ponchatrain Drive). July's gathering brought together 77 retirees and spouses for a wonderful time. All KASRA retirees and spouses invited. Call Sherman Faught at (985) 641-6121.

December 8 Bristol

11:30 a.m., The Lobster Pot. Call Carol Cook (401) 253-4251 or John Carre at (401) 247-2199

December 9 Mead

11:30 a.m. Lunch at Cathay Inn on North Division St. Call Joe Fife (509) 466-9155 ajjfife@aol.com or Phil Marksbury at pjmarksb@comcast.net.

December 16 Trentwood

11:00 a.m. at Valley Eagles, 16810 E. Sprague, Veradale. Project Joy, Christmas Program. Contact Steve Harvey at s1harv3y@comcast.net.

December 17 Ravenswood

Holiday dinner dance at McCoy's. Call Dave Whitman (304) 273-5548 or email dwhitman@wirefire.com

Texas

Please contact Cathy Peterson Eaton at (972) 562-2352 or email Cathypeaton1@comcast.net

