

*Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT



Carlos Xavier  
KASRA President

Visit website at  
[www.e-kasra.com](http://www.e-kasra.com)

Do you know a retiree who has not signed up for the VEBA? Suggest they call KASRA at (925) 685-1313 or email at [kasra@e-kasra.com](mailto:kasra@e-kasra.com)

Dear Fellow Retirees/  
Surviving Spouses:

On behalf of the KASRA Board, staff and volunteers, we wish you all **“Compliments of the Season”** and hope the year

2010 will bring you joy, health and wealth. The stock market seems to be helping in the last category by showing sign of a healthy trend. Let’s hope this upward climb continues well into the New Year.

It appears a number of you may not have received your email copy of the November newsletter. We are working to resolve this issue and, if you did not receive the November newsletter, please let us know at [kasra@e-kasra.com](mailto:kasra@e-kasra.com). We will make sure you get it. As this is our principal and regular mode of communication with you, we want to ensure that you are able to receive every issue.

Some of you have recently visited our website at [www.e-kasra.com](http://www.e-kasra.com) and expressed how pleasantly surprised you have been at the wealth of interesting information included. For those who have not yet had a chance to visit our website, let me briefly summarize what it contains:

**News/Communications** – News on KASRA, the VEBA, and the Aluminum industry, as well as general communications to our members and a link to the Kaiser Aluminum website.

**Events** – A listing of regional events and announcements.

**Newsletters** – Archived copies of these

dating as far back as September 2001 - so if you wish to refer to any missed past newsletters, you can access them here.

**Photos** - Numerous photos of events in the Bay Area, Chalmette, Mead, Ravenswood, and Tacoma. It is nice to see the activities and current faces of retirees and spouses whom we knew and are now residing some distance away. Please feel free to share and transmit digital photos of your special events along with descriptive captions and email them to [web@e-kasra.com](mailto:web@e-kasra.com).

**Forms** – Downloadable KASRA and VEBA forms, including enrollment and reimbursement forms for your VEBA claims.

I would be remiss if I did not continue to remind all of you to advise us of any change in your postal and email addresses. We want to ensure that you receive all of our communications. However, if you do not wish to receive any communication from us, please let us know and we will respect this and make a note of it in our database.

I trust by now that all of you who are eligible have filed your 2008 VEBA claim for reimbursement. For the year 2009, you have another year to file, but this has to be filed no later than December 31, 2010.

Hope you all have a happy and safe 2010 and, above all, continue to stay healthy!

*Carlos E. Xavier*

Carlos Xavier  
President, KASRA



## WHAT'S GOING ON

**D**allas, TX Extrusions retiree **Colin Ward** (South Pasadena, FL) is a songwriter who plays the blues to bluegrass. That's Colin in the middle of the photo, performing at the Hideaway recording studio and lounge in St. Petersburg, FL. In what she describes as a traveling grand finale, San Leandro, CA, retiree **Beth Atkinson** (Castro Valley, CA) visited St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, staying at the Frenchman's Reef Marriott



Colin Ward (center)

located on the shores of the Caribbean. Beth, along with her cousin Lynnette, toured the island, visited the renowned Butterfly Farm, and took a gondola up to Paradise Point for lunch with a spectacular view of the surrounding islands.



Don & Doris Farrelly, Ann & Carlos Xavier in Grand Canyon

**Happy Anniversary...** Barbara and **Dudley Payton** (Baton Rouge, LA) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at a gathering of family members from six states. For their 55th anniversary, Doris and **Don Farrelly** of Prairieville, LA, made a trip to Copper Canyon, Mexico, with Ann and **Carlos Xavier** of Walnut Creek, CA (Farrelly and Xavier families pictured to left).

After handing over the keys to his three AARON Sales and Lease franchise stores in Boise, ID, **Joe Reger** (pictured left with buyer Jim Day) says it's time to enjoy traveling in the motor home with his wife Melba, visiting family from Florida to Washington. They plan to snow bird in Tucson, AZ. Joe has 6 classic cars to keep him busy when he's not on the road.



Joe Reger (on left)

Oakland, CA, retiree **Chris Laszcz-Davis** (Orinda, CA)

has authored two key chapters for a notable environmental, health and safety publication: one chapter on "Emergency Preparedness, Response & Recovery" and the second on "Human Health Risk Assessment". Retiree **Ron McHaney** (Portland, OR), who worked in Refractories, Reduction, Rod, Bar & Wire, Flat Rolled Products and Corporate at a number of Kaiser locations, along with former Trentwood, WA, employee **Jim Jabara** (Hawaii), were contributors to the chapter on emergency response.

Newark, OH, retiree **Darrel J. O'Dell** (Ravenswood, WV) had a family reunion in Florida and visited two sons in TX. He works part time for the City of Ravenswood as an electrician. Condolences to CFT, CA, retiree **T.R. 'Tex' Pritchett** of Harlingen, TX, for the passing of his wife of more than 60 years, Mary. **Dorothy August-Mann** (Goose Creek, SC) works for the foster grandparent division of Charleston Area Senior Citizens Inc. Oakland, CA, retiree **Bobbie (Mazurie) Mabry** and her husband moved to a retirement community in Georgetown, TX. They spent 5 days in New York, enjoying Broadway shows and traveled to the Bay Area to visit family and friends. Surviving spouse **Sally Sittel** (Camarillo, CA) took a cruise to the Mexican Riviera with her daughter and family. Sally enjoys playing golf and duplicate bridge.

Mead, WA, retiree **L. Edward Siniff** (Spokane Valley, WA) collects U.S. stamps. He works part time at Jimmy's Roofing. What began as a small project has grown into a cultural archive for Kaiser Chemicals retiree **Barbara Parkin** (Oakland, CA). She supplied more than 100 Polynesian dance routines to a friend who lost everything in the Oakland, CA, hills fire of the '90s. That effort grew to

*(What's Going On, continued Page 3)*

*(What's Going On, from Page 2)*

digitizing 250 dance routines, as well as converting 40 cassettes to CDs of a famous dance instructor. Barbara says the works will be donated and archived at a museum or institution in Hawaii for perpetuity.

Trentwood, WA, retiree **Bill Fautch, Sr.** of Newman Lake, WA, plays the accordion with a country band, and enjoys fishing, camping and dancing. Tacoma, WA, retiree **Roy Brennan** (Puyallup, WA) attended his 40th class reunion at Jesuit High School in New Orleans, LA. He is a custom cabinetmaker for a two-person shop. Oak Brook, IL, retiree **Carol Cunnius** (Lehigh Acres, FL) took a 7-day cruise to the Caribbean and enjoyed it so much she went on another cruise for Christmas. Kaiser International Singapore retiree **Jim Stewart** (Marina Del Ray, CA) is an armchair sports fan, that chair being in front of the television. **Rose Liu** (Irvine, CA) enjoys music and gardening. Ravenswood retiree **Richard E. Nowell** (Spokane Valley, WA) and his new wife became first-time snowbirds last winter in Indio, CA, and had a ball. He plays golf, does yard work and enjoys cooking.

CFT, CA, retiree **Martha Maki** of Sonoma, CA, lives with her daughter and is teaching her granddaughter to crochet. The cancer survivor with Parkinson's disease had cataract surgery to improve her vision. **Henry Frederick Forte** (Nashville, TN) enjoys reading, crossword puzzles, and playing with the grandchildren. Oakland, CA, retiree **Doris L. Wright** (Moraga, CA) is an avid golfer, playing 4 times a week in seasonal locales, including Sun City, AZ, Lake Tahoe, CA and home. Permanente Foil retiree **Jerry Denny** (Morgan Hill, CA) is the Environmental, Health & Safety Coordinator for the San

Jose Flea Market, on the Recycling Beautification Committee for the City of Morgan Hill, and involved with the City of San Jose's Waste Reduction Committee. He is chair elect for Breathe Right California's Board of Directors.

Portsmouth, RI, retiree **Estelle C. Oliver** (Bristol, RI) volunteers as a ticket seller and usher with the Bristol County Chorus. She also is a lector with St. Mary's Church there. Trentwood, WA, retiree **John Matheson** lives on a 160-acre farm at Hauser Lake, ID, that provides year-round work hobbies of gathering hay, log cutting and lumber milling. John does manage to get away from the farm to fish in Alaska, where his daughter lives. Columbiana, OH, retiree and resident **Eugene J. Dudash** finds odds and ends with a metal detector as he walks along beaches, campgrounds and parks. Parkinson's disease has not prevented him from visiting sons and grandkids in three states. Oakland, CA, retiree **Avis Duncan** (Tumwater, WA) visited Canada's Banff National Park and Lake Louise with fellow retiree **Marcie Kieou** (Alameda, CA).

Kaiser Chemicals retiree **Woody Sorenson** of Scottsdale, AZ, owns Sorenson Enterprises. He works with his son and daughter marketing melamine for engineered wood products and PBT for thermo plastic products. After undergoing 4 spine



Bay Area Dec. 7, 2009 Luncheon: Jean Brown, Mark Stett, Bill Brown & Leo Barsotti



Bay Area Dec. 7, 2009 Luncheon: Fran Krill, Ed Westerman & Merton Van Dreser

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*(What's Going On, from Page 3)*

surgeries in one year, Oakland, CA, retiree **Milly Lee** (Berkeley, CA) does lots of Pilates to strengthen her body. She likes to cultivate orchids and watch the grandkids' soccer and softball games. Milly vacationed in Hawaii and took a cruise to Mexico. Greetings to Trentwood, WA, retiree **Robert N. Barker** (Sierra Vista, AZ) who is 85 years young.



Chalmette Dec. 9, 2009 Luncheon:  
Earl Phillips, Erika Kraus, Frank Kraus, Joan Frank, Ed Frank

**Local hot spot**...Ravenswood, WV, retiree and resident **John H. Alderson** says he runs into more retirees at the Holze Clinic in Gallipolis, OH, than anywhere else in town. Newark, OH, retiree **Dick Hoskinson** of Zanesville, OH, paints, plays golf and enjoys music.

After retiring from teaching and directing the master's graduate

program at Whitworth University, Trentwood, WA, retiree **Thomas Pitzer** enjoys golf, skiing and running ten miles a week. He and his wife

are active in the Episcopal Church, she soon to be a deacon. At the age of 96, Savannah, GA, Ag Chem retiree and resident **Paul Weller** still drives his Honda every day. When

he really wants to turn a few heads, Paul gets behind the wheel of his 1951 MGTD. Oakland, CA, retiree and resident **Shirley Schmalfluss** is active in the Oakland Art Association and tutors 3rd grade students at the local grammar school. Mead, WA, retiree **Thomas W. Franklin** of Loon Lake, WA, vacationed in Costa Rica. He snowbirds in Slidell, LA, each winter and returns to the Spokane, WA, area in the summer.

After leaving Kaiser Aluminum's Human Resources group, Oakland, CA, employee and resident **Tony Hodge** spent the next 30 years in executive search. He plays golf with the Kaiser Aluminum Retirees and Friends (KARAF) Golf Club. Mead, WA, retiree **Roger Olson** (Addy, WA) writes of an interesting way to see the world from a local base. He and his wife belong to Friendship Force, Int. When they travel, members in that locale host them in their homes. Likewise, the Olsons host club members visiting their city. Visit [www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org) for more information. Do you have a similar experience with other travel groups to share with KASRA members? Please write or email [wmipr@aol.com](mailto:wmipr@aol.com) and tell us your story.

Ravenswood, WV, retiree and resident **Marsha L. Rhodes** says Longaberger baskets are her hobby. She is an elderly caregiver. Mexico, MO, Refractories retiree and resident **Joseph F. Johnson** is a ham radio operator. Reach him at WB0IVU. Trentwood, WA, retiree **Keith L. Oxford** of Athol, ID, plays golf. Surviving spouse **Loeta B. Abblett** (Gallipolis, OH) spends a lot of time playing bridge and euchre. She attended her grandson's wedding - a three day celebration near Lake Chautauqua. Tacoma, WA, retiree

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Chalmette Dec. 9, 2009 Luncheon:  
Joe Whittington, Ford Evans, Paul Petit, Martha Whittington, Pat Petit

## MEMBER PROFILE: Sam Manaktala

After graduating from the University of Maryland in 1960, **Satish 'Sam' Manaktala** applied for a job at Kaiser Aluminum's Halethorpe Extrusions plant. His application was forwarded to headquarters, which led to a job offer at the Mead reduction plant. A year later, Sam was sent to Renukoot, India, to help develop the Hindalco joint venture project. There, through an arranged introduction by their parents, the native of India met and married his first wife, Mira. Seven years later, the couple returned to the U.S. with their first child for assignments at Ravenswood, WV, Oakland, CA, and overseas to Ghana, Africa. After Mira died unexpectedly in 1981, the widower with three young daughters was assigned to Anglesey, Wales, where he met his second wife, Kathleen. Sam returned to Oakland in 1986 as Director of Technical Services, Primary Products. Once again, the assignment expanded overseas, this time to the Soviet Union, where he witnessed firsthand the dismantling of the Soviet Union into Russia. In 1997, Sam retired after a 37-year career under the Kaiser flag that took him around the world, including the land of his birth.

Today, he and Kathleen live in

Trinidad, CA, in a home overlooking the vast Pacific Ocean.

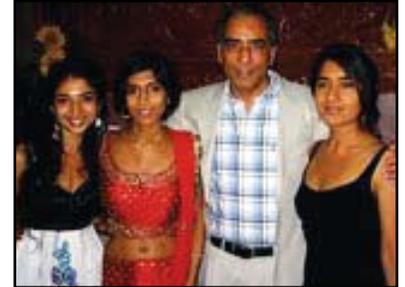
**Q. You were born and raised in India. Your father was assigned by the Foreign Service to the Indian Embassy in Washington, DC and moved the family to the U.S. when you were 14 years old. More than ten years later, you went back to India as an employee of an American corporation. What was that experience like for you?**

**A.** It was a mixed experience. The project itself was successful. Kaiser had a 26% partnership stake with Birla Industries to supply technology, management and development of the Hindalco alumina plant and smelter. From a cultural perspective, I had become very westernized living in the U.S. and was shocked by the living standards and lack of infrastructure in India. I felt like a foreigner in my homeland. Nonetheless, it was also a very good experience for me personally, because that is where I met and married my first wife, Mira, who also had been educated in America.

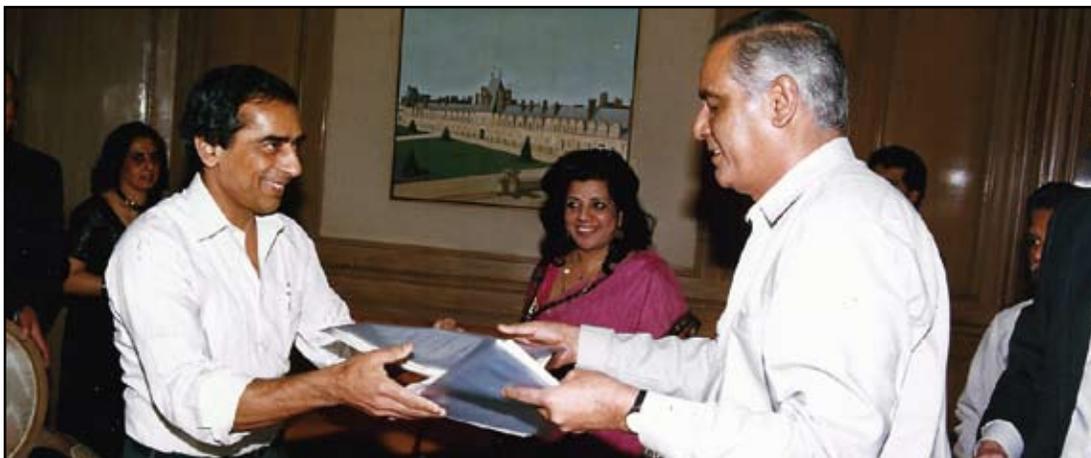
**Q. What was your most memorable work experience?**

**A.** In 1989, I was involved in selling

*(Member Profile, continued Page 6)*



**Sam and daughters: Asha, Shobha, Sam & Gita**



**Krasnoyarsk, Siberia 1991**

### Send KASRA Your News & Pictures

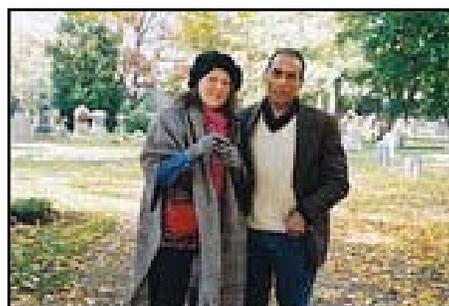
Write us your news, travels, stories... humorous tales welcome. Send a note to Roberta Wong Murray, KASRA News, 2471 San Miguel Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596 or [wmipr@aol.com](mailto:wmipr@aol.com).

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technology and raw materials in the Soviet Union. Prior to that assignment, I remarried, having met my second wife, Kathleen, in the U.K. We lived in Moscow for a couple of years and saw firsthand the startling effects of a country's decentralization of power. There was a total vacuum of government support during the transition to independence and what would become Russia. We witnessed history in the making, the human suffering, and the political confrontations leading to the attack on the Soviet White House. During this period, I began to develop projects in Siberia and was promoted to Vice President and General Manager, Business Development. We developed the first technology transfer project in Krasnoyarsk and another smelter in Northern Russia. The corporation was well known in Russia, thanks to Edgar Kaiser's early support. Kaiser had a very marketable brand name there.

**Q. How would you summarize your career?**

**A.** Kaiser Aluminum was a great, great company. The entrepreneurial vision of Henry J. Kaiser and the global empire he built gave me a 37-year career full of excitement and opportunity. I met some wonderful people who have become so close to me. It is an experience I would not trade for anything and for which I am so grateful.



**Sam & Kathleen Manaktala**



**Sam & grandson Jai Manaktala**

**Q. Tell us about your family.**

**A.** Kathleen and I have a blended family. I have three daughters, Gita, 43, an editor of the MIT Press in Cambridge, MA and mother of my grandson Jai. Daughter Shobha, 40, is an acupuncturist in New York and youngest daughter Asha, 30, is an aspiring fashion designer who manages a clothing store in the San Francisco Bay Area. Kathleen's living son Andrew resides in Scotland with his family; son Patrick passed away from melanoma. She has three grandchildren.

**Q. What are your hobbies?**

**A.** Kathleen is an artist. She paints in watercolors and in oils. I like cooking Indian food using lentils and beans. A few of my favorite dishes are channa sag which is spinach with garbanzo beans and spices; and keema made with ground meat, peas and curry. I make my own spice mix or masala. Masalas are like fingerprints, no two are exactly alike. My masala uses a mix of cardamom, cloves, coriander, black pepper and turmeric.

Also, I am still consulting on projects in Eastern Europe, China and India. I'm currently working on developing a technology outsource company, Aluminium Consulting Engineers. We are a core of experts who can provide depth and breadth of technical, professional services to smaller smelter projects that cannot afford full time experts on the payroll. Most of my colleagues are former Kaiser people, so I like to say the Kaiser flag will be flying around the world again under our new banner.

*"KASRA member profiles are compiled from phone interviews conducted by Roberta Wong Murray".*

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**Robert A. Mohr** (University Place, WA) gets his exercise walking around the Chamber Bay Golf course. He traveled twice in the last year to Maastricht, Netherlands to visit a grandson.

Halethorpe, MD, Extrusions retiree **Howard Dicus** (Gambrills, MD) is an author currently writing books 10 and 11. He visited his son in Honolulu, HI, where Howard Jr. is a local television business news reporter (and a darned good one, says this editor, who watches Junior's reports nightly). Trentwood, WA, retiree **Judy Eigell** (Tum Tum, WA) works part time for a local photographer and does bookkeeping for her brother's business. She enjoys quilting as well as traveling to Oregon and Texas to visit the kids and grandkids. Ravenswood, WV, retiree **Okey T. Elkins** of Elizabeth, WV, has traveled to Alaska, Hawaii, Myrtle Beach, SC and taken a cruise to the Bahamas. He likes to go black powder hunting when he's not busy taking care of the farm. Newark, OH, retiree and resident **William (Bill) J. Snider** was inducted into the Licking County Hall



**Bay Area Dec. 7, 2009 Luncheon:  
Ed Quinnan, Jed Daniel, Doug Mann & Dick Harrison**

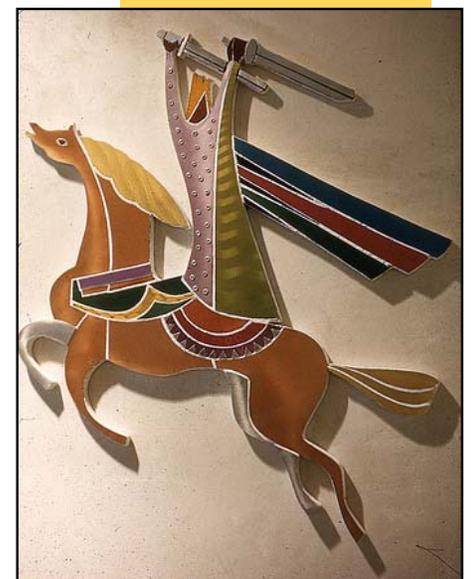
of Fame for volunteering 1000 hours of his time at The Works, a museum of history and technology. The Senior Volunteer of 2009 built displays and made repairs, along with fellow retiree **Bob Andrews** (Newark, OH). Besides rebuilding old cars, Erie, PA, retiree and resident **Lynn Huston** likes to repair and repaint statues, from personal sized ones to small statues for churches. Once they're redone, the statues are sent to developing countries for recycling. He also loves to fly Delta kites of all sizes up to 20-feet large.

### SEARCH FOR BEL-JON MURALS

Artist Nikos Bel-Jon (1911-1966) painted murals on metal, using steel wool to etch images on aluminum that became colorfully visible through refracted light. He was commissioned to create 11 murals for display at various Kaiser Aluminum locations. Bel-Jon's family has been trying to locate the murals, but so far, only know of one still in place, Life in Louisiana (1957) at Gramercy, LA. They are particularly interested in finding the mural created for Chalmette. Please contact Rhea Bel-Jon Calkins at Bel-Jon Studios, 21 Jefferson Ave. Bayville, NY 11709, call her at 516-628-2843 or email [rhea@bel-jonstudios.com](mailto:rhea@bel-jonstudios.com) if you can assist in their search. Visit [www.bel-jonstudios.com](http://www.bel-jonstudios.com) for more information about the artist. One of Bel-Jon's works is pictured to the right.

### COVERAGE AFTER COBRA

Are you searching for healthcare coverage options once COBRA expires? These web sites provide information on various programs, including government sponsored groups as well as individual private plans. Visit [www.coverageforall.org](http://www.coverageforall.org) or [www.ehealth.com](http://www.ehealth.com) for more information.



**Free Form Anodized Aluminum 001**

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news@e-kasra.com

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.e-kasra.com](http://www.e-kasra.com)

### January 4 Los Angeles

Lunch at noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd., La Mirada. Contact Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 or email [normmanger@cox.net](mailto:normmanger@cox.net). L.A. meeting held the 1st Monday of each month.

### January 7 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's, 5720 Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or email [bobeisenbach@cox.net](mailto:bobeisenbach@cox.net). Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month.

### January 14 Mead

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, on North Division. Contact Danny Petrus (509) 924-5838 or email [dpjr@comcast.net](mailto:dpjr@comcast.net). Mead meets the 2nd Thursday of every month.

### February 1 Los Angeles

Lunch at noon at The Elephant Bar, 14303 E. Firestone Blvd., La Mirada. Contact Norm Manger (310) 377-2135 or email [normmanger@cox.net](mailto:normmanger@cox.net). L.A. meeting held the 1st Monday of each month.

### February 4 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's, 5720 Corporate Blvd. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or email [bobeisenbach@cox.net](mailto:bobeisenbach@cox.net). Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month.

### February 11 Mead

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, on North Division. Contact Danny Petrus (509) 924-5838 or email [dpjr@comcast.net](mailto:dpjr@comcast.net). Mead meets the 2nd Thursday of every month.



Tacoma Dec. 2, 2009 Luncheon: Rita Mae Jones, Sid Jones, Roy Brennan



Bay Area Dec. 7, 2009 Luncheon: Polly & John La Duc and Carol Brown

### March 9 Chalmette

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Jasmine French Restaurant (across from the Slidell Train Station, on the corner of Teddy Avenue in Olde Town Slidell), 1768 Front Street (US Hwy. 11, Blue Star Hwy. RSVP by 2/26 to Sherman Faught (985) 690-4942 or Chuck Schimmel at (985) 643-0437 or email [schimcol@aol.com](mailto:schimcol@aol.com).

### March 18 Trentwood

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at the Valley Eagles located at 16801 E Sprague Ave. The North/South freeway project will be discussed. For questions contact Del McKinley at 924-3077 or email [delcree@msn.com](mailto:delcree@msn.com) or else Jan Gorman at 926-5476 or email [jandon4@hotmail.com](mailto:jandon4@hotmail.com).

## In Memoriam

*Norma Clayton - Holyhead, Wales*  
*Nicholas A. Cooke - Walnut Creek, CA*  
*Norwood Fitzgerald\* - Addis, LA*  
*Robert M. Hansen - Baton Rouge, LA*  
*Donald L. Holzenthal - New Orleans, LA*  
*Silas B. Larson - Poland, OH*  
*Philip J. Marksburly - Spokane, WA*  
*Harold A. Page - Mt. Vernon, WA*  
*Genevieve O. Wolff\* - Buchanan Dam, TX*  
*Raymond E. Wright\* - Waldron, MI*

*\*Died more than one year ago*

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