

*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:

We are pleased with the increasing input from our members who share their retiree activities with us as reported in the "What's

Going On" section of the newsletter. Because of the large volume we receive, we may not be able to get all the news included on a current basis. Do not be disappointed and discouraged at not seeing your reported activities in print, for we will be sure to include your news in a subsequent issue. When reporting your activities, remember to send photos. Some of you have asked for more news of our colleagues and friends at the divisional and business section levels. We welcome contributions of news articles within your region or any stories and humorous tales you wish to share. If you have a retiree you would like to see profiled as a feature article, do let us know. Be sure to send retiree news and featured profile suggestions to Roberta Wong Murray, KASRA News, 78-6833 Alii Drive, B-5 Kailua, Kona, HI 96740 or [wmipr@aol.com](mailto:wmipr@aol.com).

As our newsletter is posted on our website, we are also beginning to receive e-mails from some overseas locations. Recently, we received one from **Carlos Napolitano** of our former Brazilian International Office in Sao Paulo. While navigating through the internet, he was pleasantly surprised to come across KASRA's website with the various issues of our newsletter. He wrote to us telling us how much he enjoyed catching up with the news and pictures of some of his former colleagues. You may wish to share KASRA's website with some of your fellow Kaiser retirees overseas and, in turn, ask them to submit news we can

include in our newsletter.

This month's Member Profile section features a member of our Board who is responsible for our newsletter, **Chris Laszcz-Davis**. It took some persuasion to get her to agree to being interviewed. Apart from knowing more about the person who has put in significant time and effort into making the newsletter more readable and informative for us, I believe we should also allow her an opportunity to give us some of her thoughts and ideas about the direction of the newsletter.

Now some brief updating comments on COBRA and the VEBA:

Although the number of retirees and spouses covered under the COBRA umbrella has been drastically reduced, we still have approximately 100 people in it. Some of our retirees have experienced some problems with their COBRA coverage. It seems that the transition of the benefits service provider from EDBS to ADP National Account Services had a few administrative glitches. The Company is currently addressing each individual case. Let us know if any of you need our help on any unresolved issues with your COBRA coverage. Please contact us by e-mail: [news@e-kasra.com](mailto:news@e-kasra.com) or write to us at P.O. Box 1171, Lafayette, CA 94549 if you need assistance.

We have not yet heard anything about the maximum VEBA contribution for the year. As soon as we know, we will keep you informed.

Until our next newsletter, please stay active and healthy!

*Carlos*

Carlos Xavier  
President, KASRA

## WHAT'S GOING ON

**W**orld travelers Virginia and **Ross Hambly** (Piedmont, CA) have visited Taiwan, Hong Kong and London, cruised the Baltic Sea, as well as seen Kenya and Tanzania on safari.

Fabricated Products retiree **Beverly Anderson** of Loganville, GA, says KASRA members had a festive holiday luncheon at the Olive Garden in Dunwood, GA.

Ravenswood, WV, retiree and resident **William B. Fleming** reports that he and the 'Kentucky Colonels', **Dean Lauer** (Murraysville, WV), **Bill Schindler**

(Ravenswood, WV), **Ken Shaw** (Charleston, WV), get together weekly with fellow KASRA members to discuss the past, present and future. **David Stone** of Harrison, ID, got some heavy duty exercise climbing Mt. St. Helens (pictured left).



David Stone at Mt. St. Helens

**Betty Lou Koska** (Winnemucca, NV) is a photo judge at the Winnemucca Fair and admits entrants to the Winnemucca Senior Rodeo. **Howard Brownlee** (Gig Harbor, WA) says hello to all of his Kaiser friends. He enjoys playing bingo and visiting his son in Spokane, WA. Bay Minette, AL, retiree and resident **Carl Holland** plays and sings with a bluegrass music group. He and his wife, Betty, enjoy bluegrass fests, square dancing and traveling in a 36' motor home. Surviving spouse **Sherry Hellyer** (Ravenswood, WV) went to Florida in January. She is a stylist at the Hair Shack. Alpart, Jamaica, retiree **Steven V. Smith** (Brentwood, TN) likes to go

fishing near his lake house in Burkley Lake, KY.

On the mend...Chalmette, LA, retiree **Ford Evans** (Nicholson, MS) had double hip replacement surgery. The widower for more than two years remarried his '50s sweetheart and is very happy. Kaiser Aetna Oakland, CA, retiree **Mary Ann Luich** of Niles, OH, still drives, and keeps busy helping her large family, neighbors in the senior apartment building where she resides and church members.

Happy Anniversary... Gloria and **J. Dewey Gregoire** of Prairieville, LA, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary; Mr. and Mrs. **Allen Lightner** (Ponchatoula, LA) spent their 60th anniversary with family and friends in Slidell, LA; Deanna and **Carl Ryskamp** of Highland, IN, enjoyed their 50th anniversary at a party given by their three children; Shirley and **Jack Hopper** (Veradale, WA) marked their 59th year of marriage

Ravenswood WV, retiree **Rebecca A. Keever-Taylor** (Evans, WV) relaxes in Cape Haze, FL, from October through March. When she's back for the summer in Evans, WV, Rebecca helps husband Dale mow four acres of property, and maintain 75 trees and shrubs with trimming and pruning. Ravenswood, WV, retiree and resident **Lee Corder** and his sons went hunting for antelope in Wyoming and all returned with trophy mounts.

Surviving spouse **Gerry Carothers** of Danville, CA, is with the Blackhawk Chorus, which has been invited to sing at Lincoln Center in New York this month. Condolences to **Earl F. Tidd** (Otis Orchards, WA) who lost his wife

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

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

of 68 years to cancer. Surviving spouse **Eva Torrice** of Paradise, CA, volunteers at the Pineview Care Center. She helps residents in group therapy, and provides cheerful company during physical exercise, games and eating.

Ravenswood, WV, retiree **Robert J. Mazur** of Parkersburg WV, took a cruise from San Francisco, CA, to Santiago, Chile. He is a model railroad hobbyist. Retiree **Bill Warfield** (Rancho Mirage, CA) cruised the Baltic Sea and toured Europe. Retiree **William Miller**, Harborside, ME, and his wife Bette are real snowbirds. They spend winters in Florida, summers in Maine and time in between in Pennsylvania. He enjoys woodworking, photography and caring for small animals. Mead, WA, and Ghana, Africa, retiree **Larry Kennedy** (Seven Bays, WA) spends the winter in Yuma, AZ. He's a proud great grandfather of 12 and still counting. Baton Rouge, LA, retiree **Leroy F. Avers** (The Villages, FL) plays golf and is a starter ambassador at the The Villages Golf Club. He is also a radio controlled model airplane enthusiast. Surviving spouse **Fran Adams** (Deer Park, WA) is a rock collector, plays the piano and keeps company with a cat and Pomeranian.

Strike or spare...surviving spouse **Bess Miotke** (Puyallup, WA) likes to bowl, not in a bowling alley but on the Wii Playstation. Bess helps residents at Merrill Gardens assisted living facility. Trentwood, WA, retiree **Jack Russell** of Spokane, WA, and his wife have traveled to China, Europe and taken a cruise through the Panama Canal. He belongs to the Spokane Valley Kiwanis. Gramercy, LA, retiree and resident **Chris H. Louque** works part time as a maintenance supervisor at Lamar

Contractors. When not on the job, Chris enjoys fishing and going to his camp in Cocodrie, LA. Surviving spouse and Firebrite Insulation retiree **Marie E. Fallon** (Oak Forest, IL) is a student of life long learning.

She takes courses at the local junior college. The 89-year old has owned a dog since she was six. Not the same pet, I imagine. Douglas, GA, Building Products retiree and resident **William H. Fehrs, Jr.**, Douglas, GA, lives half the year in Cashiers, NC, where he hunts for white tail deer and goes trout fishing. He volunteers at the food bank.

After working for 30 years at Kaiser Chemicals in Savannah, GA, retiree **James W. 'Jim' Cannon** (Ashland, KY) went on to own and operate a local tool store, then a door and window outlet which became a high end business, Designer Doors. Last year, however, Jim's business went bankrupt. Unbeknownst to his family, the 78-year old veteran of the Korean War was suffering from Alzheimer's disease, eventually becoming unable to function. His two daughters, both doctors, moved him from Savannah to a nursing home in Ohio, some 60 miles away from Ashland, KY, where his wife, Christine, currently resides to be near family. Daughter Dr. Pam Eckmann writes: "Dad is unable to communicate and withering fast, though he's been the most resilient man I've known, always seeing the optimism in every situation. Your prayers for the family are welcomed for his comfort and safety, and her peace of mind. We miss



Bay Area Dec. 7, 2009 Luncheon: Edie and Tony Hodge, Carolyn Scott, Colleen Geary, Ann Xavier



Jim Cannon

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the man who always told us we could be whatever we wanted to be, “just put your mind to it and do it” he would say. If anyone knew him and wants to get in touch, you can contact mom at the following: Christine Cannon, 1442 Tudor Oaks Apt. #1, Ashland, KY 41102. Ph. (912) 659-3988.

### **Bel Jon Mural Surfaces**

After our story ran in the previous issue of KASRA News, the daughter of artist Nikos Bel Jon was contacted by KASRA members, Mexico, MO, Refractories retirees and residents **Glenn and Annette Hatfield**. Glenn is co-founder and curator of the Fire Brick Museum, located within the Audrain County Historical Society Museum. The retiree convinced Kaiser Aluminum to donate the Bel Jon mural (photo right) to the museum after the Mexico plant closed.



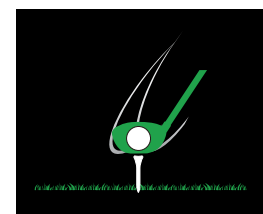
**Tacoma Dec. 2, 2009 Luncheon: Joe and Nancy Caddy**

### **Sour Mash Golf Tourney May 27, 2010**

The Kaiser Aluminum Retirees and Friends (KARAF) Golf Club will host its annual Sour Mash Golf Tournament on Thursday May 27, 2010 at the Dublin Ranch Golf Course, 5900 Signal Hill Drive, Dublin, CA 94568. All retirees, spouses and friends are welcome. Shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. The 18-hole, par 63 course was designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. The \$73 fee includes green fee, golf cart, lunch and prizes. Golf only \$43; Lunch only \$31. Please send in your check by May 13 to: David Geary, 23 Tamarisk, Moraga, CA 94566. For more information, contact Dave at ph. 925-376-7031 or email dsgeary@comcast.net.



**Bel Jon Mural**



## MEMBER PROFILE: Chris Laszcz-Davis

**Chris Laszcz-Davis** was on her way to medical school when opportunity changed the course of her career. The double chemistry and biology undergraduate from Notre Dame College in Cleveland, OH, was awarded a fellowship with the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to attend graduate school at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, MN. After receiving an M.S. in Environmental Health Engineering with a minor in Organizational Development, Chris accepted an offer to become the first HQ environmental, health & safety (EH&S) management intern with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in Washington DC. After a year and half of rotations through a number of AEC weapons and energy operations, Chris was fast tracked to become the regional EH&S manager of AEC's (now U.S. Department of Energy's) west coast operations stationed in Oakland, CA.

After three years as a regional west coast manager, she decided to expand her "blocking & tackling" technical skills as a field engineer at the University of California's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Sometime over the course of the next four years, Chris met and married her husband, Stephen Davis. In 1979, after weighing multiple career opportunities, she joined Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, initially reporting through the Forgings, Electrical Products and Flat Rolled Products business units. Laszcz-Davis rose through the ranks, from managing industrial safety and hygiene at the business unit and corporate levels, to assuming expanded and more robust responsibilities across the corporation.

By 2000, Chris was promoted to Vice President, Corporate Environment Affairs, Product Stewardship, Health, Safety and Operational Integrity.

Today, she runs her own management consulting firm, The Environmental Quality Organization, LLC, which provides EH & S services to a number of clients both domestically and internationally. The KASRA Board Member was appointed by the U.S. Department of Commerce as an Examiner for the National Baldrige Award, is



**Chris and Steve in Tuscany, Italy, on their 32nd Wedding Anniversary**

a community emergency responder, continues to be actively engaged in a number of professional organizations, and volunteers in the Orinda community where she and her husband of 33 years reside.

**Q. What was the most memorable or challenging experience you had while working for the company?**

A. During the 1990s, as corporate ownership and management changed (frequently at times), it was a challenge

### Send KASRA Your News & Pictures

Write us your news, travels, stories... humorous tales welcome. Send a note to Roberta Wong Murray, KASRA News, 78-6833 Alii Drive, B-5 Kailua, Kona, HI 96740 or [wmipr@aol.com](mailto:wmipr@aol.com).

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for the company at all levels to remain focused on environmental, health, safety and operational integrity issues. Our plants and business units faced competing customer demands, increased market costs, fewer resources and ever changing management styles. We were able to form working Leadership Councils,

comprised of both key line and staff, to lead company efforts on selected initiatives. The model generally resulted in more ownership of these processes, strengthened skill sets throughout the company, broader-based strategies, better operational plans, more robust outcomes

and transparent accountability. This was a period of tremendous growth and opportunity at Kaiser Aluminum. On balance, I enjoyed a rewarding 23-year career with Kaiser and worked with some really fine people, many of whom I remain in contact with professionally and personally today.

**Q. Describe your KASRA involvement.**

A. I've been a KASRA Board Director since 2006. I serve as the Newsletter Editor and coordinate a wonderful team of folks who contribute to the production of 6 bi-monthly issues. Many retirees have expressed appreciation for the KASRA News which provides news about former colleagues and friends. For years, we believed that "One Person Made A Difference". This KASRA News certainly continues to play that tune. It is an upbeat way for retirees to reconnect with each other in the time it takes to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea. We are always looking for members to profile in our news. If you would like to be profiled (or know of someone who should be),

*(Member Profile, continued Page 7)*

drop us a line.

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

A. I am a first generation immigrant, the eldest of five children. My parents are from Poland and moved as war refugees to England, where I was born. In 1957, we emigrated to the U.S. aboard the Queen Elizabeth I and settled in Cleveland, OH. My first job following graduate school took me from Washington DC to the Bay Area, where I met my husband, Stephen, at a professional association meeting. Stephen is Founder and Managing Partner of LaCroixDavis, LLC, a building and environmental forensics company with branches across the U.S. He really enjoys what he does! Given that we had kids so late in our lives, with the biggest expenses occurring at a time when most friends were planning for retirement, we figure we'll be working forever.

Our daughter, Lauren, 24, graduated from Loyola Marymount University in L.A.



**Lauren Davis's Graduation, 2008**



**Grant & Lauren Davis, 2009**



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in 2008 with a degree in International Business. She works for Morgan Stanley in the Bay Area, and like many her age, is exploring graduate school options. Our son Grant, 21, is a junior at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (SLO) in their Department of Architecture & Environmental Design's Construction Management program. He is a 6'5" athlete who plays lacrosse for Cal Poly (team 2009 ranked 7th in the nation). Grant represented the U.S. men's lacrosse team when they played in Australia a few years ago. We're big sports fans, and make every game at SLO we can. We LOVE the San Luis Obispo area!



**Chalmette Dec. 9, 2009 Luncheon: Bob Walls, Mel Schlottmann, Liz deBruler, Bill deBruler, Ralph Veller, Arnold Schlottmann**

**Q. Your work travel schedule was brutal at times. How did you manage the work-family-life balance, especially when your children were small?**

A. Steve and I made a pact to our family that one of us would always be home (while the other traveled) no matter how hectic our schedules. Fortunately, we were able to keep that promise 95% of the time over a period of 20 years. The children were our first priority. We also had a very good support system. We've been very lucky in that our kids liked being around us, and would bring their friends over as well. The house was always full of laughter and noise. Kept us young and guessing! Today, their friends still enjoy dropping by to visit as adults.

**Q. What are your hobbies?**

A. Hiking, traveling, learning about new cultures, reading. I'm currently reading "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. It's the story of a man whose mission became to promote peace one school at a time.

**Q. What is your favorite food?**

A. Good wine.

## *In Memoriam*

*Mildred E. Annarummo - Bristol, RI*  
*Ronalde E. Arnsmeier - Rio Rico, AZ*  
*Herman Bersuder - Arabi, LA*  
*Virgil L. Bryant - Hodgenville, KY*  
*Ernest J. Cappel - Gonzales, LA*  
*L. D. Crowder - Atlanta, GA*  
*Allen "Kelly" Duffy - Livingston, LA*  
*Thomas W. Eynon - West Chester, PA*  
*Carrol M. Jennaro - Baton Rouge, LA*  
*Russell Loar - Parkersburg, WV*  
*Jacqueline E. Menchini - Annapolis, MD*  
*Thomas B. Norland - Erie, PA*  
*Charles S. Phillips - Baton Rouge, LA*  
*Morris St. Pierre - Paulina, LA*  
*Norman A. Schinetsky - Plano, TX*  
*Mary A. Serpa - Carson City, NV*  
*William O. Slayman - Palmyra, PA*  
*Donald A. Spiker - Walnut Creek, CA*  
*Marion (Bill) Swinney - Baton Rouge, LA*  
*John A. (Jack) Thornton - Spokane, WA*  
*Robert P. Velasco - Spokane, WA*  
*Gary L. Walton - Puyallup, WA*  
*Norman M. Zanardelli - Roseville, CA*

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

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news@e-kasra.com

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Norm Manger  
Bob Eisenbach  
Bob Mohr  
Dave Whitman

We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
[www.e-kasra.com](http://www.e-kasra.com)

#### March 4 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's, 5720 Corporate Blvd. Spouses are welcome. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or email bobeisenbach@att.net. Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month.

#### 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.

#### March 11 Mead

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

#### 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 or else Jan Gorman at 926-5476 or email jandon4@hotmail.com

#### April 1 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's, 5720 Corporate Blvd. Spouses are welcome. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or email bobeisenbach@att.net. Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month.

#### April 8 Mead

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

#### April 13 Newark

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at Stacy's Hometown Buffet in Heath, Ohio. Contact Bob Abel (740) 323-2268 or email rabel@windstream.net. Costs are paid for by the Newark plant.



Bay Area Dec. 7, 2009 Luncheon: Steve and Barbara Silla, Linda and Steve Abernathy, Diane Ringwood

#### April 13 Baton Rouge - KAOS

Kaiser Aluminum Old timers Society will hold its semiannual luncheon at Oak Lodge. Details TBD. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or email bobeisenbach@att.net.

#### April 15 Trentwood

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at the Valley Eagles located at 16801 E Sprague Ave. Service Project Presentation / Election of Board Members. For questions contact Del McKinley at 924-3077 or email delcree@msn.com or Jan Gorman at 926-5476 or email jandon4@hotmail.com

#### April 24 Bay Minette

4:00 pm at Ryans Steak House at the Eastern Shore Centre at Malbis. We invite all retirees, spouses and friends to join us there. For further info contact Betty Wilson @ 251-626-1262 or email bsw1939@netzero.com or Lem Means at 251-937-5178.

#### May 6 Baton Rouge

Lunch at noon at Mansur's, 5720 Corporate Blvd. Spouses are welcome. Call Bob Eisenbach (225) 926-1334 or email bobeisenbach@att.net. Baton Rouge meets 1st Thursday of each month.

#### May 13 Mead

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