



Chris Laszcz-Davis  
KASRA President

Visit website at  
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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)

### *Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association*

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Retirees/Surviving Spouses:

As you know, we recently lost a wonderful friend and tireless Kaiser retirees' advocate with the passing of **David L. Perry**. David, 70, succumbed to cancer on January 23, 2011, after a courageous and very private battle.

A little about David— a graduate of Amherst College and the University of California's Boalt School of Law, David joined Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation's law department in 1969. Over the years, he assumed steadily increasing responsibilities and, in 1984, was named Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the company. David retired from Kaiser in 1991 and accepted a position as General Counsel of CellNet Data Systems in Redwood Shores, California.

He was elected to the Board of the Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association (KASRA) in 2001. As one of five retirees who, without compensation, served on the Official Retirees Committee, he negotiated with Kaiser Aluminum on behalf of salaried retirees and surviving spouses during the years the company was in reorganization.

David was a key participant in negotiations with Kaiser Aluminum that resulted in establishment of the Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association (VEBA) after the company eliminated retiree medical benefits as part of its Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization. Not only was he instrumental in shaping the VEBA structure, he became a

founding Trustee, served as its "in-house" counsel, and was its first and only Chairman at the time of his passing. It is a credit to David's dedicated efforts and those of the Official Retirees Committee that retirees benefit from the VEBA today.

David was a person of impeccable integrity and always made certain that everything he touched was done properly. No important detail escaped his attention. His dedication to ensuring that retiree interests were protected was endless. During the most stressful times, David maintained his calm and his disarming sense of humor.

David's last efforts with the VEBA were devoted to ensuring that his knowledge base and role were seamlessly transitioned to outside counsel. In the same stewardship spirit, the remaining VEBA Trustees (**Art Donaldson** and **Doug Allen**) moved quickly with VEBA Trustee Chairman David's passing and appointed yet another tireless Kaiser retirees' advocate, **Jed Daniel**, former KASRA President and President of Kaiser's Primary Products Group, to its Trustees team. Jed, as you know, served as KASRA President during the bankruptcy reorganization and negotiations to ensure that the VEBA was properly established. **Art Donaldson** will move into the VEBA Trustee Chairman role.

Euripides, a Greek dramatist, once said, "When good men die, their goodness does not perish". And so it is with **David Perry**, our colleague, our friend, and a tireless advocate for Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation's salaried retirees

## WHAT'S GOING ON

Shipmates passing in the night... **Evo Alexandre** (Moraga, CA) and **John Clary** (Baton Rouge, LA) and their wives were surprised to learn that they had been on the same 15-day cruise ship and not once bumped into each other aboard. The revelation occurred months later when the retirees, who worked together in Jamaica, exchanged Christmas cards. Kaiser Permanente, CA, retiree **Anne Gomes** (Oakland, CA) wants readers to know about a historical fiction written by her late husband, former CFT research chemist **Bernard Ray Baker** (d.1997). "Inventing Nothing" is a novel about the coal-mining town of Oak Creek, CO, where Baker grew up. He passed away before the book was published. Contact Anne at [angomes@juno.com](mailto:angomes@juno.com) or (510) 595-3715 if you would like to obtain a copy. Mead, WA, retiree **Dennis DeMattia** of Spokane, WA, and his wife, Bonnie, took a train from Oakland, CA, to New York City for sightseeing with CFT Pleasanton, CA, retiree (and St. Helena, CA, resident) **Dave Cummings** and his wife, Anita. The foursome also visited Washington DC.

Mary and **Sherman Faught** of Slidell, LA, had fun dressing up in costumes - she as a maid, he as a duck, for the Newcome Club's Carnival Ball (pictured

below). Surviving spouse **Sherry Hellyer** (Ravenswood, WV) works at The Hair Shack. She's planning a trip to Alaska in the summer. Oakland, CA, retiree and San Ramon, CA, resident **Carol Brown** got a hole in one at the Dublin Ranch Golf Course. Between rounds, she is a concierge at the San Ramon Marriott. Gramercy, LA, retiree **Marion (Marty) Martinez** (Thibodaux, LA) restores antique furniture. He spends ten days every year deer hunting in Arkansas. Sherman, TX, Extruded Products retiree and resident **Judy Kirby** got lucky in Las Vegas, NV. Besides seeing the shows and visiting Hoover Dam, she won big at Bingo. CFT Pleasanton, CA, retiree **Rosa Chau** (Danville, CA) visited World Expo 2010 in Shanghai last summer and returned to Asia to visit Hong Kong and Japan last fall. When she's not globetrotting, Rosa volunteers as a hospital medical interpreter. Oakland, CA, retiree **Margaret Cooper** (El Sobrante, CA) enjoys dancing, walking and taking vacations. Last year she visited Las Vegas, NV, and San Diego, CA.

Happy Belated 51st Anniversary to Hazel and **Eugene Dudash** of Columbiana, OH. The Kaiser Refractories retiree has Parkinson's disease. Chalmette, LA, retiree **Thomas (Chuck) Evans** (Slidell, LA) walks a mile every morning with his dog. **John J. Fierbaugh** (Pt. Pleasant, WV) likes gardening and woodworking. He volunteers at the Pleasant Valley Hospital. Tongue in cheek...**Ron McHaney** of Portland, OR, counts himself as a heavy contributor to the Obama retirement fund. Bay Minette, AL, retiree and resident **Carl Holland** is a country blue grass musician. He and his wife Bette have been married for 55 years. Surviving spouse **Ellen Christian**

Mary and Sherman Faught



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

(Temperance, MI) visits her sons and their families frequently. She also spends a lot of time at her late husband Dan's favorite getaway, a cabin on the Greenbrier River.

Trentwood, WA, retiree **Thomas Pitzer** (Spokane, WA) visited Prague, Vienna and Budapest last fall. Three years after surviving a cardiac arrest, he finished 10th in his age group when participating in the Bloomsday run last summer.

Kaiser Refractories retiree **William Boyd** of Moraga, CA, took a Caribbean cruise last year and attended the 8th USAF 305th Bombers Group reunion in New Orleans, LA. Bristol, RI, retiree **Richard H. Possner** (Wellfleet, MA) at 90 years of age is a jack-of-all-trades. He enjoys woodworking, has built one home, renovated another, and still finds time to deliver Meals on Wheels. Trentwood, WA, retiree **Bruce Wagar** (Greenacres, WA) raises buffalo on his farm. He goes fishing at Lake Roosevelt.

Ravenswood, WV, retiree **Robert J. Mazur** of Parkersburg, WV, is a railroad enthusiast. He is involved with the National Railroad Historical Society, railroad equipment restoration, railroad book collecting and model railroads. The latter probably has great appeal to his 13 grandkids. Gramercy, LA, retiree **Gilbert Schexnaydre** of Destrehan, LA, enjoys fishing and hunting. Kaiser Refractories retiree **Al Searight** (Fort Meyers, FL) and his wife celebrated their 60th anniversary last December on a cruise. Mead, WA, retiree and resident **Larry Meyers** was named Volunteer of the Year at the Women and Children's Free Restaurant in Spokane, WA. He and his wife Susan took a 10-day Caribbean cruise last year.

Bay Area December 6, 2010 Luncheon:  
Andy Lang, Bill Alsup, John Wessenberg, Bob Pratt



Valco, Ghana, retiree **Leon Buckles** (Spokane, WA) and his wife, Peggy, enjoy traveling in their 5th wheel RV. Leon builds bamboo fly rods and volunteers with the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks to determine fish populations, rehabilitate and restore habitats. Mead, WA, retiree **Patsy 'Pat' Schroder** (Anchorage, AK) enjoys quilting and makes the most out of a short gardening season. She spends a lot of time fishing in Seward. Kaiser Chemicals Solon, OH retiree **R. Thomas Smith** (Colorado Springs, CO) last year visited Alaska's inland passage and the Yukon Territory and raved about the great food, weather, scenery and critters. **Willie J. Pope** of Erie, PA, is a card shark.

Retiree **Nancy A. Dembny** (Portland, OR) loves baking so much that she's adopted the local firehouse to bring them daily baked treats. She serves as the neighborhood taxi, taking folks to doctor appointments, dropping kids off to soccer games, etc. They surely missed Nancy when she spent time in Milwaukee, WI, last year to attend her 55th high school reunion. Greetings and well wishes go to **Claudette Kranson**, who lives in San Leandro, CA. Toledo, OH, retiree **E. Brent Harrah** of Sylvania, OH, plays golf 3-4 times a week. Condolences to

*(What's Going On, continued Page 4)*

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

**William C. Weyer** of Richmond, TX, whose wife Carol Mae passed away in late January. Kaiser Center, Oakland, CA, retiree **Horace A. Cataldo** (Hayward, CA) is happy to be retired.

About 80 Ravenswood retirees dined and danced the night away at the annual Winter Fest held at the Green Hills Country Club last December. Among the couples tearing up the dance floor were Sue Ann and **Lee Corder** (pictured below) of Ravenswood, WV. Moss Landing, CA, Refractories retiree **Bob Stephens** (Portland, OR) last September took a long vacation to Greece and up the Dalmatian Coast. He especially enjoyed visiting Croatia. Surviving spouse **Bonnie Smith** (Ravenswood, WV) makes quilts and loves caring for her 3 grandsons. Dallas, TX, Electrical Products retiree and resident **James (Clif) Stone** develops properties north of Dallas.

Ravenswood, WV, retiree **Charles A. Pierson** (Ripley, WV) has been fire chief for the past 15 years of the Southern Jackson County Volunteer Fire Department. He oversees the operations of 2 stations, 14 pieces of equipment and EMTs who cover 123 square miles.

Oakland, CA, retiree **Andrew Lang** (Fremont, CA) and his wife Mary are thrilled to dote on their first grandchild, Jack Preston Lang, who was born last October. Mead, WA, retiree **Howard Haisley** (Spokane, WA) and his wife Lynda visited Washington DC last fall, then headed straight to Boston, MA, Cape Cod,

**Bay Area December 6, 2010 Luncheon:  
Moises and Blanca Ostrovsky**



MA, Newport, RI and Bar Harbor, ME. The Haisleys have a cabin at Pend Oreille River where the kids and families gather for the summer. To celebrate his 90th birthday, Springfield, NJ, retiree **Alfred 'Fred' Goddard** of Whitehall, PA, and his wife, Pauline, took a Caribbean cruise on the Queen Mary. Last year, the Goddard's also visited daughter Melindo who lives on the island of Anguilla in the British West Indies.

**Margaret Zaffran** (Homedale, ID) enjoyed the seafood and visiting relatives when she traveled to Louisiana with her daughter. On another trip, she toured the Pueblo ruins and saw the Loretto Chapel in New Mexico. Condolences to Kaiser Refractories retiree **Robert E. Farris** of Bella Vista, AR, whose wife, Linda, passed away last August, 18 months after a massive stroke necessitated a move to a healthcare facility. Ravenswood, WV, retiree **Paul L. Smith** (Fayetteville, WV) visited New England for the first time last year and was in awe of the beautiful fall colors. Erie, PA, Forgings retiree and resident **Lynn Huston** and his wife, Domenica, vacationed in Calabria, Italy, for five weeks last year, staying at her brother's mountaintop home that overlooks the Mediterranean Sea. Lynn enjoys kite making and flying, woodworking and restoring wood furniture.

Sue Ann and Lee Corder



## MEMBER PROFILE: George J. Binczewski

If the words ‘passion for aluminum’ ever fit someone to a tee, that person would be **George J. Binczewski**. Even today, after spending his entire 34- year career at Kaiser Aluminum, Binczewski devotes most of his time researching and writing papers about the light metal for various publications. The University of Pennsylvania metallurgical engineering graduate began his career with the corporation in 1953 in the technical department at the Rod Bar Wire plant in Newark, OH. Three years later, he was transferred to the Sheet and Plate division at Trentwood Works in Spokane, WA where he was subsequently promoted to Chief Metallurgist. During that period, he became the first employee to receive an MBA from Gonzaga University through a company-sponsored program. In 1965, Binczewski transferred to Ravenswood, WV as Technical Superintendent of the Sheet, Plate and Foil operations. There, he founded the first WV chapter of the American Society for Metals International (ASMI). In 1972, Binczewski was transferred to Oakland headquarters as Metallurgical Manager for the Fabrication operations. Work assignments included travel to Germany, France, England, Ghana, Japan and Indonesia. Binczewski retired from the corporation in 1987, at which time his vocation turned into an avocation of researching and writing about aluminum. It remains his current primary activity. Today, he resides in Moraga, CA, with his wife of 58 years, Veronica.

### Q. What was the most memorable assignment you worked on?

A. There were several, but the one which particularly resonates with me, involved early development work at Trentwood and Ravenswood melting room locations for simultaneously casting a dual alloy (clad) ingot. The significance of



George J. Binczewski's family

this work was made public much later at a “once in a lifetime moment” that occurred at the 2008 annual meeting of The Metallurgical Society in New Orleans. A speaker had presented his paper on the aforementioned and was taking questions when a person from the audience of more than 100 attendees arose and said: “I heard George Binczewski present that same paper, movie and all, thirty five years ago!” WOW! People do remember and archives do serve a useful purpose. It served to validate that we were ahead of our time.

### Q. What was the most satisfying part of your career?

A. It was most gratifying to be in a position to encourage employees whose college days were well behind them to get “up to speed” with technological progress in the technical and industrial worlds. I convinced senior management to support a continuing educa-

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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).

*(Members Profile, from Page 5)*

tion program at Michigan Tech that was customized for Kaiser's metallurgical engineering requirements. Michigan Tech professors on campus conducted the program for a two-week period during the summer. In five years, nearly one hundred metallurgists attended the program.

The founding of the first ASMI Chapter in WV opened a door for our technical people to enroll in activities that were previously not available in the region. We brought in expert speakers to address topics relative to Kaiser's Ravenswood operations.

I'm also very proud about setting up a basic course for employees called "Aluminum and Its Alloys". We conducted a four-hour lecture series once a week in the evenings at the Ravenswood High School cafeteria. Additionally, there was homework and an open book final exam. After 15 weeks, 128 Kaiser employees, technical and non technical, received a Certificate of Course Completion.

**Q. Since retirement, you have written more than 50 articles, which have been published in various trade journals and**

**magazines. Describe your most memorable one.**

A. The most popular article I've authored is a 1995 historical paper about the aluminum pyramid set atop the Washington Monument built in December, 1884. At the time, aluminum cost as much as silver (\$1.00 an ounce) and there was just one aluminum producer in the U.S. Prior to its installation in Wash DC, the 100-ounce Al casting of the pyramid was shipped to New York for a two-day public display at Tiffany's. To commemorate the centennial of the pyramid's casting, we were able to duplicate on the exact day 100 years later in 1984, the casting of replicas at the original foundry, which was still operating. Tiffany's again displayed it at their New York headquarters store. KASRA readers can access the article, "The Point of a Monument: A History of the Aluminum Cap of the Washington Monument", on the internet at <http://www.tms.org/pubs/journals/JOM/jomhome.aspx>. Search the archives for the November 1995 issue of the Journal of Metals. I've been told the article has received thousands of hits and is one of the most popular links on The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society's ([www.tms.org](http://www.tms.org)) web site. I also have written historical articles about Kaiser Aluminum's Chalmette plant and the Center For Technology. My current writing focuses on the development of a process that significantly reduces metal loss during melting and casting operations.

**Q. Describe your involvement with KASRA.**

A. I served on the KASRA Board from 1992-1999.

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

A. I met my wife, Veronica when I was attending college in Pennsylvania. After we were married and had started our fam-

*(Member Profile, continued Page 7)*

Washington Monument



*(Members Profile, from Page 6)*

ily, she went back to school and received an RN and B.S. degree from West Virginia University. After our move to California, she received a dual Master's degree in education and human services from Holy Names University. She was a visiting nurse in Oakland and a hospice nurse whose career was cut short by a physical impairment. We have 2 sons, 4 daughters and 11 grandchildren.

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

A. Whatever my wife makes for dinner.

**Q. How old are you?**

A. I'm not as old as I look and am younger than I act!!

**Q. What's on your wish list?**

A. I would like to see a postage stamp of Henry J. Kaiser in my lifetime.



*(President's Message, from Page 1)*

and surviving spouses. We will all miss him, but his presence and ability to bring out the best in many of us lives on! We remain grateful to **Art Donaldson, Doug Allen** and now **Jed Daniel** who will continue to look out for our interests as Trustees of the VEBA.

Until our next newsletter, please stay active and healthy!

*Chris*

Chris Laszcz-Davis  
President, KASRA

## *In Memoriam*



*Nieves Abille - El Sobrante, CA*  
*Guy Beaudette - Jefferson, LA*  
*Thomas M. Delehaunty - Pinehurst, NC*  
*Donald Lovell - Seattle, WA*  
*Willie Monzo Blackburn - Quitman, MS*  
*Dean Jackson - Spokane, WA*  
*lloyd Jacobsen \* - Emeryville, CA*  
*Joanne Kearns - Walnut Creek, CA*  
*Robert Kinne - Pleasanton, CA*  
*Robert Mingledorff - Bluffton, SC*  
*Thomas Mooneyham, Jr. - Morrison, FL*  
*Muriel Offan - Thibodaux, LA*  
*David (Dave) Perry - San Francisco, CA*  
*Thomas (Tom) Schaffer - Spokane, WA*  
*Fred Stafford - Spokane, WA*  
*Charles Thill - Bay Village, OH*  
*Francis Tryson - New Holland, PA*  
*DuWayne Watts - Spokane, WA*

*\*Died more than one year ago*

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

### *Please Note*

This column depends upon your input. KASRA does not receive information about the death of Kaiser Aluminum salaried retirees from the corporation. We rely solely upon email or notification from surviving spouses, relatives and friends. Please inform us of your loved one's passing. Be sure to include the date of death, city and state, name of surviving spouse, a copy or link to the obituary notice, or the name of the local newspaper. Send this information to Klaus Adler at 1127 Rachele Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94597. Contact Klaus by phone at (925) 938-2938 or by email at [kcharlie@netzero.net](mailto:kcharlie@netzero.net). Thanks for your assistance.

P.O. Box 1171  
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We're on the Web!  
See us at:

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#### March 2 Chalmette

Lunch at 11:30 am at Todd Schaeffer's Original Family Restaurant 348 Robert Boulevard, Slidell, LA 70458. RSVP by: February 18. Contact: Sherman Faught (985) 690-4942 / shermar@bellsouth.net or Chuck Schimmel (985) 643-0437 / schimcol@aol.com.

#### March 10 Mead

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, on North Division. Contact Danny Petruss at (509) 924-5838/dpjr70@comcast.net. Mead meets the 2nd Thursday of each month.

#### March 15 Trentwood

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at the Valley Eagles located at 16801 E Sprague Ave. Hot lunch served at 11:30 AM. Mead retirees are always welcome. The cost for the meal \$11.00. Guest speaker will discuss "What's New with Taxes, Estate Planning, Living Wills, and Trusts". Please notify Steve Harvey at (509) 924-1132 / slharv3y@comcast.net.

#### April 4 Los Angeles

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

#### April 4 KARLA (Bay Area)

Lunch at noon at the Wedgewood Banquet Center located at the San Ramon Golf Club. Guest speaker's topic will be "Have you Considered a Reverse Mortgage?". Social hour starts at 11:00 am. Contact Sharon Fraetis (925) 934-4334 / lafnatv@silcon.com.

#### April 12 Newark

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at Stacy's Hometown Buffet in Heath, Ohio. Contact: Jim Bope (740) 601-7034 / jbopeky@yahoo.com. Costs are paid by the Newark plant.

#### April 14 Mead

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, on North Division. Contact Danny Petruss at (509) 924-5838/dpjr70@comcast.net. Mead meets the 2nd Thursday of each month.

#### April 19 Trentwood

Lunch at 11:00 a.m. at the Valley Eagles located at 16801 E Sprague Ave. Please note that the gatherings will be on the third Tuesday of the month. Hot lunch served at 11:30 AM. Mead retirees are always welcome. The cost for the meal \$11.00. Guest Speaker for Service Project TBD. Please notify Steve Harvey at (509) 924-1132/slharv3y@comcast.net.

#### April 23 Bay Minette

3:30 pm at Ryans Steak House at the Eastern Shore Centre at Malbis. We invite all retirees, spouses and friends as well as Kaiser folks from other facilities to join us. For further info contact Betty Wilson @ 251-626-1262/bsw1939@netzero.com or Lem Means at 251-937-5178.

#### April 29 Belpre

Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. at Shoney's Restaurant, Garfield Ave. Parkersburg, WV - Dutch treat! Any questions contact Betty Blair (304) 489-1337/bettylou13@suddenlink.net.

#### May 12 Mead

Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, on North Division. Contact Danny Petruss at (509) 924-5838/dpjr70@comcast.net. Mead meets the 2nd Thursday of each month.

### Sour Mash Golf Tournament

Date: Thurs May 11, 2011

Place: Dublin Ranch GC  
5900 Signal Hill Dr.  
Dublin, CA 94568

Time: 8:00 a.m. Shotgun  
Lunch, Prizes

Cost: \$73 package  
\$43 golf only  
\$31 lunch only

RSVP by 4/28/2011

Send checks payable to:

David Geary  
23 Tamarisk  
Moraga, CA 94556  
(925) 376-7031  
Email: dsgeary@comcast.net