



Chris Laszcz-Davis
KASRA President

Visit website at
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

Kaiser Aluminum Salaried Retirees Association

A MESSAGE FROM THE KASRA PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Retirees/Surviving Spouses:

Thank you to all who responded to our July 2011 newsletter insert by sending in your annual KASRA dues. If you know of any fellow retirees or surviving spouses who are not presently KASRA members and would like to join, please ask them to simply return the enrollment form available on our website (www.e-kasra.com) together with the annual fee of \$10.00. KASRA strives to keep its members informed on issues and developments, especially those relating to the VEBA, COBRA coverage, senior issues, and the activities of retirees.

Thank you to all who returned their "What's Going On" forms. In light of the tremendous feedback we've received from retirees about their lives, we decided to print many of these highlights and not include a "Profile" in this September issue. We are also proud to include information on Honor Flight and on our members who have participated.

Thank you to **Blanca Ostrovsky** who has served as your Treasurer for the past two years. Family obligations necessitate her stepping down and turning her duties over to **Paul Flores**. Paul, as many of you know, joined Kaiser Aluminum in 1970 as an accounting supervisor in the Foil Plant in San Jose, CA. His accounting assignments were mainly in the Bay Area. While his initial assignments resided within the Packaging Division - Union City Can Plant, San Leandro, and Oakland, he moved over to Discontinued Operations 10 years prior to his retirement in October 1996. Welcome aboard Paul!

VEBA... if you have not already filed, there is still time to secure your maximum benefit of \$2,000 for 2010 and \$2,100 for this year. It should be noted that if you do not file in a timely manner, all your rights to receive a Qualified Benefit shall expire and be forfeited. The expiration dates for the 2010 disbursement (maximum \$2,000) and 2011 disbursement (maximum \$2,100), assuming you have previously enrolled in the VEBA, are December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2012 respectively. Take advantage of what you have coming back to you! Please note **VEBA's** current contact information: Delta Health Systems, PO Box 2308, Stockton, CA 95201-2308. Telephone: (888) 344-8322(toll free) Email: dfs.veba@delapro.com.

COBRA or Bankruptcy COBRA benefits....if you have questions concerning those benefit plans, please contact: Steve Brown, Vice President, Benefits and Compensation, Kaiser Aluminum Corporation, 27422 Portola Parkway, Suite 350, Foothill Ranch, CA 92610. Telephone: (949) 614-1773.

Contact us if you have inquiries about any retiree matter, and we will try to assist you in any way we can. We also welcome any suggestions you may have to improve on the contents of our newsletters. Our contact information is listed on page 8. In the meantime, please stay active, keep in touch with friends and family, and remain healthy!

Chris

Chris Laszcz-Davis
President, KASRA

HONOR FLIGHT SALUTES WORLD WAR II VETERANS



Veterans who attended Honor Flight's 2011 trip to the World War II Memorial. Photo by R.A. Makely.

Thanks to Earl Morse, a physician assistant and retired Air Force Captain, thousands of veterans have been able to travel to Washington, D.C. to visit the World War II Memorial. Earl wanted to honor the veterans he had cared for by transporting them to the memorial dedicated to their service.

He began in 2004 by flying the first veterans himself and, by 2005, additional planes and pilots joined Earl, and Honor Flight was born. Now, the non-profit organization boasts Southwest Airlines as its official commercial carrier. All at no cost to the veterans.

"This all volunteer organization is terrific," says **Charles Williams** (Newark, OH). "They are so well organized. There were 78 veterans on my flight out of Columbus, OH, on April 13. We had to be at the airport at 5:30 a.m. and returned that night at 9:30 p.m." When Charles stepped off the plane in Baltimore, he and the

other vets received quite a welcome. "There were people lined up on both sides of the aisle cheering and saluting -- even school children. And it was the same when we returned that evening to Columbus. A very emotional and wonderful day." But Charles had more surprises in store

when he returned. He received letters thanking him for his service from a group of elementary school children and an invitation to participate in two 4th of July parades. "It was a very humbling experience," he adds.

Another Kaiser retiree, **Norman Whitford** (Otis Orchards, WA) also enjoyed being a part of the Honor Flight program in April. "We had 34 veterans on our flight,"

says the former Trentwood, WA, employee. "When we got to D.C., we visited the Memorial and took a bus tour of other



Norman Whitford in 1945 in his Army Air Corps uniform.

points of interest. I was particularly impressed by the Air Force Memorial, but that's probably because I was in the Army Air Corps," Norman says. He relates a time in France when he was piloting a



Dorothy and Charles Williams.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Accomplishments...

Gary Simpson (Atherton, CA), who was employed at Kaiser's corporate headquarters in Oakland, was honored as a "Distinguished Alumni of the College of Arts and Humanities" from California State University, Fresno during the school's centennial celebrations. **Fred Peightal** (Bermuda Dunes, CA), who likes to summer in Jackson Hole, WY, was recently inducted into the Lock Haven University Football Hall of Fame. He had been All Conference in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference and had a 20-5-1 record as a starting quarterback. He won many awards during his football career and was even selected to play in the post-season East West Gem City Bowl Game. The former athlete, who worked in Fabricated Products at the Baltimore, MD, plant, also enjoys golf and plays several times a week at the Teton Pines Country Club in Jackson Hole. A former Kaiser Extrusions Plant employee in Dolton, IL, **Robert N. McKechnie** (Highland, IN) received an award from his Masonic Fraternity, McKinnely Lodge #712, for 50 years of continued membership. When not involved with the Masons, Robert enjoys traveling, most recently attending his 55th class reunion in Kentucky. Congratulations to KASRA president **Chris Laszcz-Davis** (Orinda,



Fred Peightal was inducted into the Lock Haven University's Football Hall of Fame recently.

CA) recently received the Alice Hamilton Award. The national award is given to an outstanding woman who has made a definitive, lasting achievement in the field of occupational and environmental health. Chris, who worked for Kaiser's corporate environmental, health and safety department, also spoke recently on "Green Chemistry, Transformative Regulatory and Policy Changes" at the annual award conference in Portland, OR. She also moderated roundtable discussions on "Risk Assessment Approach to Engineered Nanomaterials" and "Today's Global Chemical Regulatory Shifts."

Birthdays and Anniversaries . . .

Orville L. Benjamin (Coeur d'Alene, ID) celebrates a very special birthday this month. On September 12, the former employee at Kaiser Trentwood turns 100! He still attends his local senior center and his hobbies are stained glass and coin collecting. Also marking an important birthday is **Anita (Hall) Parker** (Fairfield, CA). Anita, who worked in the Chemicals Division, turned 90-years-young on April Fool's Day. She still keeps active with golf and pool at her retirement complex. Celebrating



Anita Parker on her 90th birthday.

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both a birthday and an anniversary is **Robert W. Gambill** (Troy, MT). The former Valco, Ghana, Africa employee turned 88 in May and celebrated his 65th wedding anniversary with his wife Charis in August. **Frank and Marjorie Clemens** (Spokane, WA) will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary this year at their winter home in Beaver Dam, AZ. They also have a lovely home at Loon Lake, WA, where they enjoy golf and boating. "Just maintaining our three households keeps us more than busy," says Frank. Not to be outdone, **Frank "Beef" Lewis** (Baton Rouge, LA) and his wife celebrated their 60th anniversary in July surrounded by their children and grandchildren at Ft. Walton beach in Florida. Formerly with Kaiser's Gramercy Works plant in Louisiana, Frank now enjoys golf and volunteering aboard the U.S.S. Kidd, anchored in Baton Rouge. Practically newlyweds, **J. Dewey Gregoire** (Prairieville, LA) and his wife Gloria enjoyed their 5th anniversary at their new home in Prairieville, LA. Unfortunately, Hurricane Katrina had destroyed their previous home in Chalmette, LA. But the two keep in touch with former neighbors, as well as former colleagues of the Chalmette, LA, plant at monthly luncheons. **Jerry Sealy** (McKinney, TX) certainly keeps busy. Between golf, gardening, two grandchildren, and now two mini Dash hound puppies (named Snikers and Boomer), he barely has time to be a golf marshal. He and his wife LaVeta, who is on the board of directors for Collin County's Child Protective Services agency, just celebrated 54 years of marriage. Jerry worked for Kaiser in Dallas. **Albert A. Anderson** (Decatur, IN) turned 86 in June. The former employee at Monroeville, PA, keeps busy with gardening and fishing. Thanks to the

help of his children and grandchildren, he has lots of tomatoes and melons ripening in his large garden. **Jacques Martinet** (Danville, CA) celebrated 60 years with his lovely bride Barbara, as well as his 87th birthday! The former Kaiser Oakland, CA, employee and his wife recently returned from a vacation with their family on Maui.

A Little of This, A Little of That . . .

Aprina Leavy (Oakland, CA), previously at Kaiser in South San Francisco, is now a travel consultant, enjoying trips all over the world. Former Trentwood, WA, employee **Jerry A. Ashby** (Spokane, WA) hung up his skates as a figure skating judge on June 30 after 31 years of judging! When not scoring turns and jumps on the ice, Jerry enjoys traveling to Las Vegas, NV, and up the Oregon Coast. A fun hobby has become a new career for **James A. Scott** (Spokane, WA) and his wife of 61 years, Artye Lee. The two began making photo albums of their lives from birth to present day and wrote stories about their experiences for family and friends. Some of those stories ended up being published, and now the two are freelance writers with stories in both local and national senior magazines and newspapers. They continue to collect experiences for new stories through reunions and special events with their siblings, five children, 14 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren. Former Trentwood, WA, employee **Melvin R. Stone** (Almira, WA) now has a part-time business surfacing shuffleboard courts. When not wintering in Yuma, AZ, he works on the new home he is building in Washington. **Guy Robicheaux** (Slidell, LA) hosted 38 family and friends at his annual crawfish boil. When not cooking, the former Chalmette, LA, employee keeps busy with painting,

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woodwork, gardening, and any project his grandchildren or great-grandchildren come up with! **Bill Reeve** (Troutdale, OR) also showed his cooking expertise at the annual 4th of July breakfast sponsored by the Columbia River Gorge Kiwanis Club, where he had the pleasure of flipping about 500 pancakes. Formerly with the Tacoma, WA, Reduction plant, Bill now enjoys gardening, sports and volunteering for Snow Cap (a store for those in need). Formerly with Gramercy Works, LA, in the technical department, **Joseph Vicknair** (Lutcher, LA) now spends his time walking, gardening and bike riding. **Mark Scales** (Valparaiso, IN) keeps very busy. He is currently the plant manager at Rexam Beverage Can plant in Valparaiso where many other former Kaiser Wanatah plant employees also work. When not working, he finds time for lots of volunteer work including the Wildlife Advisory Board and the Lake County Garden Club. He also has two old Plymouths (1967 GTX 440 and 1964 Sport Fury) that he loves to maintain. Mark, who worked for Kaiser in Jacksonville, FL, Trentwood, WA, and Mead, WA is married to Pat, and they have five sons. Working at Kaiser's Chalmette, LA, plant from 1952 – 1982, **Anthony S. Gerace** (Madisonville, LA) can't wait for football season to begin. Hurricane Katrina also forced him from his home in Chalmette, LA, but he has found other former Kaiser employees at his new home in the Madison Farms subdivision where he now resides. "I'm 92-years-old and just bought a new car," brags **Howard M. Dicus, Sr.** (Gambrills, MD). Previously with Kaiser's Halethorpe, MD, plant, Howard just finished writing and publishing his 10th book for family and friends. With motoring trips to Maine, Alabama and New Mexico this past year, it's no

wonder he needed a new car. **Theodore J. Birchill** (Tyler, TX), who formerly worked at the Baton Rouge, LA, plant, spends most of his time taking care of his wife Helen, who suffers from Alzheimer's. The 90-year-old Theo and his wife live in a retirement facility. After 16 years at the Research Center in Pleasanton, CA, **Wendell Jenness** (Minden, NV) retired in the late '90s to Nevada. He keeps busy traveling far and wide and is very active in local photos clubs. **Helene Hancock** (Kansas City, MO) loves baking delicious goodies for local events raising money to fight cancer. She also enjoys knitting, water aerobics, line dancing, Bunco, and reading the KASRA Newsletter. **Joann Cappel** (Chalmette, LA), the widow of **Ernest Cappel**, who worked for Kaiser for 38 years, has left the family home and moved into an assisted living facility. Joann and her family thank Kaiser for helping provide them with a very comfortable life and encourage everyone to plan ahead and secure long-term care insurance!



A village in Embera where Fred Muller volunteered.

Traveling Near and Far . . .

Fred Muller (Chico, CA) recently combined visiting a different country with helping others. He was part of a Rotary project in Panama that provided potable water and sanitary facilities for an Embera indigenous group. Vacationing in Myrtle Beach, SC, is

Send KASRA Your News & Pictures

Write us your news, travels, stories... humorous tales welcome. Send a note to Sally Hogarty, P.O. Box 84, Canyon, CA 94516 or sallyhogarty@gmail.com.

** Photos are encouraged.*



(What's Going On, from Page 5)

Charles W. Porter's (Newark, OH) idea of a great way to spend July. The former Newark, OH, employee finds time to do wood working and gardening when not planning his next trip. When **Tim Parker** (Laguna Hills, CA) planned his car trip to the desert southwest, he had no idea that wildfires would cut his trip short. He is safely back home and divides his time between Laguna Hills, CA, and a second home in Concord, CA, to be close to his five grandchildren (all boys!). Retired from the Pacific Maritime Association, Tim continues to do projects for the group. **Betty Lou Koska** (Winnemucca, NV) spends most of her time traveling to Superior, AZ, where her daughter's family lives. She had the pleasure of attending her grandson's high school graduation there in May. Former Trentwood, WA, employee **Herb Singer** (Post Falls, ID) loves to travel throughout the United States in his motor home.

Since retiring in 1984, he has been in every state and has wonderful memories of the new friends he has made. Boating is more to **Robert Jeansonne's** (Baton Rouge, LA) liking. He and wife Sylvia packed up 13 family members and two dogs to visit their daughter in San Carlos, CA, but they also managed to find five weeks to stay on a houseboat on Lake Powell. Visiting family was also high on the list of **A. Keith Sprouse** (Palm Springs, CA). He and his wife Dorothy spent June and most of July with their two daughters and families in Davis, CA, plus a 12-day cruise in Alaska and a visit to beautiful Lake Tahoe, CA. He and Dorothy recently moved (he hopes for the last time!) from their condo in Palm Springs to a house nearby. **Charles Porter** (Newark, OH) thought Myrtle Beach, SC, was the perfect place to visit this past July. When not vacationing, he likes to garden and wood work.

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Piper Cub. "We didn't have radio contact, and I kept waiting for the red light to change to green so I could take off. It never did, so I ran it and almost got court marshaled!" Norman notes that the trip to Arlington National Cemetery was beautiful but the "rows and rows of grave markers are a grim reminder of the cost of war in human sacrifice."



Sherman Faught (Slidell, LA) also joined the hundreds

Whitford today about to board the Honor Flight this past April.



Sherman Faught (R) was joined by his son David on the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. of veterans on the Honor Flight. The former Chalmette, LA employee was accompanied by his son David. They joined 80 other Louisiana veterans for the trek

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to our nation's capital. Upon arrival, they toured the World War II Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, the Iwo Jima Memorial, and the Korean Memorial.

World War II veterans are encouraged to contact Honor Flight and join in next year's flight to Washington, D.C. "It's something you'll never forget," adds Charles. For more information on the Honor Flight program, go to www.honor-flight.org or call (937) 521-2400 or write to Honor Flight, 300 E. Auburn Ave., Springfield, OH 45505-4703. The organization plans to include veterans of other wars once it has accommodated all the World War II veterans.

ANOTHER KAISER RETIREE WHO SERVED HIS COUNTRY

Harold Fussell (Baton Rouge, LA) was a sergeant in the 94th Infantry Division under General George Patton. "What a fighter he was. He was nicknamed 'blood and guts,'" Harold says of Patton. Harold was a maintenance foreman at the Baton Rouge, LA, and Gramacy, LA, plants for 42 years. "After my heart operation at 85-years-old, I can't do my work around the house as much, but I can still tell someone else what to do!"



Harold and Dorothy Fussell.

In Memoriam



Lawrence J. Acosta - La Place, LA
Donald S. Angell - Sandpoint, ID
Richard G. Ash - Syracuse, OH
Mario A. Chini - Heath, OH
Lester L. Deaton - La Place, LA
Elizabeth P. Fetty - Purllear, NC
Donald A. Fields - Spokane Valley, WA
Frank D. Fisher - Port Townsend, WA
William B. Fleming - Ravenswood, WV
Robert W. Gammage - Naples, FL
Harry A. Herzel - Spokane, WA
Barbara A. Hughes - Granville, OH
Dean A. Jackson - Spokane, WA
Donald M. Leinweber - Baton Rouge, LA
Sheridan E. Maidens - Jenison, MI
Orville "Orv" Newman - Loomis, CA
Thelma F. Packard - Woodland, CA
Walter W. Powers Jr - Picayune, MS
Marvin A. Ring - Mt. Angel, OR
Earl M. Ringle - Spokane, WA
Alvin H. Searight - Fort Myers, FL
Clifford M. Slack - Ravenswood, WV
James E. Stewart - Marina Del Rey, CA
Al Trommershausen - Walnut Creek, CA
John D. Webster - Vallejo, CA

Please inform us of a loved one's passing by contacting Klaus Adler at 1127 Rachele Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94597, (925) 935-2938, kcharlie34@comcast.net.

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

P.O. Box 1171
Lafayette, CA 94549
(925) 685-1313

E-Mail:
news@e-kasra.com

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We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.e-kasra.com

September 1 Ravenswood
Lunch at 12:00 p.m. at Cedar Lakes.
Cost is \$10 per person. Contact Dave
Whitman at (304) 273-5548 or email
dwhitman@wirefire.com.

September 8 Mead
Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn on
North Division. Contact Danny Petrus
at (509) 924-5838 or email dpjr70@
comcast.net. Mead meets the 2nd
Thursday of each month.

September 13 Chalmette
Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Todd Schaeffer's
Original Family Restaurant, 348 Robert
Boulevard, Slidell, LA 70458. RSVP
by August 30. Contact Sherman Faught
at (985) 690-4942 or email shermar@
bellsouth.net or contact Chuck Schimmel
at (985) 643-0437 or email schimcol@
aol.com.



Chalmette Luncheon on June 9: (L-R) Martha Brouillette, Maryanne Klein, and Joe Klein.

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

October 13 Mead
Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Cathay Inn, on
North Division. Contact Danny Petrus
at (509) 924-5838 or email dpjr70@
comcast.net. Mead meets the 2nd
Thursday of each month.

October 18 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



Bay Area Luncheon on April 4: (L-R) Ed McKeown and Bruce Wilson.

meal and dues is \$11.00. Speaker to
discuss updates to medical plans. Please
notify Steve Harvey at (509) 924-1132 or
email slharv3y@comcast.net.

October 28 Belpre
Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. at Shoney's
Restaurant, Garfield Ave. Parkersburg,
WV - Dutch treat! Any questions,
contact Betty Blair at (304) 489-1337 or
email bettylou13@suddenlink.net.

November 11 Baton Rouge - KAOS
Kaiser Aluminum Oldtimers Society will
hold its semiannual luncheon. Details
TBD. Contact Bob Eisenbach at (225)
926-1334 or email bobeyisenbach@att.net.

November 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 and dues is \$11.00. Entertainment
by Project Joy. Contact Steve Harvey
at (509) 924-1132 or email slharv3y@
comcast.net.



Tacoma Luncheon on June 1: (clockwise) Jim Glesy, Paul Schmell, Irene Johnson, Jim Johnson, Dave Walker, Marylin Schmell, and Maria Glesy.